

TITLE 15

Building Code

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Building Code

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Sec. 15-1-1 Building Code Established.

- (a) **Title.** This Chapter shall be known as the "Building Code of the City of Amery" and will be referred to in this Chapter as "this Code," "this Chapter" or "this Ordinance."
- (b) **Purpose.** This Chapter provides certain minimum standards, provisions and requirements for safe and stable design, methods of construction and uses of materials in buildings and/or structures hereafter erected, constructed, enlarged, altered, repaired, moved, converted to other uses or demolished and regulates the equipment, maintenance, use and occupancy of all such buildings and/or structures. Its purpose is to protect and foster the health, safety and well-being of persons occupying or using such buildings and the general public.
- (c) **Scope.**
 - (1) New buildings hereafter erected in, or any building hereafter moved within or into the City, shall conform to all the requirements of this Chapter except as they are herein specifically exempted from part or all of its provisions. Any alteration, enlargement

or demolition of an existing building and any installation therein of electrical, gas, heating, plumbing or ventilating equipment which affects the health or safety of the users thereof or any other persons is a "new building" to the extent of such change. The provisions of this Chapter supplement the laws of the State of Wisconsin pertaining to construction and use and the Zoning Code of the City and amendments thereto to the date this Chapter was adopted and in no way supersede or nullify such laws and the said Zoning Code.

- (2) This Code applies to all dwellings, commercial buildings/structures, swimming pools, garages, structures, buildings, and residential accessory buildings. Not included are children's play structures and agricultural buildings.
- (3) These regulations are adopted under the authority granted by Sec. 101.65, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 15-1-2 Building Permits and Inspection.

(a) Permit Required.

- (1) **General Permit Requirement.** No building of any kind shall be moved within or into the City of Amery and no new building or structure, or any part thereof, shall hereafter be erected, or ground broken for the same, or enlarged, altered, moved, demolished, razed or used within the City, except as herein provided, until a permit therefor shall first have been obtained pursuant to this Chapter by the owner, or his/her authorized agent, from the Building Inspector or City Administrator pursuant to this Section. Prior to commencing any of the following work, the owner or his/her agent shall obtain a valid permit for:
 - a. New buildings.
 - b. Additions that increase the physical dimensions of a building including decks.
 - c. Alterations to the building structure, cost shall include market labor value, or alterations to the building's heating, electrical or plumbing systems. Permits are required for re-siding.
 - d. Exempted are re-roofing and finishing of interior surfaces, installation of cabinetry, and minor repair as deemed by the Building Inspector. However, unless structural calculations are provided, no more than two (2) layers of roofing shall be installed on a roof.
 - e. Any electrical wiring for new construction or remodeling.
 - f. Any HVAC for new construction or remodeling.
 - g. Any plumbing for new construction or remodeling.
 - h. Exempt are normal repairs performed in Subsection (a)(1)e-g.
- (2) **Alterations and Repairs.** The following provisions shall apply to buildings altered or repaired:
 - a. **Alterations.** When not in conflict with any regulations, alterations to any existing building or structure accommodating a legal occupancy and use but of

substandard type of construction, which involves either beams, girders, columns, bearing or other walls, room, heating and air condition systems, arrangement, light and ventilation, changes in location of exit stairways or exits, or any or all of the above, then such existing construction shall be made to conform to the minimum requirements of this Chapter applicable to such occupancy and use and given type of construction.

- b. **Repairs.** Repairs for purposes of maintenance, or replacements in any existing building or structure which do not involve the structural portions of the building or structure or which do not affect room arrangement, light and ventilation, access to or efficiency of any exist stairways, or exits, fire protection, or exterior aesthetic appearance and which do not increase a given occupancy or use, shall be deemed minor repairs.
 - c. **Alterations When Not Permitted.** When any existing building or structure, which, for any reason whatsoever, does not conform to the regulations of this Chapter, has deteriorated from any cause whatsoever to an extent greater than fifty percent (50%) of the equalized value of the building or structure, no alterations or moving of such building or structure shall be permitted. Any such building or structure shall be considered a menace to public safety and welfare and shall be ordered vacated and thereafter demolished and debris removed from the premises.
 - d. **Alterations and Repairs Required.** When any of the structural members of any building or structure have deteriorated from any cause whatsoever to less than their required strength, the owner of such a building or structure shall cause such structural members to be restored to their required strength; failing in which the building or structure shall be considered a menace to public safety and shall be vacated and thereafter no further occupancy or use of the same shall be permitted until the regulations of this Chapter are complied with.
 - e. **Extent of Deterioration.** The amount and extent of deterioration of any existing building or structure shall be determined by the Building Inspector.
- (b) **Application.** Application for a building permit shall be made in writing upon a form furnished by the City Administrator and shall state the name and address of the owner of the land upon which the building is to be located, the name and address of the designer, the use to which said building is to be put, an attached site plan or plot plan to scale showing the building location, the front; side and rear yard measurements, and such other information as the Building Inspector or Administrator may require.
- (c) **Site Plan Approval - Multi-Family and Commercial Structures.**
- (1) **Site Plan Approval.** All applications for building permits for any construction, reconstruction, expansion or conversion, except for one (1) and two (2) family residences in residentially zoned districts shall require site plan approval by the Plan Commission in accordance with the requirements of this Section, unless site plan review is required under the City Zoning Code. The applicant shall submit a site plan

- and sufficient plans and specifications of proposed buildings, machinery and operations to enable the Plan Commission or its expert consultants to determine whether the proposed application meets all the requirements applicable thereto in this Chapter.
- (2) **Administration.** The Building Inspector shall make a preliminary review of the application and plans requiring site plan review and refer them along with a report of his/her findings to the Plan Commission. The Plan Commission shall review the application and may refer the application and determine whether the application and plans meet all the requirements applicable thereto in this Chapter. Within thirty (30) days of its receipt of the application, the Plan Commission shall authorize the Building Inspector to issue or refuse a building permit.
 - (3) **Requirements.** In acting on any site plan, the Plan Commission shall consider the following:
 - a. The appropriateness of the site plan and buildings in relation to the physical character of the site and the usage of adjoining land areas.
 - b. The layout of the site with regard to entrances and exits to public streets; the arrangement and improvement of interior roadways; the location, adequacy and improvement of areas for parking and for loading and unloading; and shall, in this connection, satisfy itself that the traffic pattern generated by the proposed construction or use shall be developed in a manner consistent with the safety of residents and the community, and the applicant shall so design the construction or use as to minimize any traffic hazard created thereby.
 - c. The adequacy of the proposed water supply, drainage facilities and sanitary and waste disposal.
 - d. The landscaping and appearance of the completed site. The Plan Commission may require that those portions of all front, rear and side yards not used for off-street parking shall be attractively planted with trees, shrubs, plants or grass lawns, and that the site be effectively screened so as not to impair the value of adjacent properties nor impair the intent of purposes of this Section.
 - (4) **Effect on Municipal Services.** Before granting any site approval, the Plan Commission may, besides obtaining advice from consultants, secure such advice as may be deemed necessary from the Building Inspector or other municipal officials, with special attention to the effect of such approval upon existing municipal services and utilities. Reports may be required from the Zoning Administrator, Building Inspector, City Administrator, Fire Chief, Chief of Police and/or City Administrator. Should additional facilities be needed, the Plan Commission shall not issue the final approval until the City has entered into an agreement with the applicant regarding the development of such facilities.
 - (5) **Appeals.** Denials of building permits contingent upon site plan approval may be appealed to the Board of Appeals by filing a notice of appeal with the City Administrator within seven (7) days of the denial.

