

BUILDING AND PROPERTY REGULATIONS

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CHAPTER 145

DANGEROUS BUILDINGS

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145.01 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. The Building Inspector is responsible for the enforcement of this chapter.

145.02 GENERAL DEFINITION OF UNSAFE. All buildings or structures which are structurally unsafe or not provided with adequate egress, or which constitute a fire hazard, or are otherwise dangerous to human life, or which in relation to existing use constitute a hazard to safety or health, or public welfare, by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence, or abandonment, are, for the purpose of this chapter, unsafe buildings. All such unsafe buildings are hereby declared to be public nuisances and shall be abated by repair, rehabilitation, demolition, or removal in accordance with the procedure specified in this chapter.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657A.1 & 364.12[3a])

145.03 UNSAFE BUILDING. "Unsafe building" means any structure or mobile home meeting any or all of the following criteria:

1. Various Inadequacies. Whenever the building or structure, or any portion thereof, because of: (i) dilapidation, deterioration, or decay; (ii) faulty construction; (iii) the removal, movement, or instability of any portion of the ground necessary for the purpose of supporting such building; (iv) the deterioration, decay, or inadequacy of its foundation; or (v) any other cause, is likely to partially or completely collapse.
2. Manifestly Unsafe. Whenever, for any reason, the building or structure, or any portion thereof, is manifestly unsafe for the purpose for which it is being used.
3. Inadequate Maintenance. Whenever a building or structure, used or intended to be used for dwelling purposes, because of dilapidation, decay, damage, faulty construction, or otherwise, is determined by any health officer to be unsanitary, unfit for human habitation or in such condition that it is likely to cause sickness or disease.
4. Fire Hazard. Whenever any building or structure, because of dilapidated condition, deterioration, damage, or other cause, is determined by the Fire Marshal or Fire Chief to be a fire hazard.
5. Abandoned. Whenever any portion of a building or structure remains on a site after the demolition or destruction of the building or structure or whenever any building or structure is abandoned for a period in excess of six months so as to constitute such building or portion thereof an attractive nuisance or hazard to the public.

145.04 NOTICE TO OWNER. The enforcement officer shall examine or cause to be examined every building or structure or portion thereof reported as dangerous or damaged and, if such is found to be an unsafe building as defined in this chapter, the enforcement

officer shall give to the owner of such building or structure written notice stating the defects thereof. This notice may require the owner or person in charge of the building or premises, within 48 hours or such reasonable time as the circumstances require, to commence either the required repairs or improvements or demolition and removal of the building or structure or portions thereof, and all such work shall be completed within 90 days from date of notice, unless otherwise stipulated by the enforcement officer. If necessary, such notice shall also require the building, structure, or portion thereof to be vacated forthwith and not reoccupied until the required repairs and improvements are completed, inspected, and approved by the enforcement officer.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3h])

1. Notice Served. Such notice shall be served by sending by certified mail to the owner of record, according to Section 364.12[3h] of the *Code of Iowa*, if the owner is found within the City limits. If the owner is not found within the City limits, such service may be made upon the owner by registered mail or certified mail. The designated period within which said owner or person in charge is required to comply with the order of the enforcement officer shall begin as of the date the owner receives such notice.
2. Hearing. Such notice shall also advise the owner that he or she may request a hearing before the Council on the notice by filing a written request for hearing within the time provided in the notice.

145.05 CONDUCT OF HEARING. If requested, the Council shall conduct a hearing in accordance with the following:

1. Notice. The owner shall be served with written notice specifying the date, time and place of hearing.
2. Owner's Rights. At the hearing, the owner may appear and show cause why the alleged nuisance shall not be abated.
3. Determination. The Council shall make and record findings of fact and may issue such order as it deems appropriate.[†]

145.06 POSTING OF SIGNS. The enforcement officer shall cause to be posted at each entrance to such building a notice to read: "DO NOT ENTER. UNSAFE TO OCCUPY. CITY OF ROLFE, IOWA." Such notice shall remain posted until the required demolition, removal or repairs are completed. Such notice shall not be removed without written permission of the enforcement officer and no person shall enter the building except for the purpose of making the required repairs or of demolishing the building.

145.07 RIGHT TO DEMOLISH; MUNICIPAL INFRACTION. In case the owner fails, neglects, or refuses to comply with the notice to repair, rehabilitate, or to demolish and remove the building or structure or portion thereof, the Council may order the owner of the building prosecuted as a violator of the provisions of this chapter and may order the enforcement officer to proceed with the work specified in such notice. A statement of the cost

[†] **EDITOR'S NOTE:** Suggested forms of notice and of a resolution and order of the Council for the administration of this chapter are provided in the APPENDIX to this Code of Ordinances. Caution is urged in the use of this procedure. We recommend you review the situation with your attorney before initiating procedures and follow his or her recommendation carefully.

of such work shall be transmitted to the Council. As an alternative to this action, the City may utilize the municipal infraction process to abate the nuisance.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3h])

145.08 COSTS. Costs incurred under Section 145.07 shall be paid out of the City treasury. Such costs shall be charged to the owner of the premises involved and levied as a special assessment against the land on which the building or structure is located, and shall be certified to the County Treasurer for collection in the manner provided for other taxes. In addition, the City may take any other action deemed appropriate to recover costs incurred.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3h])

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CHAPTER 146

MANUFACTURED AND MOBILE HOMES

146.01 Definitions

146.03 Foundation Requirements

146.02 Conversion to Real Property

146.01 DEFINITIONS. For use in this chapter the following terms are defined:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 435.1)

1. "Manufactured home" means a factory-built structure, built under the authority of 42 U.S.C. Sec. 5403, which was constructed on or after June 15, 1976, and is required by Federal law to display a seal from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
2. "Manufactured home community" means any site, lot, field or tract of land under common ownership upon which ten or more occupied manufactured homes are harbored, either free of charge or for revenue purposes, and includes any building, structure or enclosure used or intended for use as part of the equipment of the manufactured home community.
3. "Mobile home" means any vehicle without motive power used or so manufactured or constructed as to permit its being used as a conveyance upon the public streets and highways and so designed, constructed or reconstructed as will permit the vehicle to be used as a place for human habitation by one or more persons; but also includes any such vehicle with motive power not registered as a motor vehicle in Iowa. A mobile home means any such vehicle built before June 15, 1976, which was not built to a mandatory building code and which contains no State or Federal seals.
4. "Mobile home park" means any site, lot, field or tract of land upon which three (3) or more mobile homes or manufactured homes, or a combination of any of these homes, are placed on developed spaces and operated as a for-profit enterprise with water, sewer or septic, and electrical services available.

