



## **MEMORANDUM**

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**Date:** March 17, 2022  
**To:** Deadwood City Commission  
**From:** Kevin Kuchenbecker, Historic Preservation Officer  
Sexton of Historic Cemeteries  
**Re:** Mt. Moriah Cemetery Tree Maintenance

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City staff continues to be concerned with numerous “widowmakers” and/or dead branches located precariously high in the trees at Mt. Moriah Cemetery. These branches may fall on unsuspecting individuals below. Almost all the trees in this cemetery are in need of some type of pruning to remove dead branches and reduce risk. Pruning the trees should also increase light and air penetration to the inside of the tree’s crown and the landscape below. Attached to this memo is a map highlighting areas the concerns witnessed in the cemetery.

Pruning large trees can be dangerous and it is best to hire a professional arborist and a trained crew with the required safety equipment and liability insurance. Tree Wise Men specialize in low impact tree care and preform hazardous removals where bucket trucks or cranes can’t reach. They climb trees to trim them properly from the inside out, understanding their strengths and weaknesses to perform the best job possible.

In 2019, we began an aggressive and concerted effort to address the above concerns with the tree trimming in priority areas 1, 2 and 3 as shown on the map. In 2022, the City again provided funds in the budget to continue this effort through the Historic Cemeteries Enterprise Fund.

ISA Certified Arborists Alan Enderson with Tree Wise Men has provided a proposal for pruning of dead/hazardous branches in large pine trees in Mt. Moriah Cemetery to improve safety and health in priority area 5 including the cleanup and hauling away of all material. The proposal for priority area 5 is \$17,750.00 to be paid out of the Historic Cemeteries Enterprise Fund as budgeted.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to approve Tree Wise Men proposal for pruning of dead/hazardous branches in priority area 5 including cleanup and hauling away of materials in an amount not to exceed \$17,750.00 to be paid out of Historic Cemeteries Enterprise fund as budgeted.*