- (d) **Dedicated Street and Approved Subdivision Required.** No building permit shall be issued unless the property on which the building is proposed to be built abuts a street that has been dedicated for street purposes. No building permits shall be issued until the subdivision and required improvements are accepted by the Common Council.
- (e) **Utilities Required.**
- (1) **Residential Buildings.** No building permit shall be issued for the construction of any residential building until sewer, water, grading and graveling are installed in the streets necessary to service the property for which the permit is required and a receipt for payment of electrical hookup is presented to the Building Inspector or Administrator.
 - (2) **Non-Residential Building.** No building permit shall be issued for the construction of any building other than residential until contracts have been let for the installation of sewer, water, grading and graveling in the streets necessary to service the property for which the permit is requested.
- (f) **Plans.** With such application, there shall be submitted three (3) complete sets of plans and specifications, including a plot plan showing the location and dimensions of all buildings and improvements on the lot, both existing and proposed, dimensions of the lot, dimensions showing all setbacks of all buildings on the lot, proposed grade of proposed structure (to City datum), grade of lot and of the street abutting lot, grade and setback of adjacent buildings (if adjacent lot is vacant, submit elevation of nearest buildings on same side of street), type of monuments at each corner of lot, water courses or existing drainage ditches, easements or other restrictions affecting such property, seal and signature of surveyor or a certificate signed by the applicant and a construction erosion control plan setting forth proposed information and procedures needed for control of soil erosion, surface water runoff and sediment disposition at the building site. Plans, specifications and plot plans shall be drawn to a minimum scale of one-quarter (1/4) inch to one (1) foot [fireplace details to three-quarters (3/4) inch to one (1) foot]. One (1) set of plans shall be returned after approval as provided in this Chapter. The second set shall be filed in the office of the Building Inspector. Plans for buildings involving the State Building Code shall bear the stamp of approval of the Wisconsin Department of Commerce (formerly the State Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations). One (1) plan shall be submitted which shall remain on file in the office of the Building Inspector. All plans and specifications shall be signed by the designer. Plans for all new one (1) and two (2) family dwellings shall comply with the provisions of Ch. COMM 20.09(4), Wis. Adm. Code.
- (g) **Waiver of Plans; Minor Repairs.**
- (1) **Waiver.** If the Building Inspector finds that the character of the work is sufficiently described in the application, the Building Inspector may waive the filing of plans for alterations, repairs or moving, provided the cost of such work does not exceed Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00).
 - (2) **Minor Repairs.** The Building Inspector may authorize minor repairs or maintenance work on any structure or to heating, ventilating or air conditioning systems installed

therein with a fair market value of less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), as determined by the Building Inspector including market value of labor, which do not change the occupancy area, exterior aesthetic appearance, structural strength, fire protection, exits, light or ventilation of the building or structure without issuance of a building permit.

(h) **Approval of Plans.**

- (1) If the Building Inspector determines that the building will comply in every respect with all Ordinances and orders of the City he/she shall issue a building permit which shall state the use to which said building is to be put, which shall be kept and displayed at the site of the proposed building. After being approved, the plans and specifications shall not be altered in any respect which involves any of the above-mentioned Ordinances, laws or orders, or which involves the safety of the building or the occupants, except with the written consent of the Building Inspector.
- (2) In case adequate plans are presented for part of the building only, the Building Inspector, at his/her discretion, may issue a permit for that part of the building before receiving the plans and specifications for the entire building.

(i) **Permit Lapses.** A building permit shall lapse and be void unless building operations are commenced within six (6) months or if construction has not been completed within eighteen (18) months from the date of issuance thereof.

(j) **Inspection Warrants.** If the Building Inspector is denied access to inspect a property, he/she may request the City Attorney to seek an inspection warrant pursuant to Sec. 66.0119, Wis. Stats.

(k) **Revocation of Permits.**

- (1) The Building Inspector or the Common Council may revoke any building permit or approval issued under the regulations of this Chapter and may stop construction or use of approved new materials, equipment, methods of construction, devices or appliances for any of the following reasons:
 - a. Whenever the Building Inspector shall find at any time that applicable ordinances, laws, orders, plans and specifications are not being complied with and that the holder of the permit refused to conform after written warning or construction has been issued to him/her.
 - b. Whenever the continuance of any construction becomes dangerous to life or property.
 - c. Whenever there is any violation of any condition or provisions of the application for permit or of the permit.
 - d. Whenever, in the opinion of the Building Inspector, there is inadequate supervision provided on the job site.
 - e. Whenever any false statement or misrepresentation has been made in the application for permit, plans, drawings, data specifications or certified lot or plot plan on which the issuance of the permit or approval was based.

- f. Whenever there is a violation of any of the conditions of an approval or occupancy given by the Building Inspector for the use of all new materials, equipment, methods or construction devices or appliances.
- (2) The notice revoking a building, plumbing or electrical certificate of occupancy or approval shall be in writing and may be served upon the applicant of the permit, owner of the premises and his/her agent, if any, and on the person having charge of construction.
- (3) A revocation placard shall also be posted upon the building, structure, equipment or premises in question by the Building Inspector or City representative.
- (4) After the notice is served upon the persons as aforesaid and posted, it shall be unlawful for any person to proceed thereafter with any construction operation whatsoever on the premises, and the permit which has been so revoked shall be null and void, and before any construction or operation is again resumed, a new permit, as required by this Chapter, shall be procured and fees paid therefor, and thereafter the resumption of any construction or operation shall be in compliance with the regulation of this Chapter. However, such work as the Building Inspector may order as a condition precedent to the reissuance of the building permit may be performed, or such work as he/she may require for the preservation of life and safety.
- (l) **Report of Violations.** City officers shall report at once any building which is being carried on without a permit as required by this Chapter.
- (m) **Display of Permit.** Building permits shall be displayed in a conspicuous place on the premises where the authorized building or work is in progress at all times during construction or work thereon.

Cross-Reference: Section 14-1-23.

Sec. 15-1-3 State Uniform Dwelling Code Adopted.

(a) **Adoption of Codes.**

- (1) The following Wisconsin Administrative Codes and subsequent revisions are adopted for municipal enforcement:

Chs. COMM 16-17	Electrical Code
Chs. COMM 20-25	Uniform Dwelling Code
Ch. COMM 26	Inspection Certification
Chs. COMM 50-64	Commercial Building and Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Code
Chs. COMM 66	Multi-Family Code
Chs. COMM 67	Rental Unit Energy Efficiency
Chs. COMM 69	Barrier Free Design
Ch. COMM 70	Historic Building Code
Chs. COMM 81-86	Uniform Plumbing Code

- (2) Chapters COMM 50 through COMM 66, Wis. Adm. Code (Wisconsin State Building Code), COMM 75-79, Wis. Adm. Code (Existing Buildings Code) and COMM 70, Wis. Adm. Code (Historic Building Code) are hereby adopted and made a part of this Chapter with respect to those classes of buildings to which this Building Code specifically applies. Any future amendments, revisions and modifications of said Wisconsin Administrative Code provisions incorporated herein are intended to be made a part of this Code. A copy of said Wisconsin Administrative Code provisions and amendments thereto shall be kept on file in the office of the Building Inspector.
 - (3) By virtue of adopting COMM 61.05, Wis. Adm. Code, the following codes are also adopted and incorporated by reference:
 - a. **IBC.** The *International Building Code*® – 2000, subject to the modifications specified in COMM 61-62, Wis. Adm. Code.
 - b. **IECC.** The *International Energy Conservation Code*® — 2000, subject to the modifications specified in COMM 63, Wis. Adm. Code.
 - c. **IMC.** The *International Mechanical Code*® – 2000, subject to the modifications specified in COMM 64, Wis. Adm. Code.
 - d. **IFGC.** The *International Fuel Gas Code*® – 2000, subject to the modifications specified in COMM 65, Wis. Adm. Code.
 - (4) Any act required to be performed or prohibited by an Administrative Code provision incorporated herein by reference is required or prohibited by this Chapter. Any future amendments, revisions or modifications of the Administrative Code provisions incorporated herein are intended to be made part of this Chapter to secure uniform statewide regulation of one (1) and two (2) family dwellings in this City. A copy of these administrative code provisions and any future amendments shall be kept on file in the City Building Inspector's Office.
 - (5) Any act required to be performed or prohibited by an Administrative Code provision incorporated herein by reference is required or prohibited by this Chapter. Any future amendments, revisions or modifications of the Administrative Code provisions incorporated herein are intended to be made part of this Chapter to secure uniform statewide regulation of one (1) and two (2) family dwellings in this City. A copy of these administrative code provisions and any future amendments shall be kept on file in the City Administrator's Office.
- (b) **Existing Buildings.** The "Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code" shall also apply to buildings and conditions where:
- (1) An existing building to be occupied as a one (1) or two (2) family dwelling, which building was not previously so occupied.
 - (2) An existing structure that is altered or repaired, when the cost of such alteration or repair during the life of the structure exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the equalized value of the structure, said value to be determined by the City Assessor.
 - (3) Additions and alterations, regardless of cost, made to an existing building when deemed necessary in the opinion of the Building Inspector shall comply with the