The term "manufactured home community" or "mobile home park" is not to be construed to include manufactured or mobile homes, buildings, tents or other structures temporarily maintained by any individual, educational institution or company on their own premises and used exclusively to house their own labor or students. The manufactured home community or mobile home park shall meet the requirements of any zoning regulations that are in effect.

146.02 CONVERSION TO REAL PROPERTY. A mobile home or manufactured home which is located outside a manufactured home community or mobile home park shall be converted to real estate by being placed on a permanent foundation and shall be assessed for real estate taxes except in the following cases:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 435.26 & Sec. 435.35)

1. **Retailer's Stock.** Mobile homes or manufactured homes on private property as part of a retailer's or a manufacturer's stock not used as a place for human habitation.

2. Existing Homes. A taxable mobile home or manufactured home which is located outside of a manufactured home community or mobile home park as of January 1, 1995, shall be assessed and taxed as real estate, but is exempt from the permanent foundation requirement of this chapter until the home is relocated.

146.03 FOUNDATION REQUIREMENTS. A mobile home or manufactured home located outside of a manufactured home community or mobile home park shall be placed on a permanent frost-free foundation system which meets the support and anchorage requirements as recommended by the manufacturer or required by the State Building Code. The foundation system must be visually compatible with permanent foundation systems of surrounding residential structures. Any such home shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of the State Building Code.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 103A.10 & 414.28)

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CHAPTER 150

BUILDING NUMBERING

150.01 Definitions

150.03 Building Numbering Map

150.02 Owner Requirements

150.01 DEFINITIONS. For use in this chapter, the following terms are defined:

1. "Owner" means the owner of the principal building.
2. "Principal building" means the main building on any lot or subdivision thereof.

150.02 OWNER REQUIREMENTS. Every owner shall obtain the assigned number to the principal building from the Clerk.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3d])

150.03 BUILDING NUMBERING MAP. The Clerk shall be responsible for preparing and maintaining a building numbering map.

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CHAPTER 151

TREES

151.01 Definition

151.02 Planting Restrictions

151.03 Duty to Trim Trees

151.04 Trimming Trees to be Supervised

151.05 Disease Control

151.06 Inspection and Removal

151.01 DEFINITION. For use in this chapter, “parking” means that part of the street, avenue or highway in the City not covered by sidewalk and lying between the lot line and the curb line; or, on unpaved streets, that part of the street, avenue or highway lying between the lot line and that portion of the street usually traveled by vehicular traffic.

151.02 PLANTING RESTRICTIONS. No tree shall be planted in any parking or street except in accordance with the following:

1. **Alignment.** All trees planted in any street shall be planted in the parking midway between the outer line of the sidewalk and the curb. In the event a curb line is not established, trees shall be planted on a line 10 feet from the property line.
2. **Spacing.** Trees shall not be planted on any parking which is less than nine feet in width, or contains less than 81 square feet of exposed soil surface per tree. Trees shall not be planted closer than 20 feet from street intersections (property lines extended) and 10 feet from driveways. If it is at all possible trees should be planted inside the property lines and not between the sidewalk and the curb.
3. **Prohibited Trees.** No person shall plant in any street any fruit-bearing tree or any tree of the kinds commonly known as cottonwood, poplar, box elder, Chinese elm, evergreen, willow or black walnut.

151.03 DUTY TO TRIM TREES. The owner or agent of the abutting property shall keep the trees on, or overhanging the street, trimmed so that all branches will be at least 15 feet above the surface of the street and eight feet above the sidewalks. If the abutting property owner fails to trim the trees, the City may serve notice on the abutting property owner requiring that such action be taken within five days. If such action is not taken within that time, the City may perform the required action and assess the costs against the abutting property for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2c, d & e])

151.04 TRIMMING TREES TO BE SUPERVISED. Except as allowed in Section 151.03, it is unlawful for any person to trim or cut any tree in a street or public place unless the work is done under the supervision of the City.

151.05 DISEASE CONTROL. Any dead, diseased or damaged tree or shrub which may harbor serious insect or disease pests or disease injurious to other trees is hereby declared to be a nuisance.

151.06 INSPECTION AND REMOVAL. The Council shall inspect or cause to be inspected any trees or shrubs in the City reported or suspected to be dead, diseased or damaged, and such trees and shrubs shall be subject to the following:

1. City Property. If it is determined that any such condition exists on any public property, including the strip between the curb and the lot line of private property, the Council may cause such condition to be corrected by treatment or removal. The Council may also order the removal of any trees on the streets of the City which interfere with the making of improvements or with travel thereon.

2. Private Property. If it is determined with reasonable certainty that any such condition exists on private property and that danger to other trees or to adjoining property or passing motorists or pedestrians is imminent, the Council shall notify by certified mail the owner, occupant or person in charge of such property to correct such condition by treatment or removal within 14 days of said notification. If such owner, occupant, or person in charge of said property fails to comply within 14 days of receipt of notice, the Council may cause the condition to be corrected and the cost assessed against the property.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3b & h])

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CHAPTER 155

BUILDING AND LAND USE REGULATIONS

155.01 Purpose	155.09 Building Permits
155.02 Restricted Residence District	155.10 Special Building Permits
155.03 Notice Requirements	155.11 Protest
155.04 Building Inspector	155.12 Fees
155.05 Definitions	155.13 Action to Abate
155.06 Setback	155.14 Variances
155.07 Building Foundations	155.15 Length of Time for Permit
155.08 Fencing	

