

The Cemetery Commission met at the Mount Vernon City Hall Conference Room on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. Commission members present were Mike Woods, Teresa Cox, and Mary Evans.

Minutes from August 11, 2026 were approved earlier by all members.

*Maintenance of cemetery records and documents*

Teresa Cox explained her meeting with Lori Boren and her experience using the WHKS ArcGIS mapping program to identify 2 burial sites in the new section as it's called on the cemetery maps. Questions still remain to be answered before the commission undertakes the project of mapping approximately 3,600 burials.

- Will the ArcGIS mapping be available to the public?
- If Joe Jennison's database will be the primary identification source for burial locations how will the city staff use the ArcGIS mapping?

*Restoration and preservation of cemetery monuments*

Teresa Cox volunteered to organize 4 Friday afternoons for gravestone preservation utilizing Pam Kraus, and the commission's 4 teams.

*Maintenance of cemetery grounds*

The city crew has placed additional soil on three grave sites but grass seed is still needed.

*Discussion of burial services offered in Iowa*

No discussion

*Promoting and publicizing the cemetery*

- Sun article *Cemetery Walk: Stepping into History* will be published on September 10, 2026
- The Cemetery Walk is scheduled for September 20 from 2:00-3:30 p.m.
- Commission members will present an hour program for the LBC Speaker Series on October 29, 2026 titled Etched in Stone: Mount Vernon Cemetery, 1851-present

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E Evans