- requirements of this Chapter for new buildings. The provisions of Section 15-1-2 shall also apply.
- (4) Additions and alterations — Any addition or alteration, regardless of cost, made to a building shall be made in conformity with applicable Sections of this Chapter.
- (c) **Definitions.** The following definitions shall be applicable in this Chapter:
- (1) **Addition.** New construction performed on a dwelling which increases the outside dimensions of the dwelling.
 - (2) **Alteration.** A substantial change or modification other than an addition or minor repair to a dwelling or to systems involved within a dwelling.
 - (3) **Department.** The Wisconsin Department of Commerce, formerly the Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations.
 - (4) **Dwelling.**
 - a. Any building, the initial construction of which is commenced on or after the effective date of this Chapter which contains one (1) or two (2) dwelling units; or
 - b. An existing structure, or that part of an existing structure, which is used or intended to be used as a one (1) or two (2) family dwelling.
 - (5) **Minor Repair.** Repair performed for maintenance or replacement purposes on any existing one (1) or two (2) family dwelling which does not affect room arrangement, light and ventilation, access to or efficiency of any exit stairways or exits, fire protection or exterior aesthetic appearance and which does not increase a given occupancy and use. No building permit is required for work to be performed which is deemed minor repair.
 - (6) **One (1) or Two (2) Family Dwelling.** A building structure which contains one (1) or separate households intended to be used as a home, residence or sleeping place by an individual or by two (2) or more individuals maintaining a common household to the exclusion of all others.
 - (7) **Person.** An individual, partnership, firm or corporation.
 - (8) **Uniform Dwelling Code.** Those Administrative Code Provisions and any future amendments, revisions or modifications thereto, contained in the following chapters of the Wisconsin Administrative Code:

Wis. Adm. Code Chapter COMM 20 — Administrative and Enforcement

Wis. Adm. Code Chapter COMM 21 — Construction Standards

Wis. Adm. Code Chapter COMM 22 — Energy Conservation Standards

Wis. Adm. Code Chapter COMM 23 — Heating, Ventilating and Air
Conditioning

Wis. Adm. Code Chapter COMM 24 — Electrical Standards

Wis. Adm. Code Chapter COMM 25 — Plumbing and Potable Water Standards

(d) **Method of Enforcement.**

- (1) **Certified Inspector to Enforce.** The Building Inspector and his/her delegated representatives are hereby authorized and directed to administer and enforce all of the provisions of the Uniform Dwelling Code. The Building Inspector shall be certified for inspection purposes by the Department in each of the categories specified under Sec. COMM 26.06, Wis. Adm. Code.
- (2) **Subordinates.** The Building Inspector may appoint, as necessary, subordinates as authorized by the Common Council.
- (3) **Duties.** The Building Inspector shall administer and enforce all provisions of this Chapter and the Uniform Dwelling Code.
- (4) **Inspection Powers.** The Building Inspector or an authorized certified agent may at all reasonable hours enter upon any public or private premises for inspection purposes and may require the production of the permit for any building, plumbing, electrical or heating work. No person shall interfere with or refuse to permit access to any such premises to the Building Inspector or his/her agent while in performance of his/her duties.

Sec. 15-1-4 Electrical Permits.

- (a) **State Code Applies.** All electrical work, including the placing of wires and other equipment, shall conform to the Wisconsin State Electrical Code, adopted by the Department of Commerce, which is adopted in Section 15-1-6(c).
- (b) **Permit.** No electrical wiring or other equipment shall be installed or altered without first securing a permit therefor from the Building Inspector, except that repairs or replacements of broken or defective sockets, switches or base receptacles may be made without a permit. The application for such permit shall be on a form furnished by the Building Inspector and shall state clearly the work planned, alterations to be made, and equipment and materials to be used, and all later deviations from such plan must be submitted to and approved by the Building Inspector.
- (c) **Inspection of Work.** After roughing in the wiring of any building and before any such work is covered up, or upon completion of any outside wiring construction work, it shall be the duty of the person doing such work to notify the Building Inspector who shall inspect the same. Upon completion of such wiring the Inspector shall be notified and shall inspect the finished work. If he/she finds that the work conforms to the State Electrical Code, he/she shall issue a Certificate of Compliance which shall contain the date and an outline of the result of such inspection, a duplicate of which shall be filed in the office of the City Administrator. It shall be unlawful to use any such electrical equipment until such Certificate has been issued.

Sec. 15-1-5 Plumbing Permits.

- (a) **State Code Adopted.** The construction, reconstruction, installation and alteration of all plumbing, drainage and plumbing ventilation shall conform to Ch. H 82, Wis. Adm. Code (State Plumbing Code) adopted in Section 15-1-6(b).
- (b) **Permit.** No plumbing or drainage of any kind shall be installed or altered, except that leakage or stoppage repairs may be made, without first securing a permit therefor from the Building Inspector. The application for such permit shall be on a form furnished by the Building Inspector and shall state clearly the work planned, alterations to be made, and equipment and materials to be used. All later deviations for such plan must be submitted to and approved by the Building Inspector.
- (c) **Licensed Plumber Required.** All plumbing work shall be done only by a plumber licensed by the Department of Commerce, except that a property owner may make repairs or installation in a single-family building owned and occupied by him/her as his/her home, provided that a permit is issued and the work is done in compliance with the provisions of this Section.
- (d) **Inspection of Work.** Upon completion of the plumbing work on any premises, the person doing such work shall notify the Building Inspector before such work is covered up, and the Building Inspector shall inspect within twenty-four (24) hours or cause to be inspected the work. If he/she finds that the work conforms to the State Plumbing Code, he/she shall issue a certificate of compliance which shall contain the date and an outline of the result of such inspection, a duplicate of which shall be filed by location in the office of the City Administrator. No person shall, use or permit to be used any plumbing or drainage until it has been inspected and approved by the Building Inspector.

Sec. 15-1-6 Construction Standards; Codes Adopted.

- (a) **Portions of State Building Code Adopted.** Chapters COMM 50 through COMM 64, Wis. Adm. Code (Wisconsin State Building Code) are hereby adopted and made a part of this Chapter with respect to those classes of buildings to which this Building Code specifically applies. Any future amendments, revisions and modifications of said Chapters 50 to 64 incorporated herein are intended to be made a part of this Code. A copy of said Chapters 50 to 64 and amendments thereto shall be kept on file in the office of the City Administrator.
- (b) **State Plumbing Code Adopted.** The provisions and regulations of Chapter 145, Wis. Stats., and Wis. Adm. Code Chapters H 81, H 82, H 83 and COMM 25 are hereby made a part of this Chapter by reference and shall extend over and govern the installation of all plumbing installed, altered or repaired in the City. Any further amendments, revisions and modifications of said Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative Code herein are intended to be made part of this Chapter.

(c) **State Electrical Code Adopted.**

- (1) Wis. Adm. Code COMM 24 is hereby adopted by reference and made a part of this Chapter and shall apply to the construction and inspection of new one (1) and two (2) family dwellings and additions or modifications to existing one (1) and two (2) family dwellings.
- (2) Subject to the exceptions set forth in this Chapter, the Electrical Code, Volume 1, and Rules of Electrical Code, Volume 2, of the Wisconsin Administrative Code are hereby adopted by reference and made a part of this Section and shall apply to all buildings, except those covered in Subsection (c)(1) above.