155.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to establish a restricted residence district in the City and to provide reasonable rules and regulations for buildings of all kinds and their use, including the erection, reconstruction, alteration, repair, placement of buildings of all kinds, additions to buildings of all kinds, and regulating portable or other buildings which are brought into or moved within the City. In addition, the purpose of this chapter is to provide that there shall be no use in such district except for residences, schoolhouses, churches and other similar structures as determined by the Council. The purpose of this chapter is to regulate changes that alter the structure or overall appearance of said building. No building permit shall be required for normal maintenance procedures such as painting, replacement of roofing, replacement of boards or material that is rotted or deteriorated, new siding, window replacement (as long as windows are the same size as the original ones being replaced), or interior repair and beautification as long as the overall size and structure of the building are not changed in any way.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 414.24)

155.02 RESTRICTED RESIDENCE DISTRICT. The following restricted residence district is hereby designated and established:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 414.24)

All of the area within the City Limits of Rolfe except West ½ of Block Two (2), First Addition, City of Rolfe; AND lots Thirteen (13) through Twenty four (24); AND West ½ lots One (1), Two (2), and Three (3); AND East ½ lots One (1), Two (2), Three (3) in Block Fifteen (15), City of Rolfe; AND lots One (1), Two (2) and Nine (9) through Twenty (20) in Block Thirteen (13), City of Rolfe; AND lots Four (4) through Sixteen (16) in Block Eight (8), City of Rolfe; AND lots Five (5) through Sixteen (16) in Block Three (3), City of Rolfe; AND East ½ of Block Seven (7), City of Rolfe; AND all of Block Fourteen (14), City of Rolfe; AND lot S199' OL5 OL5, City of Rolfe; AND all of Block One (1), First Addition, City of Rolfe; AND lots One (1), Two (2), Three (3) Four (4) and Twenty (20) in Block Twelve (12) of the third addition, City of Rolfe; AND lots Twelve (12), Thirteen (13), Fourteen (14), Fifteen (15), Sixteen (16), Seventeen (17), Eighteen (18) south ½ of lots Nineteen (19), Twenty (20), Twenty- One (21), and Twenty-Two (22) in Block Three (3) of the Sunset Hill addition, City of Rolfe; AND all of the area lying south of the right-of-way of the east-west line of the Railroad; AND Lot 10, WPT Lot 11 Auditors plat, Lots Eleven (11) WPT Lot E 169' W699', LOT 152' WIDE-355' E OF NW COR LOT 12 AUD PLAT, LOT IN CENT PT LOT 12 AUD PLAT, LOT IN NE PT LOT 12

AUD PLAT, Thirteen (13), and Fourteen (14) of the Auditors plat of the unplatted portion of Section Five (5) in the City of Rolfe; And Lot Five (5) of Block Twelve (12) of the Original Town of Rolfe; AND lots One (1), Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Five (5), Six (6), Seven (7), Eight (8), alley between lots Two (2) and Six (6), lots Three (3) and Seven (7), and alley East and West through lots in the Second Addition Block Eleven (11) of the City of Rolfe.

(Section 155.02 – Ord. 232 – Jul. 20 Supp.)

155.03 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS. Whenever a restricted residence district is established or changed, a public hearing must be held, notice of which shall be given at least seven days in advance in the manner prescribed in Section 18.05 of this Code of Ordinances. In no case shall the public hearing be held earlier than the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting following the published notice.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 414.24)

155.04 BUILDING INSPECTOR. A Building Inspector will be appointed by the Council for a term not to exceed two years. Said inspector reports his or her findings to the City Clerk and to the Mayor in determining compliance with this chapter.

155.05 DEFINITIONS. For use in this chapter, the following terms are defined:

1. “Church” or “church school” means a building used for public worship, or connected with a building so used, for instruction in religious beliefs or for the conduct of activities related to church affairs.
2. “Front line” means, on Des Moines Avenue, Broad Street, Garfield Street, First Street and all others not of normal street width, a point eight feet from the curb side. On all other streets and roadways, the front line is a point which is 33 feet from the center of the street the property is fronting.
3. “Residence” means a building used exclusively for a dwelling. No business or occupation shall be conducted therein or in conjunction therewith except in accordance with the following:
 - A. The business or occupation is conducted as a secondary use carried on entirely within the residence not including any garage or other building or structure not designed and used for daily human habitation;
 - B. No more than one-half of the floor area of any one floor is devoted to such use.
 - C. No more than one sign indicating said occupation shall be displayed (sign may be double faced) and the sign shall not have a single face area of more than one square foot.
 - D. There is no evidence of such occupation being conducted on the premises by virtue of excessive noise, odors, electrical disturbances or traffic generation.
4. “Residential accessory use” means a building or structure customarily used in conjunction with a dwelling, namely, a garage with a capacity of not more than three cars, a tool or “summer” house not exceeding 100 square feet of floor area, or a private swimming pool properly fenced and screened. Any other building on residential property shall not be deemed a residential accessory use if not incidental to a residential

purpose or if it is used in conjunction with or for the business of selling goods or rendering services.

5. "School" means a building used for educational purposes, public or private, which is regulated by the State Department of Education as to curriculum.

155.06 SETBACK. Within the restricted residence district, residential buildings or residential accessory use buildings shall not be erected on a lot closer to the street property line on which it fronts than the setback of the nearest adjacent existing building that fronts the same roadway as determined by street address, except that no new construction, alterations or additions shall be constructed closer than 12 feet to the front line, nor shall any new construction be required to be built with its front further than 25 feet from said front line. Corner lots must comply on both sides. No residence or any other building located in the restricted residence district shall be located closer than four feet to the side lot lines and no accessory use building closer than two feet to the side lot lines and overhangs shall not extend over ANY lot line, regardless of the compliance of the main foundation with this setback rule. Replacement structures may be built to the point where the previous structure was located before demolition if the building will not be closer than four feet to any sidewalk, and the replacement structure is built within six (6) months of the demolition of the old building. After six months, normal setback rules will apply. Any other building granted a permit by the Council shall be placed at least as far from the lot lines as the residential, school and church related buildings. All setbacks shall be measured from the main foundation line.

