POLICY FOR VETERAN’S BURIAL

*As Set April 9, 1981 (Resolution No. 97)*

*As Amended October 15, 1981 (Resolution No. 311);*

*October 11, 1984 (Resolution No. 331);*

*December 4, 1997 (Resolution No. 346);*

*April 20, 2010 (Resolution No. 101);*

*SCHEDULE A- PROPOSED AMENDMENT – OCTOBER 21, 2014*

1. *BURIAL*
   1. The Director of the Ulster County Veterans Service Agency after careful investigation of resources of the decedent, shall cause to be interred the body of any honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the United States, if such person shall hereafter die in Ulster County without leaving sufficient means to defray his or her funeral expenses.
   2. The expense to the County in connection with such interment shall not exceed three thousand one hundred dollars ($3,100.00) for full body burial or cremation with services of an adult, two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) for cremation without services of an adult or full body burial or cremation with services of a child under age 7 and two thousand dollars ($2,000) for cremation without services for a child under age 7, with exceptions made on a case by case basis for extenuating circumstances such as: oversized and winder burials.
      1. Payment made to or collected by the funeral director from any sources, excluding Veterans Administration or Social Security burial allowance, shall reduce the County obligation by an equal sum. With exception of authorized payment by the Veterans administration for travel, the funeral expense shall not exceed sixteen hundred and fifty-five dollars ($1,655.00), including County burial allowance, when County funds are involved. The travel payment may be over and above this limitation.
      2. When deceased is the family member of a veteran, the maximum County burial funds allowable will be paid provided the funeral does not exceed sixteen hundred and fifty-five dollars ($1,655.00) inclusive.
2. *GRAVE MARKER*
   1. The grave marker will be granite, twenty-four inches long, twelve inches wide, and four inches thick and will be purchased through normal County supply channels.
   2. The marker at the grave of a member and of the spouse or surviving unremarried spouse of such honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the United States shall contain the name of the deceased, branch of service in which his or her spouse served, year of birth and death.
   3. Optional markings on the stone will be permitted to include: war in which his or her spouse served, religious emblem and the month, day and year in dates of birth and death.
   4. Such marker shall not cost more than two hundred dollars ($200.00) and shall be of the design and material mentioned above.
   5. A grave marker should only be authorized by the County if no other means for obtaining one cost-free exists. When the providing of a marker is authorized pursuant to this directive and can be furnished through application to a body or agency of the United States and, in the event such stone is accordingly furnished, the account may be audited and the expense incident to the erection thereof paid, in an amount not to exceed the maximum sum authorized to be expended for a grave marker as provided in paragraph (E) of this subdivision.
3. *INVESTIGATION OF INDIGENCY*
   1. Indigency of those hereinbefore mentioned shall be determined by the Director of the Veterans Service Agency or his designated representative.
   2. Such determination shall be by investigation, signed statement by the funeral director and person authorizing burial, and an audit of the expenses shall be provided.
   3. Should assets for the deceased be discovered after County funds have been paid, reimbursement to the County will be required.
   4. All applicants for benefits under the policy shall agree in writing to comply with all terms and conditions provided herein.
   5. The Director of the Veterans Service Agency shall have the responsibility for administering this policy and any services required by §148 of the General Municipal Law.