- (d) **Conflicts.** If, in the opinion of the Building Inspector and the Common Council, the provisions of the State Building Code adopted by Subsection (a) of this Section shall conflict with the provisions of the Federal Housing Administration standards in their application to any proposed building or structure, the Inspector and/or the City shall apply the most stringent provisions in determining whether or not the proposed building meets the requirements of this Section.

Sec. 15-1-7 New Methods and Materials.

- (a) All materials, methods of construction and devices designed for use in buildings or structures covered by this Section and not specifically mentioned in or permitted by this Section shall not be so used until approved in writing by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce (formerly the State Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations) for use in buildings or structures covered by the Wisconsin State Building Code, except sanitary appliances, which shall be approved in accordance with the State Plumbing Code.
- (b) Such materials, methods of construction and devices, when approved, must be installed or used in strict compliance with the manufacturer's specifications and any rules or conditions of use established by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce (formerly the State Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations). The data, test and other evidence necessary to prove the merits of such material, method of construction or device shall be determined by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce (formerly the State Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations).

Sec. 15-1-8 Unsafe Buildings.

Whenever the Common Council find any building or part thereof within the City to be, in its judgment, so old, dilapidated or out of repair as to be dangerous, unsafe, unsanitary or otherwise unfit for human occupancy or use and so that it would be unreasonable to repair the same, they shall order the owner to raze and remove such building or part thereof or, if it can be made safe

by repairs, to repair and make safe and sanitary, or to raze and remove at the owner's option. such order and proceedings shall be as provided in Sec. 66.0413, Wis. Stats.

Cross-Reference: Section 15-4-9.

Sec. 15-1-9 Disclaimer on Inspections.

The purpose of the inspections under this Chapter is to improve the quality of housing in the City of Amery. The inspections and the reports and findings issued after the inspections are not intended as, nor are they to be construed, as a guarantee. In order to so advise owners and other interested persons, the following disclaimer shall be applicable to all inspections under this Chapter: "These findings of inspection contained herein are intended to report conditions of noncompliance with code standards that are readily apparent at the time of inspection. The inspection does not involve a detailed examination of the mechanical systems or the closed structural and nonstructural elements of the building and premises. No warranty of the operation, use or durability of equipment and materials not specifically cited herein is expressed or implied."

Sec. 15-1-10 Regulation and Permit for Razing Buildings.

- (a) **Demolition Permit Required.** All persons who demolish or cause to be demolished any structure or part of a structure larger than four hundred (400) square feet within the City of Amery shall apply for and obtain a demolition permit from the building inspection prior to undertaking any steps to demolish the structure. The fee for such permit shall be as prescribed in Section 1-3-1.
- (b) **Application.** An application for a permit to demolish all or part of a building shall include the following information:
- (1) The name and address of the owner of the building on date of application and, if different, on date of demolition;
 - (2) The name, address and telephone number of the contractor(s) performing the demolition work;
 - (3) The date upon which demolition is to commence;
 - (4) The date by which demolition shall be complete;
 - (5) A list of all hazardous waste and hazardous and toxic substances (as defined by NR 181.12 and 158.03(4), Wis. Adm. Code as amended from time to time) contained in the building, a statement as to whether the building contains asbestos [as defined by Sec. 140.04(1)(a), Wis. Stats.], and a detailed description of the method to be used in removing, transporting and disposing of any hazardous waste, hazardous and toxic substances, and asbestos;

- (6) A detailed description of how and where the waste materials resulting from the demolition will be transported and disposed of (including the description of the route to be used by trucks in hauling the waste);
 - (7) A description of the method of demolition to be used; and
 - (8) A description in detail of all methods to be used to prevent water runoff and soil erosion from the site to neighboring properties and to prevent releasing unreasonable amounts of dust from the site;
 - (9) Along with the application for permit for demolition, the applicant shall present a release from all utilities serving the property, stating that their respective service connections and appurtenant equipment such as meters and regulators have been removed or sealed and plugged in a safe manner.
- (c) **Demolition.** The demolition shall be conducted in a manner that is safe and that does not adversely affect the environment.
- (d) **Clearing and Leveling the Site.**
- (1) When any such building is razed or removed, all subsurface structures, improvements and portions thereof, including but not limited to, foundations, footings, water and sewage pipes, etc., shall be removed, except to the extent that the same are to be used for the construction of a new building or other structure thereon, after certification of the Building Inspector that the same are safe for such use. The site of any demolition shall be properly cleared of debris, rubbish and pavement and shall be properly graded and leveled to conform with the adjoining grade of the neighboring property; and when so graded and leveled, the site shall be seeded, sodded or treated in some other manner acceptable to the Building Inspector so as to prevent blowing dust, dirt, or sand. Excavations remaining after demolition shall be filled, graded and leveled off, not later than thirty (30) consecutive days after demolition is completed.
 - (2) Excavations from demolished buildings or structures shall not be filled with any materials subject to deterioration. The Building Inspector, upon notification by the permit holder, the owner or his/her agent, in writing and upon forms provided by the Building Inspector for that purpose, shall within seventy-two (72) hours inspect each excavation, or part thereof, before filling any excavation.
 - (3) It shall be unlawful to fill any such excavation without inspection and approval of the Building Inspector. Voids in filled excavations shall not be permitted. In the event of the unavailability of the Building Inspector to conduct an inspection within the seventy-two (72) hours after written notice; the permit holder, owner or his/her agent may retain the services of a certified, qualified municipal inspection service to obtain an opinion that approves filling of the excavation. Said opinion shall be deemed a sufficient approval by the City provided that a written copy of the opinion is delivered to the City Administrator at least forty-eight (48) hours before filling of the excavation commences.
- (e) **Removal and Disposal.** Removal, transportation and disposal of all hazardous waste, hazardous and toxic substances, and asbestos shall be conducted in compliance with all

applicable state, federal and local statutes, ordinances and regulations. The permit holder shall give the Building Inspector seventy-two (72) hours written notice prior to any removal, transportation or disposal of hazardous waste, hazardous and toxic substances, and asbestos.

(f) **Miscellaneous Provisions.**

- (1) A snow fence or other approved barricade shall be provided as soon as any portion of the building is removed and shall remain during razing operations.
- (2) Razing permits shall lapse and be void unless the work authorized thereby is commenced within six (6) months from the date thereof or completed within thirty (30) days from the date of commencement of said work. Any unfinished portion of work remaining beyond the required thirty (30) days must have special approval from the Building Inspector.
- (3) All debris must be hauled away at the end of each week for the work that was done on that week. No combustible material shall be used for backfill, but shall be hauled away. There shall not be any burning of materials on the site of the razed building.
- (4) If any razing or removal operation under this Section results in, or would likely result in, an excessive amount of dust particles in the air creating a nuisance in the vicinity thereof, the permittee shall take all necessary steps, by use of water spraying or other appropriate means, to eliminate such nuisance.
- (5) The permittee shall take all necessary steps, prior to the razing of a building, through the employment of a qualified person in the field of pest control or by other appropriate means, to treat the building as to prevent the spread and migration of rodents and insects therefrom during and after the razing operations.

Sec. 15-1-11 Basements; Excavations.

- (a) **Basement Subflooring.** First floor subflooring shall be completed within sixty (60) days after the basement is excavated.
- (b) **Fencing of Excavations.** The owner of any premises on which there exists an opening or excavation which is located in close proximity to a public sidewalk or street right-of-way as to constitute a hazard to pedestrian or vehicular traffic shall erect a fence, wall or railing at least four (4) feet high between such opening or excavation and the public right-of-way.
- (c) **Closing of Abandoned Excavations.** Any excavation for building purposes or any uncovered foundation which shall remain open for more than three (3) months shall be deemed abandoned and a nuisance and the Building Inspector shall order that unless the erection of the building or structure on the excavation or foundation shall commence or continue forthwith suitable safeguards shall be provided to prevent accidental injury to children or other frequenters or that the excavation or foundation be filled to grade. Such order shall be served upon the owner of record or the owner's agent, where an agent is in charge of the premises, and upon the holder of an encumbrance of record in the manner

provided for service of a summons in the circuit court. If the owner or the holder of an encumbrance of record cannot be found, the order may be served by posting it on the premises and make publication in the official newspaper for two (2) consecutive publications at least ten (10) days before the time for compliance stated in the order commences to run. Such time shall be not less than fourteen (14) nor more than twenty (20) days after service. If the owner of the land fails to comply with the order within the time required, the Building Inspector shall cause the excavation or foundation to be filled to grade. The cost of such abatement shall be charged against the real estate and entered on the next succeeding tax roll as a special charge and shall bear interest at a rate established by the Common Council from the date of the report by the Building Inspector on the cost thereof, pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 66.0627, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 15-1-12 Duplex and Multi-Service Connections.