155.07 BUILDING FOUNDATIONS. All buildings in the restricted residence district with a square footage area of more than 120 square feet will be required to be placed or built upon a solid cement block or cement foundation. Said block foundation will extend into the earth at least 12 inches for support and will be continuous without breaks around the entire perimeter of said structure, except for necessary openings. A free floating cement surface may be used as a foundation providing the structure does not hang over the cement slab and the cement for the slab is at least three inches thick. In the event of a pole building or other structure not requiring a cement foundation, but which is over the allotted size limitations, such permit will require a three-fourths vote of all the members of the Council.

155.08 FENCING. Fences in the restricted residence district which are permanent in nature, or which are constructed to and intended to last more than six months, will require a regular building permit. Back yards may have privacy fences up to eight feet tall and solid in structure. These structures must be aesthetically appealing and constructed out of materials suitable for fencing. Fences may be placed adjacent to lot lines as long as no portion of said structure extends onto any adjoining property. The Council will require a completed sketch and diagram before any permit for fencing is allowed. The restrictions on fencing in frontal situations are as follows:

1. No solid fence structures may be used (from the top of the fence to ground level, at least 50 percent of the area must not be obstructed).
2. No fence may be higher than six feet.
3. The fence must not obstruct the view of the surrounding neighbors.
4. The fence must be maintained in good condition.

155.09 BUILDING PERMITS. A written building permit shall be required for any building within the City, including the erection, reconstruction, alteration, repair, placement of buildings of all kinds, additions to buildings of all kinds, and portable or other buildings which are brought

into or moved within the City. Permits are not required if said changes are stated as exclusions in Section 155.01. Said permit will be applied for in writing at least 24 hours prior to any scheduled Council meeting. A representative of the proposed permit must be at the Council meeting at which the permit is being considered to provide the necessary information in determining compliance with this chapter. A written permit to facilitate building changes can be approved prior to the Council meeting if circumstances necessitate and said permit is in compliance with all provisions of this chapter. Prior approval can only be provided by the Building Inspector. Prior approval does not eliminate the need to provide representation at the next available Council meeting for the building permit.

155.10 SPECIAL BUILDING PERMITS. A written special building permit shall be required for the occupancy and use of any and all buildings within the restricted residence district except for residential, residential accessory, schools and church related buildings. Said special permit will be applied for in writing at least seven days before a scheduled Council meeting. Authorization of special permit will occur only if it appears that said use and the type of building will be compatible with the residential character of the district, and that the particular use could not practically be built in an unrestricted area, or the restricted district boundaries amended logically, due to topography, access to railroad or highway, or other proper reason acceptable to the Council. Such special permit will require a three-fourths vote of all the members of the Council. A representative of the proposed permit must be at the Council meeting at which the permit is being considered to provide the necessary information in determining compliance with this chapter.

155.11 PROTEST. No special building permit shall be granted when 60 percent of the residential real estate owners in the restricted residence district within 600 feet of the proposed building and occupancy object thereto, except by a unanimous vote of all the members of the Council.

155.12 FEES. The fee for a building permit and the fee for a special building permit shall be according to the Schedule of Fees established by the Council.

155.13 ACTION TO ABATE. Any building or structure erected, reconstructed, altered, or repaired in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be determined unlawful and a nuisance and the same may be abated by action in the district court. Such action for abatement shall be prosecuted in the name of the City.

155.14 VARIANCES. Variances may be approved by resolution by securing a 75 percent vote of the Council. Said variance must include the reason for a variance, why the variance was granted, and specific description of the property the variance was granted for.

155.15 LENGTH OF TIME FOR PERMIT. Building permits are valid for six months from the date of issuance. A new building permit must be applied for in writing after the expired time period.

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CHAPTER 160

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

160.01 Definitions	160.06 Variance Procedures
160.02 Statutory Authority, Findings of Fact and Purpose	160.06 Non-Conforming Uses
160.03 General Provisions	160.07 Penalties for Violations
160.04 Administration	160.08 Amendments
160.05 Floodplain Management Standards	

160.01 DEFINITIONS. Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this ordinance shall be interpreted so as to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this ordinance its most reasonable application.

1. "Appurtenant structure" means a structure which is on the same parcel of the property as the principal structure to be insured and the use of which is incidental to the use of the principal structure.
2. "Base flood" means the flood having one (1) percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year (also commonly referred to as the "100-year flood").
3. "Base flood elevation" (BFE) means the elevation floodwaters would reach at a particular site during the occurrence of a base flood event.
4. "Basement" means any enclosed area of a building which has its floor or lowest level below ground level (subgrade) on all sides. Also see "lowest floor."
5. "Development" means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation, drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials. "Development" does not include "minor projects" or "routine maintenance of existing buildings and facilities," as defined in this section. It also does not include gardening, plowing, and similar practices that do not involve filling or grading.
6. "Enclosed area below lowest floor" means the floor of the lowest enclosed area in a building when all the following criteria are met:
 - A. The enclosed area is designed to flood to equalize hydrostatic pressure during flood events with walls or openings that satisfy the provisions of 160.05(4)(A) of this ordinance; and
 - B. The enclosed area is unfinished (not carpeted, drywalled, etc.) and used solely for low damage potential uses such as building access, parking or storage; and
 - C. Machinery and service facilities (e.g., hot water heater, furnace, electrical service) contained in the enclosed area are located at least one (1) foot above the base flood elevation; and
 - D. The enclosed area is not a basement, as defined in this section.
7. "Existing construction" means any structure for which the "start of construction" commenced before the effective date of the first floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

8. "Existing factory-built home park or subdivision" means a factory-built home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the factory-built homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed before the effective date of the first floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.
9. "Expansion of existing factory-built home park or subdivision" means the preparation of additional sites by the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the factory-built homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads).
10. "Factory-built home" means any structure, designed for residential use which is wholly or in substantial part, made, fabricated, formed or assembled in manufacturing facilities for installation or assembly and installation, on a building site. For the purpose of this ordinance factory-built homes include mobile homes, manufactured homes, and modular homes; and also includes recreational vehicles which are placed on a site for greater than 180 consecutive days and not fully licensed for and ready for highway use.
11. "Factory-built home park" means a parcel or contiguous parcels of land divided into two or more factory-built home lots for sale or lease.
12. "Five hundred (500) year flood" means a flood, the magnitude of which has a two-tenths (0.2) percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year or which, on average, will be equaled or exceeded at least once every five hundred (500) years.
13. "Flood" means a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas resulting from the overflow of streams or rivers or from the unusual and rapid runoff of surface waters from any source.
14. "Flood insurance rate map" (FIRM) means the official map prepared as part of (but published separately from) the Flood Insurance Study which delineates both the flood hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.
15. "Flood insurance study" (FIS) means a report published by FEMA for a community issued along with the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map(s). The study contains such background data as the base flood discharge and water surface elevations that were used to prepare the FIRM.
16. "Floodplain" means any land area susceptible to being inundated by water as a result of a flood.
17. "Floodplain management" means an overall program of corrective and preventive measures for reducing flood damages and promoting the wise use of floodplains, including but not limited to emergency preparedness plans, flood control works, floodproofing and floodplain management regulations.
18. "Floodproofing" means any combination of structural and nonstructural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures, including utility and sanitary facilities, which will reduce or eliminate flood damage to such structures.
19. "Floodway" means the channel of a river or stream and those portions of the floodplains adjoining the channel, which are reasonably required to carry and discharge flood waters or flood flows so that confinement of flood flows to the floodway area will

not cumulatively increase the water surface elevation of the base flood by more than one (1) foot.

20. "Floodway fringe" means those portions of the special flood hazard area outside the floodway.

21. "Highest adjacent grade" means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure.

22. "Historic structure" means any structure that is:

A. Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places, maintained by the Department of Interior, or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing of the National Register;

B. Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;

C. Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or

D. Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either: (i) an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior; or (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

23. "Lowest floor" means the floor of the lowest enclosed area in a building including a basement except when the criteria listed in the definition of enclosed area below lowest floor are met.

24. "Maximum damage potential uses" means hospitals and like institutions; buildings or building complexes containing documents, data, or instruments of great public value; buildings or building complexes containing materials dangerous to the public or fuel storage facilities; power installations needed in emergency or other buildings or building complexes similar in nature or use.

25. "Minor projects" means small development activities (except for filling, grading and excavating) valued at less than \$500.

26. "New construction" (new buildings, factory-built home parks) means those structures or development for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of the first floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

27. "New factory-built home park or subdivision" means a factory-built home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the factory-built homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed on or after the effective date of the first floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

28. "Recreational vehicle" means a vehicle which is:
- A. Built on a single chassis;
 - B. Four hundred (400) square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
 - C. Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
 - D. Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as a temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.
29. "Routine maintenance of existing buildings and facilities" means repairs necessary to keep a structure in a safe and habitable condition that do not trigger a building permit, provided they are not associated with a general improvement of the structure or repair of a damaged structure. Such repairs include:
- A. Normal maintenance of structures such as re-roofing, replacing roofing tiles and replacing siding;
 - B. Exterior and interior painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, counter tops and similar finish work;
 - C. Basement sealing;
 - D. Repairing or replacing damaged or broken window panes;
 - E. Repairing plumbing systems, electrical systems, heating or air conditioning systems and repairing wells or septic systems.
30. "Special flood hazard area" (SFHA) means the land within a community subject to the "base flood." This land is identified on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map as Zone A, A1-30, AE, AH, AO, AR, and/or A99.
31. "Start of construction" includes substantial improvement, and means the date the development permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement, or other improvement, was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement or permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as pouring of a slab or footings, the installation of pile, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a factory-built home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of the building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.
32. "Structure" means anything constructed or erected on the ground or attached to the ground, including, but not limited to, buildings, factories, sheds, cabins, factory-built homes, storage tanks, grain storage facilities and/or other similar uses.
33. "Substantial damage" means damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before damage condition would equal or exceed fifty (50) percent of the market value of the structure before the damage

occurred. Volunteer labor and donated materials shall be included in the estimated cost of repair.

34. "Substantial improvement" means any improvement to a structure which satisfies either of the following criteria:

A. Any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds fifty (50) percent of the market value of the structure either (i) before the "start of construction" of the improvement, or (ii) if the structure has been "substantially damaged" and is being restored, before the damage occurred.

The term does not, however, include any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which have been identified by the local code enforcement official and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions. The term also does not include any alteration of an "historic structure," provided the alteration will not preclude the structure's designation as an "historic structure."

B. Any addition which increases the original floor area of a building by 25 percent or more. All additions constructed after the effective date of the first floodplain management regulations adopted by the community shall be added to any proposed addition in determining whether the total increase in original floor space would exceed 25 percent.

35. "Variance" means a grant of relief by a community from the terms of the floodplain management regulations.

36. "Violation" means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's floodplain management regulations.

160.02 STATUTORY AUTHORITY, FINDINGS OF FACT AND PURPOSE.

1. The Legislature of the State of Iowa has in Chapter 364, *Code of Iowa*, as amended, delegated the power to cities to exercise any power and perform any function it deems appropriate to protect and preserve the rights, privileges and property of the City or of its residents, and to preserve and improve the peace, safety, health, welfare, comfort and convenience of its residents.

2. Findings of Fact.

A. The flood hazard areas of the City of Rolfe are subject to periodic inundation which can result in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base all of which adversely affect the public health, safety and general welfare of the community.

B. These flood losses, hazards, and related adverse effects are caused by: (i) the occupancy of flood hazard areas by uses vulnerable to flood damages which create hazardous conditions as a result of being inadequately elevated or otherwise protected from flooding and (ii) the cumulative effect of obstructions on the floodplain causing increases in flood heights and velocities.

3. Statement of Purpose. It is the purpose of this ordinance to protect and preserve the rights, privileges and property of the City of Rolfe and its residents and to preserve and improve the peace, safety, health, welfare, and comfort and convenience of its

residents by minimizing those flood losses described in Paragraph 2(A) of this ordinance with provisions designed to:

- A. Restrict or prohibit uses which are dangerous to health, safety or property in times of flood or which cause excessive increases in flood heights or velocities.
- B. Require that uses vulnerable to floods, including public facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction or substantial improvement.
- C. Protect individuals from buying lands which may not be suited for intended purposes because of flood hazard.
- D. Assure that eligibility is maintained for property owners in the community to purchase flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program.