- (a) A duplex structure shall be allowed a common water service to the curb stop, but each unit of said duplex shall have a separate outside curb stop for the purpose of shutting water off in one (1) unit without disturbing the second unit.
- (b) Structures over two (2) units, if metered separately, shall also have individual outside curb stops for the purpose of shutting water off in one (1) unit without disturbing other units.
- (c) A common sewer service can be used for duplex and multiple unit structure from the sewer main to the structure.

Sec. 15-1-13 Regulations for Moving Buildings.

- (a) **General Requirements.**
 - (1) No person shall move any building or structure upon any of the public ways of the City without first obtaining a permit therefor from the Building Inspector and upon the payment of the required fee. Every such permit issued by the Building Inspector for the moving of a building shall designate the route to be taken, the conditions to be complied with and shall limit the time during which said moving operations shall be continued.
 - (2) A report shall be made by City employees with regard to possible damage to trees. The estimated cost of trimming, removal and replacement of public trees, as determined by the City, shall be paid to the City Administrator prior to issuance of the moving permit.
 - (3) Issuance of moving permit shall further be conditioned on approval of the moving route by the Common Council.
- (b) **Moving Damaged Buildings.** No building shall be repaired, altered or moved within or into the City that has deteriorated or has been damaged by any cause (including such moving and separation from its foundation and service connections in case of moved buildings) fifty percent (50%) or more of its equalized value and no permit shall be granted

to repair, alter or move such building within or into the City. Furthermore, if the equalized assessed value of the building is not within twenty percent (20%) of the surrounding buildings where the building is proposed to be moved to, no permit shall be granted unless the building is improved to be within the twenty percent (20%). Such determination shall be made by the Building Inspector, who may seek a recommendation from the City Assessor.

- (c) **Continuous Movement.** The movement of buildings shall be a continuous operation during all the hours of the day and at night, until such movement is fully completed. All such operations shall be performed with the least possible obstruction to thoroughfares. No building shall be allowed to remain overnight upon any street crossing or intersection or so near thereto as to prevent easy access to any fire hydrant or any other public facility. Lights shall be kept in conspicuous places at each end of the building during the night.
- (d) **Street Repair.** Every person receiving a permit to move a building shall, within one (1) day after said building reaches its destination, report that fact to the Building Inspector, inspect the streets, highways and curbs and gutters over which said building has been moved and ascertain their condition. If the removal of said building has caused any damage to any street or highway, the person to whom the permit was issued shall forthwith place them in as good repair as they were before the permit was granted. On the failure of the said permittee to do so within ten (10) days thereafter to the satisfaction of the Common Council, the City shall repair the damage done to such streets and hold the person obtaining such permit and the sureties on his/her bond responsible for the payment of same.
- (e) **Conformance with Code.** No permit shall be issued to move a building within or into the City and to establish it upon a location within the said City until the Building Inspector has made an investigation of such building at the location from which it is to be moved and is satisfied from such investigation that said building is in a sound and stable condition and of such construction that it will meet the requirements of this Building Code in all respects. A complete plan of all further repairs, improvements and remodeling with reference to such building shall be submitted to the Building Inspector, and he/she shall make a finding of fact to the effect that all such repairs, improvements and remodeling are in conformity with the requirements of this Building Code and that, when the same are completed, the building as such will so comply with said Building Code. In the event a building is to be moved from the City to some point outside the boundaries thereof, the provisions with respect to the furnishing of plans and specifications for proposed alterations to such building may be disregarded.
- (f) **Bond.**
 - (1) Before a permit is issued to move any building over any public way in the City, the party applying therefor shall give a bond to the City of Amery in a sum to be fixed by the Building Inspector and which shall not be less than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), said bond to be executed by a corporate surety or two (2) personal sureties to be approved by the Common Council or designated agent conditioned upon, among other things, the indemnification to the City for any costs or expenses

incurred by it in connection with any claims for damages to any persons or property, and the payment of any judgment together with the costs and expenses incurred by the City in connection therewith arising out of the removal of the building for which the permit is issued.

- (2) Unless the Building Inspector, upon investigation, shall find it to be a fact that the excavation exposed by the removal of such building from its foundation shall not be so close to a public thoroughfare as to permit the accidental falling therein of travelers or the location, nature and physical characteristics of the premises and the exposed excavation, such as to make intrusion upon the premises and the falling into such excavation of children under twelve (12) years of age unlikely, the bond required by Subsection (e)(1) shall be further conditioned upon the permittee erecting adequate barriers and within forty-eight (48) hours, filling in such excavation or adopting and employing such other means, devices or methods approved by the Building Inspector and reasonably adopted or calculated to prevent the occurrences set forth herein.
- (g) **Insurance.** The Building Inspector shall require, in addition to said the said bond above indicated, public liability insurance covering injury to one (1) person in the sum of not less than Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) and for one (1) accident, aggregate not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000), together with property damage insurance in a sum not less than Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), or such other coverage as deemed necessary.
- (h) **Common Council Approval.**
 - (1) No such permit shall be issued unless it has been found as a fact by the Common Council by at least a majority vote, after an examination of the application for the permit which shall include exterior elevations of the building and accurate photographs of all sides and views of the same and in case it is proposed to alter the exterior of said building, plans and specifications of such proposed alterations and after a view of the building proposed to be moved and of the site at which it is to be located, that the exterior architectural appeal and functional plans of the building to be moved or moved and altered, will not be so at variance with either the exterior architectural appeal and functional plan of the buildings already constructed or in the course of construction in the immediate neighborhood or in the character of the applicable district established by the zoning ordinances of the City or any ordinance amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, as to cause a substantial depreciation of the property values of said neighborhood within said applicable district. In case the applicant proposed to alter the exterior of said building after moving the same, he/she shall submit, with his/her application papers, complete plans and specifications for the proposed alterations. Before a permit shall be issued for a building to be moved and altered, the applicant shall give a cash bond to the Common Council, which shall not be less than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to be executed in the manner provided in subsection hereof to the effect that he/she will, within a time to

- be set by the Common Council, complete the proposed exterior alterations to said building in the manner set forth in his/her plans and specifications. This bond shall be in addition to any other bond or surety which may be required by other applicable ordinances of the City. No occupancy permit shall be issued for said building until the exterior alterations proposed to be made have been completed.
- (2) Upon application being made to the Building Inspector, he/she shall request a meeting of the Common Council to consider application for moving permits which he/she has found comply, in all respects, with all other ordinances of the City. The Common Council may, if it desires, hear the applicant for the moving permit in question and/or the owner of the lot on which it is proposed to locate the building in question, together with any other persons, either residents or property owners, desiring to be heard, give such notice of hearing as they may deem sufficient. Such hearing may be adjourned for a reasonable length of time and within forty-eight (48) hours after the close of the hearing, the Common Council shall, in writing, make or refuse to make the finding required by Subsection (h)(1) hereof and file it in the office of City Administrator who shall send a copy of it to the Building Inspector.

Sec. 15-1-14 Construction Sites; Maintaining Clean Streets.

City streets are to be kept clean of dirt and debris from all construction sites. The primary contractor for any construction project shall be responsible for sweeping streets of debris within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident. The City of Amery will clean said street(s) if the work is not done within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident; and charge the current established costs to the contractor for the work. Failure to pay said costs within thirty (30) days of receipt of the billing shall be deemed a violation of this Section, and be subject to the penalty provisions of Section 1-1-7.

Sec. 15-1-15 Smoke Detectors.