160.03 GENERAL PROVISIONS.

1. **Lands to Which Chapter Applies.** The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to all areas having special flood hazards within the jurisdiction of the City of Rolfe. For the purpose of this ordinance, the special flood hazard areas are those areas designated as Zone A on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Pocahontas County and Incorporated Areas, City of Rolfe, Panel 19151C0208B, 19151C0209B, 19151C0216B and 19151C0217B, dated May 16, 2017, which is hereby adopted and made a part of this ordinance.
2. **Rules for Interpretation of Flood Hazard Boundaries.** The boundaries of the Special Flood Hazard areas shall be determined by scaling distances on the official Flood Insurance Rate Map. When an interpretation is needed as to the exact location of a boundary, the City Clerk shall make the necessary interpretation. The City Council shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged that there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Rolfe in the enforcement or administration of this ordinance.
3. **Compliance.** No structure or land shall hereafter be used and no structure shall be located, extended, converted or structurally altered without full compliance with the terms of this ordinance and other applicable regulations which apply to uses within the jurisdiction of this ordinance.
4. **Abrogation and Greater Restrictions.** It is not intended by this ordinance to repeal, abrogate or impair any existing easements, covenants, or deed restrictions. However, where this ordinance imposes greater restrictions, the provisions of this ordinance shall prevail. All other ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of the inconsistency only.
5. **Interpretation.** In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this ordinance shall be held to be minimum requirements and shall be liberally construed in favor of the governing body and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any other powers granted by State statutes.
6. **Warning and Disclaimer of Liability.** The standards required by this ordinance are considered reasonable for regulatory purposes. This ordinance does not imply that areas outside the designated special flood hazard areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This ordinance shall not create liability on the part of the City of Rolfe

or any officer or employee thereof for any flood damages that result from reliance on this ordinance or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

7. Severability. If any section, clause, provision or portion of this ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

160.04 ADMINISTRATION.

1. Appointment, Duties and Responsibilities of Local Official.

A. The City Clerk is hereby appointed to implement and administer the provisions of this ordinance and will herein be referred to as the Administrator.

B. Duties and responsibilities of the Administrator shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

(1) Review all floodplain development permit applications to assure that the provisions of this ordinance will be satisfied.

(2) Review floodplain development applications to assure that all necessary permits have been obtained from federal, state and local governmental agencies including approval when required from the Department of Natural Resources for floodplain construction.

(3) Record and maintain a record of (i) the elevation (in relation to North American Vertical Datum 1988) of the lowest floor (including basement) of all new or substantially improved structures; or (ii) the elevation to which new or substantially improved structures have been floodproofed.

(4) Notify adjacent communities/counties and the Department of Natural Resources prior to any proposed alteration or relocation of a watercourse and submit evidence of such notifications to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(5) Keep a record of all permits, appeals and such other transactions and correspondence pertaining to the administration of this ordinance.

(6) Submit to the Federal Insurance Administrator an annual report concerning the community's participation, utilizing the annual report form supplied by the Federal Insurance Administrator.

(7) Notify the Federal Insurance Administration of any annexations or modifications to the community's boundaries.

(8) Maintain the accuracy of the community's Flood Insurance Rate Maps when;

a. Development placed within the Floodway results in any of the following:

(i) An increase in the Base Flood Elevations, or

(ii) Alteration to the floodway boundary.

- b. Development placed in Zones A, AE, AH, and A1-30 that does not include a designated floodway that will cause a rise of more than one foot in the base flood elevation; or
- c. Development relocates or alters the channel.

Within 6 months of the completion of the development, the applicant shall submit to FEMA all scientific and technical data necessary for a Letter of Map Revision.

- (9) Perform site inspections to ensure compliance with the standards of this ordinance.

2. Floodplain Development Permit.

A. Permit Required. A Floodplain Development Permit issued by the Administrator shall be secured prior to any floodplain development (any man-made change to improved and unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations), including the placement of factory-built homes.

B. Application for Permit. Application shall be made on forms furnished by the Administrator and shall include the following:

- (1) Description of the work to be covered by the permit for which application is to be made.
- (2) Description of the land on which the proposed work is to be done (i.e., lot, block, track, street address or similar description) that will readily identify and locate the work to be done.
- (3) Location and dimensions of all buildings and building additions.
- (4) Indication of the use or occupancy for which the proposed work is intended.
- (5) Elevation of the base flood.
- (6) Elevation (in relation to North American Vertical Datum 1988 of the lowest floor (including basement) of buildings or of the level to which a building is to be floodproofed.
- (7) For buildings being improved or rebuilt, the estimated cost of improvements and market value of the building prior to the improvements.
- (8) Such other information as the Administrator deems reasonably necessary (e.g., drawings or a site plan) for the purpose of this ordinance.

C. Action on Permit Application. The Administrator shall, within a reasonable time, make a determination as to whether the proposed floodplain development meets the applicable standards of this ordinance and shall approve or disapprove the application. For disapprovals, the applicant shall be informed, in writing, of the specific reasons therefore. The Administrator shall not issue permits for variances except as directed by the County Board of Adjustment.

D. Construction and Use to Be as Provided in Application and Plans. Floodplain Development Permits based on the basis of approved plans and applications authorize only the use, arrangement, and construction set forth in such approved plans and applications and no other use, arrangement or construction. Any use, arrangement, or construction at variance with that authorized shall be deemed a violation of this ordinance. The applicant shall be required to submit certification by a professional engineer or land surveyor, as appropriate, registered in the State of Iowa, that the finished fill, building floor elevations, floodproofing, or other flood protection measures were accomplished in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance, prior to the use or occupancy of any structure.

160.05 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT STANDARDS. All uses must be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage and meet the following applicable performance standards. Where base flood elevations have not been provided in the Flood Insurance Study, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources shall be contacted to determine (i) whether the land involved is either wholly or partly within the floodway or floodway fringe and (ii) the 100 year flood level. The applicant will be responsible for providing the Department of Natural Resources with sufficient technical information to make such determination. Review by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources is not required for the proposed construction of new or replacement bridges or culverts where (i) the bridge or culvert is located on a stream that drains less than one hundred (100) square miles, and (ii) the bridge or culvert is not associated with a channel modification that constitutes a channel change as specified in 567-71.2(1)b, Iowa Administrative Code.

1. All Development. All development within the special flood hazard areas shall:
 - A. Be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage.
 - B. Use construction methods and practices that will minimize flood damage.
 - C. Use construction materials and utility equipment that are resistant to flood damage.
 - D. Obtain all other necessary permits from federal, state and local governmental agencies including approval when required from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.
2. Residential Structures. All new or substantially improved residential structures shall have the lowest floor, including basement, elevated a minimum of one (1) foot above the base flood elevations. Construction shall be upon compacted fill which shall, at all points, be no lower than 1.0 ft. above the base flood elevation and extend at such elevation at least 18 feet beyond the limits of any structure erected thereon.

Alternate methods of elevating (such as piers or extended foundations or subject to favorable consideration by the City Council) may be allowed, where existing topography, street grades, or other factors preclude elevating by fill. In such cases, the methods used must be adequate to support the structure as well as withstand the various forces and hazards associated with flooding.

All new residential structures located in areas that would become isolated due to flooding of surrounding ground shall be provided with a means of access that will be passable by wheeled vehicles during the base flood. However, this criterion shall not apply where the Administrator determines there is sufficient flood warning time for the

protection of life and property. When estimating flood warning time, consideration shall be given to the criteria listed in 567-75.2(3), Iowa Administrative Code.

3. Nonresidential Structures. All new or substantially improved non-residential structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated a minimum of one (1) foot above the base flood elevation, or together with attendant utility and sanitary systems, be floodproofed to such a level.

When floodproofing is utilized, a professional engineer registered in the State of Iowa shall certify that the floodproofing methods used are adequate to withstand the flood depths, pressures, velocities, impact and uplift forces and other factors associated with the 100-year flood; and that the structure, below the 100-year flood level is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water.

A record of the certification indicating the specific elevation (in relation to North American Vertical Datum 1988) to which any structures are floodproofed shall be maintained by the Administrator.

4. All New and Substantially Improved Structures.

A. Fully enclosed areas below the "lowest floor" (not including basements) that are subject to flooding shall be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of floodwaters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a registered professional engineer or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:

- (1) A minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding shall be provided.
- (2) The bottom of all openings shall be no higher than one foot above grade.
- (3) Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

Such areas shall be used solely for parking of vehicles, building access and low damage potential storage.

B. New and substantially improved structures must be designed (or modified) and adequately anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement of the structure resulting from hydrodynamic and hydrostatic loads, including the effects of buoyancy.

C. New and substantially improved structures must be constructed with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, and air conditioning equipment and other service facilities that are designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding.

5. Factory-Built Homes.

A. All new and substantially improved factory-built homes, including those placed in existing factory-built home parks or subdivisions, shall be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor of the structure is a minimum of one (1) foot above the 100-year flood level.

- B. All new and substantially improved factory-built homes, including those placed in existing factory-built home parks or subdivisions, shall be anchored to resist flotation, collapse, or lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors. Anchorage systems may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors as required by the State Building Code.
6. Utility and Sanitary Systems.
- A. On-site waste disposal and water supply systems shall be located or designed to avoid impairment to the system or contamination from the system during flooding.
- B. All new and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system as well as the discharge of effluent into flood waters. Wastewater treatment facilities (other than on-site systems) shall be provided with a level of flood protection equal to or greater than one (1) foot above the 100-year flood elevation.
- C. New or replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system. Water supply treatment facilities (other than on-site systems) shall be provided with a level of protection equal to or greater than one (1) foot above the 100-year flood elevation.
- D. Utilities such as gas or electrical systems shall be located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage to the system and the risk associated with such flood damaged or impaired systems.
7. Storage of Materials and Equipment. Storage of materials and that are flammable, explosive or injurious to human, animal or plant life is prohibited unless elevated a minimum of one (1) foot above the base flood elevation. Other material and equipment must either be similarly elevated or (i) not subject to major flood damage and be anchored to prevent movement due to flood waters or (ii) readily removable from the area within the time available after flood warning.
8. Flood Control Structures. Flood control structural works such as levees, flood walls, etc. shall provide, at a minimum, protection from the base flood with a minimum of 3 ft. of design freeboard and shall provide for adequate interior drainage. In addition, the Department of Natural Resources shall approve structural flood control works.
9. Watercourse Alterations. Watercourse alterations or relocations must be designed to maintain the flood carrying capacity within the altered or relocated portion. In addition, the Department of Natural Resources must approve such alterations or relocations.
10. Subdivisions. Subdivisions (including factory-built home parks and subdivisions) shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damages and shall have adequate drainage provided to reduce exposure to flood damage. Development associated with subdivision proposals (including the installation of public utilities) shall meet the applicable performance standards of this ordinance.
- Subdivision proposals intended for residential use shall provide all lots with a means of access which will be passable by wheeled vehicles during the 100-year flood. Proposals for subdivisions greater than five (5) acres or fifty (50) lots (whichever is less) shall

include 100-year flood elevation data for those areas located within the Special Flood Hazard Area.

11. Accessory Structures to Residential Uses. Detached garages, sheds, and similar structures that are incidental to a residential use are exempt from the base flood elevation requirements where the following criteria are satisfied. The structure shall be designed to have low flood damage potential. Its size shall not exceed 600 sq. ft. in size. Those portions of the structure located less than 1 foot above the BFE must be constructed of flood-resistant materials.

A. The structure shall be used solely for low flood damage potential purposes such as vehicle parking and limited storage. The structure shall not be used for human habitation.

B. The structure shall be constructed and placed on the building site so as to offer minimum resistance to the flow of floodwaters.

C. The structure shall be firmly anchored to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement.

D. The structure's service facilities such as electrical and heating equipment shall be elevated or floodproofed to at least one foot above the base flood elevation.