- (a) **Definitions.** As used in this Section:
- (1) **Residential Building.** Any public building which is used for sleeping or lodging purposes and includes any apartment house, rooming house, hotel, children's home, community-based residential facility or dormitory but does not include a hospital or nursing home.
- (2) **Sleeping Area.** The area of the unit in which the bedrooms or sleeping rooms are located. Bedrooms or sleeping rooms separated by another use area such as a kitchen or living room are separate sleeping areas but bedrooms or sleeping rooms separated by a bathroom are not separate sleeping areas.

- (3) **Smoke Detector.** A device which detects particles or products of combustion other than heat.
- (4) **Unit.** A residential building or that part of a residential building which is intended to be used as a home, residence or sleeping place by one (1) person or by two (2) or more persons maintaining a common household, to the exclusion of all others.
- (b) **Approved Types.** A smoke detector required under this Section shall be approved by Underwriters Laboratory.
- (c) **Installation and Maintenance.**
 - (1) The owner of a residence building shall install any smoke detector required under this Section according to the directions and specifications of the manufacturer of the smoke detector.
 - (2) The owner of a residential building shall maintain any such smoke detector that is located in a common area of that residential building.
 - (3) The occupant of a unit in a residential building shall maintain any smoke detector in that unit, except that if an occupant who is not an owner, or a City officer, agent or employee charged under Statute or municipal ordinance with powers or duties involving inspection of real or personal property, gives written notice to the owner that a smoke detector in the unit is not functional the owner shall provide, within five (5) days after receipt of that notice, any maintenance necessary to make that smoke detector functional.
- (d) **General Requirement.** The owner of a residential building the initial construction of which is commenced before, on or after May 23, 1978, shall install and maintain a functional smoke detector in the basement and at the head of any stairway on each floor level of the building and shall install a functional smoke detector either in each sleeping area of each unit or elsewhere in the unit within six (6) feet of each sleeping area and not in a kitchen.
- (e) **Requirement for Residences Under One (1) and Two (2) Family Dwelling Code.**
 - (1) The owner of a dwelling shall install a functional smoke detector in the basement of the dwelling and on each floor level except the attic or storage area of each dwelling unit. The occupant of such a dwelling unit shall maintain any smoke detector in that unit, except that if any occupant who is not the owner, or any City officer, agent, or employee charged under statute or municipal ordinance with powers or duties involving inspection of real or personal property, gives written notice to the owner that the smoke detector is not functional the owner shall provide, within five (5) days after receipt of that notice, any maintenance necessary to make that smoke detector functional.
 - (2) City authorities may inspect new dwellings, may inspect the common areas of dwellings and, at the request of the owner or renter, may inspect the interior of a dwelling unit in a dwelling to ensure compliance with this Section.
- (f) **Manufactured Homes; Mobile Homes.** As prescribed by Secs. 101.745 and 101.925, Wis. Stats., manufactured homes and mobile homes shall meet the smoke detector requirements of this statutes and this Section.

State Law References: Secs. 101.145, 101.645, 101.745 and 101.925, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 15-1-16 Fees.

- (a) **Fees.** Fees shall be paid with application for the appropriate permit designated. Fee amounts shall be as established in Section 1-3-1.
- (b) **Special Charge for Failure or Refusal to Obtain Building Permit.** Each person who fails or refuses, when required under this Chapter, to apply for and obtain a building permit in advance of beginning construction of a building or other structure for which such a permit is required shall, in addition to the ordinary and customary fee established pursuant to this Section, pay a special charge equal to double the amount of the building permit fee at the time that the permit is acquired but not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) in total. Further, in the event that such a person fails or refuses to apply for and obtain such a permit, despite a demand from the Building Inspector to do so, the Building Inspector shall have the authority to post a cease work order pending compliance with this Section. The Building Inspector shall also have the authority, after notice has been given to an owner or occupant who has failed to obtain a building permit, to, upon approval of the Common Council, refer the matter of the unpaid permit fee and special charge to the City Attorney for prosecution, in which event the City Attorney shall, in addition to seeking recovery of the fee and special charge, seek assessment by the Court of the penalty under Section 15-1-17.

Sec. 15-1-17 Penalties and Violations.

- (a) Any building or structure hereafter erected, enlarged, altered or repaired or any use hereafter established in violation of the provisions of this Chapter shall be deemed an unlawful building, structure or use. The Building Inspector shall promptly report all such violations to the Common Council and City Attorney who shall bring an action to enjoin the erection, enlargement, alteration, repair or moving of such building or structure or the establishment of such use of buildings in violation of this Chapter or to cause such building, structure or use to be removed and may also be subject to a penalty as provided in the general penalty provisions of Section 1-1-7 of this Code of Ordinances. In any such action, the fact that a permit was issued shall not constitute a defense, nor shall any error, oversight or dereliction of duty on the part of the Building Inspector or other City officials constitute a defense. Compliance with the provisions of this Chapter may also be enforced by injunctive order at the suit of the owner or owners of any real estate within the jurisdiction of this Chapter.
- (b) (1) If an inspection reveals a noncompliance with this Chapter or the Uniform Dwelling Code, the Building Inspector shall notify the applicant and the owner, in writing, of the violation to be corrected. All cited violations shall be corrected within thirty (30) days after written notification unless an extension of time is granted pursuant to Sec. COMM 20.10(1)(c), Wis. Adm. Code.

- (2) If, after written notification, the violation is not corrected within thirty (30) days, a stop-work order may be served on the owner or his or her representative and a copy thereof shall be posted at the construction site. Such stop-work order shall not be removed except by written notice of the Building Inspector after satisfactory evidence has been supplied that the cited violation has been corrected.
 - (3) Each day each violation continues after the thirty (30) day written notice period has run shall constitute a separate offense. Nothing in this Chapter shall preclude the City from maintaining any appropriate action to prevent or remove a violation of any provision of this Chapter or the Uniform Dwelling Code.
 - (4) If any construction or work governed by the provisions of this Chapter or the Uniform Dwelling Code is commenced prior to the issuance of a permit, double fees shall be charged.
- (c) Any person feeling aggrieved by an order or a determination of the Building Inspector may appeal from such order or determination to the Board of Appeals. Those procedures customarily used to effectuate an appeal to the Board of Appeals under the City's Zoning Code shall apply.
- (d) Except as may otherwise be provided by the statute or ordinance, no officer, agent or employee of the City of Amery charged with the enforcement of this Chapter shall render himself personally liable for any damage that may accrue to persons or property as a result of any act required or permitted in the discharge of his/her duties under this Chapter. Any suit brought against any officer, agent or employee of the City as a result of any act required or permitted in the discharge of his/her duties under this Chapter shall be defended by the legal representative of the City until the final determination of the proceedings therein.

Title 15 ► Chapter 2

Construction Site Erosion and Stormwater Runoff Control

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Sec. 15-2-1 Authority.

This Chapter is adopted pursuant to the guidelines in Sec. 62.2345, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 15-2-2 Findings and Purpose.

- (a) **Policy Declaration.** The Common Council finds runoff from land disturbing activities carries a significant amount of sediment and other pollutants to the waters of the State and the City of Amery. The intent of this Chapter is to require erosion control practices that will reduce the amount of sediment and other pollutants leaving construction sites during land development or land disturbance activities. This Chapter applies to all land disturbing construction activities.
- (b) **Purpose.** It is the purpose of this Chapter to preserve the natural resources; to protect the quality and quantity of the surface and ground waters of the State and City; and to protect

and promote the health, safety and welfare of the people, to the extent practicable by minimizing the amount of sediment and other pollutants carried by runoff or discharge from land disturbing activities to lakes, streams and wetlands. The Common Council finds that land uses have significantly contributed to the process of soil erosion, runoff, and sediment deposition in waters located within or near the City. It is, therefore, declared to be the purpose of this Chapter to control and, if possible, prevent soil erosion and water runoff increases and, thereby, to preserve the natural resources, control floods, and prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, protect the quality and quantity of public waters and wetlands, prevent property damage, preserve wildlife, protect the tax base and protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the City of Amery. This Chapter is in accordance and consistent with the City's Zoning Code, so far as practicable.

Sec. 15-2-3 Applicability of Regulations.

- (a) **Scope of Coverage.** This Chapter applies to land disturbing and land developing activities on land within the boundaries and jurisdiction of the City and the public and private lands subject to extraterritorial review under Ch. 236, Wis. Stats. All State funded or conducted construction is exempt from this Chapter.
- (b) **Exclusions.** The following activities are generally excluded from coverage under this Chapter:
 - (1) State funded or conducted activities that are subject to the State Site Erosion Control and Stormwater Runoff Plan. State funded or conducted construction activities must meet the requirements contained in the "State Plan for the Control of Construction Erosion and Stormwater Runoff", which contains similar requirements as contained in this Chapter, as a minimum.
 - (2) Agricultural land uses as defined in this Chapter and quarries, except where the Common Council, Plan Commission, City Engineer or Building Inspector determine that erosion or runoff from such agricultural or quarry uses is likely to occur which will threaten watercourses or other environmentally sensitive areas unless control measures are taken.
 - (3) Small land disturbing activities such as gardens, minor landscaping modifications and minor repair of sidewalks, paths or driveways, except where the Common Council, Plan Commission, City Engineer or Building Inspector determine that erosion or runoff is likely to occur which will threaten watercourses or other environmentally sensitive areas unless control measures are taken.

Sec. 15-2-4 Definitions.

- (a) The following definitions shall be applicable in this Chapter:
 - (1) **Agricultural Land Use.** Use of land for planting, growing, cultivating and harvesting of crops for human or livestock consumption and pasturing or yarding of livestock.

- (2) **Building Inspector.** The Building Inspector of the City of Amery.
- (3) **Commercial Land Use.** Use of land for the retail or wholesale sale of goods or services, including office parks where non-retail business takes place.
- (4) **Construction Site Control Measure.** A control measure used to meet the requirements of Section 15-2-7(b).
- (5) **Control Measure.** A practice or combination of practices to control erosion and attendant pollution, (also known as "Best Management Practice").
- (6) **Control Plan.** A written description of the number, locations, sizes and other pertinent information of control measures designed to meet the requirements of this Chapter submitted by the applicant for review and approval by the Building Inspector and/or City Engineer.
- (7) **Erosion.** The detachment and movement of soil, sediment or rock fragments by water, wind, ice or gravity.
- (8) **Existing Grade.** The vertical location of the existing ground surface prior to excavation or filling.
- (9) **Fill.** Any act by which earth, sand, gravel, rock or any other material is deposited, placed, replaced, pushed, dumped, pulled, transported or moved by man/woman to a new location and shall include the conditions resulting therefrom.
- (10) **Grading.** Altering the elevation of the land surface by stripping, excavating, filling, stockpiling of soil materials or any combination thereof and shall include the land from which the material was taken or upon which it was placed.
- (11) **Land Developing Activity.** The construction of buildings, roads, parking lots, paved storage areas and similar facilities.
- (12) **Land Disturbing Construction Activity.** Any man-made change of the land surface including removing vegetative cover, excavating, filling and grading but not including agricultural land uses such as planting, growing, cultivating and harvesting of crops; growing and tending of gardens; harvesting of trees; and landscaping modifications.
- (13) **Landowner.** Any person holding title to or having any interest in land.
- (14) **Land Treatment Measures.** Structural or vegetative practices (including fencing) used to control erosion, sediment and water runoff (also known as "Best Management Practices").
- (15) **Land User.** Any person who uses land collectively or individually as owner, operator, lessor or renter, or who occupies land by providing work or service that requires alteration of the land, or any person who has made other arrangements with a landowner which gives them the right and/or responsibility for use of the land.
- (16) **Parcel.** All continuous lands under the ownership or control of a land occupier or land user.
- (17) **Peak Flow.** The maximum rate of flow of water at a given point in a channel, watercourse, or conduit resulting from a predetermined storm or flood.
- (18) **Person.** Any individual, corporation, partnership, joint venture, agency, unincorporated association, municipal corporation, county, or state agency within Wisconsin, the federal government or any combination thereof.

- (19) **Public Lands.** All lands owned or controlled by any unit of government.
- (20) **Runoff.** The rainfall, snowmelt, or irrigation water flowing over the ground surface.
- (21) **Sediment.** Solid material, mineral or organic, that is in suspension, is being transported to, or has been moved from, its site of origin by air, water, gravity or ice and has come to rest or has been deposited on the earth's surface at another location.
- (22) **Sedimentation.** The transportation and deposition of sediment that may ultimately degrade water quality by the presence of suspended solid particles, derived from soils by erosion or discharged into surface waters from other sources, or the deposition of water-borne sediments in stream channels, lakes, reservoirs, or on floodplains, usually resulting from a decrease in the velocity of the water flow.
- (23) **Set of 1-Year Design Storms.** The following rain intensities and rain volumes or corresponding values specific to the community for the storm durations of 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 6 and 24 hours that occur approximately once per year. (Note: the following are typical characteristics of these one-year storms for most of Wisconsin):

Storm Duration (hours)	Average Rain Intensity (inches/hour)	Total Rain (inches)
0.5	1.8	0.9
1	1.1	1.1
2	0.7	1.3
3	0.5	1.5
6	0.3	1.7
12	0.2	2.0
24	0.1	2.3

- (24) **Site.** The entire area included in the legal description of the land on which the land disturbing or land development activity is proposed in the permit application.
- (25) **Soil Loss.** Soil removed from a given site by land disturbing activities or by the forces of erosion, and redeposited at another site.
- (26) **Storm Frequency.** The average period of time during which a storm of a given duration and intensity can be expected to be equaled or exceeded.
- (27) **Storm Sewer.** A closed conduit for conducting collected storm water.
- (28) **Stormwater Runoff.** The waters derived from rains falling within a tributary drainage basin, flowing over the ground surface or collected in a water drainage system.
- (29) **Structural Measures.** Land treatments or Best Management Practices intended to prevent erosion, sediment or runoff that include, but are not limited to, gully control structures, grass waterways, riprap, detention basins or ponds, sediment basins or

ponds, infiltration basins or trenches, flood retention dams, diversions, and lining channels with rock concrete or other materials. Contour strip cropping is not considered a structural measure under this Chapter.

- (30) **Water Drainage Facility.** Any element in a water drainage system which is made or improved.
- (31) **Water Drainage System.** All facilities used for conducting runoff to, through or from a drainage area to the point of final outlet including, but not limited to, any of the following: conduits and appurtenant features, canals, channels, ditches, streams, culverts, reservoirs, detention basins or ponds, storm sewers, streets, and pumping stations.
- (32) **Working Day.** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, excluding, however, any such day officially observed by the City as a legal holiday. Also referred to as "business day".

Sec. 15-2-5 Design Criteria, Standards and Specifications for Control Measures.

All control measures required to comply with this Chapter shall be measures based on accepted design criteria, standards and specifications identified as acceptable by the Building Inspector or City Engineer. Where design criteria, standards or specifications conflict, the most restrictive provisions shall apply.

Sec. 15-2-6 Maintenance of Control Measures.

All sedimentation basins and other control measures necessary to meet the requirements of this Chapter shall be maintained consistent with the maintenance provisions contained in "Wisconsin Construction Site Best Management Practice Handbook" by the applicant or subsequent landowner during the period of land disturbance and land development of the site in a satisfactory manner to ensure adequate performance and to prevent nuisance conditions.

Sec. 15-2-7 Control of Erosion and Pollutants During Land Disturbance and Development.

- (a) **Applicability.** This Section applies to the following sites of land development or land disturbing activities:
 - (1) Those requiring a subdivision plat approval or the construction of houses or commercial, industrial or institutional buildings on lots of approved subdivision plats.