E. The structure's walls shall include openings that satisfy the provisions of Subsection 4(A) of this ordinance.

Exemption from the 100-year flood elevation requirements for such a structure may result in increased premium rates for flood insurance coverage of the structure and its contents.

12. Recreational Vehicles.

A. Recreational vehicles are exempt from the requirements of Subsection 5 of this section regarding anchoring and elevation of factory-built homes when the following criteria are satisfied.

(1) The recreational vehicle shall be located on the site for less than 180 consecutive days; and

(2) The recreational vehicle must be fully licensed and ready for highway use. A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system and is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

B. Recreational vehicles that are located on the site for more than 180 consecutive days or are not ready for highway use must satisfy requirements of Subsection 5 of this section regarding anchoring and elevation of factory-built homes.

13. Pipeline Crossings. Pipeline river and stream crossings shall be buried in the streambed and banks, or otherwise sufficiently protected to prevent rupture due to channel degradation and meandering.

14. Maximum Damage Potential Uses. All new or substantially improved maximum damage potential uses shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated a minimum of one (1) foot above the elevation of the 500-year flood, or

together with attendant utility and sanitary systems, be floodproofed to such a level. When floodproofing is utilized, a professional engineer registered in the State of Iowa shall certify that the floodproofing methods used are adequate to withstand the flood depths, pressures, velocities, impact and uplift forces and other factors associated with the 0.2% annual chance flood; and that the structure, below the 0.2% annual chance flood elevation is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. A record of the certification indicating the specific elevation (in relation to North American Vertical Datum 1988) to which any structures are floodproofed shall be maintained by the Administrator. Where 0.2% chance flood elevation data has not been provided in the Flood Insurance Study, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources shall be contacted to compute such data. The applicant will be responsible for providing the Department of Natural Resources with sufficient technical information to make such determinations.

160.06 VARIANCE PROCEDURES.

1. The City Council may authorize upon request in specific cases such variances from the terms of this ordinance that will not be contrary to the public interest where, owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance will result in unnecessary hardship. Variances granted must meet the following applicable standards.

A. Variances shall only be granted upon: (i) a showing of good and sufficient cause, (ii) a determination that failure to grant the variance would result in exceptional hardship to the applicant, and (iii) a determination that the granting of the variance will not result in increased flood heights, additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, create nuisances, cause fraud on or victimization of the public or conflict with existing local codes or ordinances.

B. Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the 100-year flood would result. Consideration of the effects of any development on flood levels shall be based upon the assumption that an equal degree of development would be allowed for similarly situated lands.

C. Variances shall only be granted upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.

D. In cases where the variance involves a lower level of flood protection for buildings than what is ordinarily required by this ordinance, the applicant shall be notified in writing over the signature of the Administrator that: (i) the issuance of a variance will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance up to amounts as high as \$25 for \$100 of insurance coverage and (ii) such construction increases risks to life and property.

E. All variances granted shall have the concurrence or approval of the Department of Natural Resources.

2. Factors upon Which the Decision of the Council Shall Be Based. In passing upon applications for variances, the council shall consider all relevant factors specified in other sections of this ordinances and:

A. The danger to life and property due to increased flood heights or velocities caused by encroachments.

- B. The danger that materials may be swept on to other land or downstream to the injury of others.
 - C. The proposed water supply and sanitation systems and the ability of these systems to prevent disease, contamination and unsanitary conditions.
 - D. The susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner.
 - E. The importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the City.
 - F. The requirements of the facility for a floodplain location.
 - G. The availability of alternative locations not subject to flooding for the proposed use.
 - H. The compatibility of the proposed use with existing development and development anticipated in the foreseeable future.
 - I. The relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program for the area.
 - J. The safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles.
 - K. The expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the flood water expected at the site.
 - L. The cost of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including maintenance and repair of public utilities (sewer, gas, electrical and water systems), facilities, streets and bridges.
 - M. Such other factors which are relevant to the purpose of this ordinance.
3. Conditions Attached to Variances. Upon consideration of the factors listed above, the Council may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purpose of this ordinance. Such conditions may include, but not necessarily be limited to:
- A. Modification of waste disposal and water supply facilities.
 - B. Limitation of periods of use and operation.
 - C. Imposition of operational controls, sureties, and deed restrictions.
 - D. Requirements for construction of channel modifications, dikes, levees, and other protective measures, provided such are approved by the Department of Natural Resources and are deemed the only practical alternative to achieving the purpose of this ordinance.
 - E. Floodproofing measures shall be designed consistent with the flood protection elevation for the particular area, flood velocities, duration, rate of rise, hydrostatic and hydrodynamic forces, and other factors associated with the regulatory flood. The Council shall require that the applicant submit a plan or document certified by a registered professional engineer that the floodproofing measures are consistent with the regulatory flood protection elevation and associated flood factors for the particular area.

160.07 NONCONFORMING USES.

1. A structure or the use of a structure or premises which was lawful before the passage or amendment of this ordinance, but which is not in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance, may be continued subject to the following conditions:

A. If such use is discontinued for six (6) consecutive months, any future use of the building premises shall conform to this ordinance.

B. Uses or adjuncts thereof that are or become nuisances shall not be entitled to continue as nonconforming uses.

2. If any nonconforming use or structure is destroyed by any means, including flood, it shall not be reconstructed if the cost is more than fifty (50) percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred, unless it is reconstructed in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance. This limitation does not include the cost of any alteration to comply with existing state or local health, sanitary, building or safety codes or regulations or the cost of any alteration of a structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places, provided that the alteration shall not preclude its continued designation.

160.08 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION. Violations of the provisions of this ordinance or failure to comply with any of the requirements shall constitute a misdemeanor. Any person who violates this ordinance or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall upon conviction thereof be fined not more than \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) or imprisoned for not more than thirty 30 days. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the City of Rolfe from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy violation.

160.09 AMENDMENTS. The regulations and standards set forth in this ordinance may from time to time be amended, supplemented, changed, or repealed. No amendment, supplement, change, or modification shall be undertaken without prior approval of the Department of Natural Resources.

(Ch. 160 – Ord. 231 – Jul. 20 Supp.)

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