- (2) Those requiring a certified survey approval or the construction of houses or commercial, industrial or institutional buildings on lots of approved certified surveys.
- (3) Those involving grading, removal of protective ground cover or vegetation, excavation, land filling or other land disturbing activity affecting a surface area of four thousand (4,000) square feet or more.
- (4) Those involving excavation or filling or a combination of excavation and filling affecting four hundred (400) cubic yards or more of dirt, sand or other excavation or fill material.
- (5) Those involving street, highway, road or bridge construction, enlargement, relocation or reconstruction.
- (6) Those involving the laying, repairing, replacing, inspecting or enlarging of an underground pipe or facility for a distance of three hundred (300) feet or more.
- (7) Those sites involving the changing, enlargement, dredging or other alteration to any watercourse, waterway and/or wetlands.
- (8) Those other situations [e.g. developments with slopes over twelve percent (12%) where the City Engineer or Building Inspector, at the request of the Plan Commission or Common Council, determine that erosion or runoff is likely to occur unless control measures are taken.

NOTE: The above applicability criteria are specifically stated in 1983 Wisconsin Act 416 for inclusion in this Chapter. Utility companies responsible for energy repair work should enter into a "memorandum of agreement" with the City clearly stating their responsibilities if their activities may be included under any of the above applicability criteria.

- (b) **Erosion and Other Pollutant Control Requirements.** The following shall be met on all sites described in Subsection (a):
- (1) **Site Dewatering.** Water pumped from the site shall be treated by temporary sedimentation basins, grit chambers, sand filters, upflow chambers, hydro-cyclones, swirl concentrators, or other appropriate controls designed and used to remove particles of one hundred (100) microns or greater for the highest dewatering pumping rate. If the water is demonstrated to have no particles greater than one hundred (100) microns during dewatering operations, then no control is needed before discharge, except as determined by the Building Inspector. Water may not be discharged in a manner that causes erosion of the site or receiving channels.
 - (2) **Waste and Material Disposal.** All waste and unused building materials (including garbage, debris, cleaning wastes, wastewater, toxic materials, or hazardous materials) shall be properly disposed and not allowed to be carried by runoff into a receiving channel or storm sewer system.
 - (3) **Tracking.** Each site shall have graveled roads, access driveways and parking areas of sufficient width and length to prevent sediment from being tracked onto public or

private roadways. Any sediment reaching a public or private road shall be removed by street cleaning (not flushing) before the end of each workday.

- (4) **Drain Inlet Protection.** All storm drain inlets shall be protected with a straw bale, filter fabric, or equivalent barrier meeting accepted design criteria, standards and specifications.
- (5) **Site Erosion Control.** The following criteria (a. through d.) apply only to land development or land disturbing activities that result in runoff leaving the site:
 - a. Channelized runoff from adjacent areas passing through the site shall be diverted around disturbed areas, if practical. Otherwise, the channel shall be protected as described below in Subsection (b)(5)c. Sheetflow runoff from adjacent areas greater than ten thousand (10,000) square feet in area shall also be diverted around disturbed areas, unless shown to have resultant runoff velocities of less than one-half foot per second (0.5 ft/sec) across the disturbed area for the set of one (1) year design storms. Diverted runoff shall be conveyed in a manner that will not erode the conveyance and receiving channels.
 - b. All activities on the site shall be documented in a logical sequence to minimize the area of bare soil exposed at any one (1) time.
 - c. Runoff from the entire disturbed area on the site shall be controlled by meeting either Subsections (b)(5)c.1-2 or (b)(5)c.1 and 3 as follows:
 1. All disturbed ground left inactive for seven (7) or more days shall be stabilized by seeding or sodding (only available prior to September 15) or by mulching or covering, or other equivalent control measure.
 2. For sites with more than ten (10) acres disturbed at one time, or if a channel originates in the disturbed area, one or more sedimentation basins shall be constructed. Each sedimentation basin shall have a surface area of at least one percent (1%) of the area draining to the basin and at least three (3) feet of depth and constructed in accordance with accepted design specifications. Sediment shall be removed to maintain a depth of three (3) feet. The basin shall be designed to trap sediment greater than fifteen (15) microns in size, based on the set of one-year design storms having durations from one-half to twenty-four (0.5 to 24) hours. The basin discharge rate shall also be sufficiently low as to not cause erosion along the discharge channel or the receiving water.
 3. For sites with less than ten (10) acres disturbed at one time, filter fences, straw bales, or equivalent control measure shall be placed along all sideslope and downslope sides of the site. If a channel or area of concentrated runoff passes through the site, filter fences shall be placed along the channel edges to reduce sediment reaching the channel.
 - d. Any soil or dirt storage piles containing more than ten (10) cubic yards of material should not be located with a downslope drainage length of less than

twenty-four (24) feet to a roadway or drainage channel. If remaining for more than seven (7) days, they shall be stabilized by mulching, vegetative cover, tarps or other means. Erosion from piles which will be in existence for less than seven (7) days shall be controlled by placing straw bales or filter fence barriers around the pile. In-street utility repair or construction soil or dirt storage piles located closer than twenty-five (25) feet of a roadway or drainage channel must be covered with tarps or suitable alternative control, if exposed for more than seven (7) days, and the stormdrain inlets must be protected with straw bale or other appropriate filtering barriers.

Sec. 15-2-8 Permit Application, Control Plan, and Permit Issuance.

- (a) **Permit Application.** No landowner or land user, other than the City, may commence a land disturbance or land development activity subject to this Chapter without receiving prior approval of a control plan for the site and a permit from the Building Inspector. At least one landowner or land user controlling or using the site and desiring to undertake a land disturbing or land developing activity subject to this Chapter shall submit an application for a permit and a control plan and pay an application fee to the Building Inspector. By submitting an application, the applicant is authorizing the Building Inspector, City Engineer and other designated City officials to enter the site to obtain information required for a review of the control plan.
- (b) **Content of the Control Plan for Land Disturbing Activities Covering More than One Acre.**
 - (1) **Existing Site Map.** A map of existing site conditions on a scale of at least one (1) inch equals one hundred (100) feet showing the site and immediately adjacent areas:
 - a. Site boundaries of adjacent lands which accurately identify site location;
 - b. Lakes, streams, wetlands, channels, ditches and other water courses on and immediately adjacent to the site;
 - c. 100 year floodplains, flood fringes and floodways;
 - d. Vegetative cover;
 - e. Location and dimensions of stormwater drainage systems and natural drainage patterns on the site and the size, slope and land cover of the upslope drainage areas;
 - f. Locations and dimensions of utilities, structures, roads, highways, and paving; and
 - g. Site topography at a contour interval not to exceed five (5) feet.
 - (2) **Plan of Final Site Conditions.** A plan of final site conditions on the same scale as the existing site map showing the site changes.
 - (3) **Site Construction Plan.** A site construction plan including:
 - a. Locations and dimensions of all proposed land disturbing activities;
 - b. Locations and dimensions of all temporary soil or dirt stockpiles;

- c. Locations and dimensions of all construction site management control measures necessary to meet the requirements of this Chapter;
 - d. Schedule of anticipated starting and completion date of each land disturbing or land developing activity including the installation of construction site control measures needed to meet the requirements of this Chapter; and Provisions of maintenance of the construction site control measures during construction.
 - e. Provisions of maintenance of the construction site control measures during construction.
- (c) **Emergency Situations.** Notwithstanding the above, a private landowner or the City may commence land disturbing activity without an approved control plan where immediate action is necessary in order to respond to an existing or threatened serious emergency situation. When such emergency activity is undertaken, care will be taken to comply with the erosion and runoff control standards set forth in this Chapter to the fullest extent practicable under the circumstances. The Building Inspector or City Engineer shall be notified by the private landowner within three (3) hours after commencing such land disturbing activities under this Section.
- (d) **Content of Control Plan Statement for Land Disturbing Activities Covering Less Than One Acre, But Meeting the Applicability Requirements of Section 15-2-7(a).** An erosion control plan statement (with simple map) shall be submitted to briefly describe the site and erosion controls (including the site development schedule) that will be used to meet the requirements of this Chapter.
- (e) **Review of Control Plan.** Within forty-five (45) days of receipt of the application, control plan (or control plan statement) and fee, the Building Inspector shall review the application and control plan to determine if the requirements of this Chapter are met. The Building Inspector may request comments from other departments or agencies. If the requirements of this Chapter are met, the Building Inspector shall approve the plan, inform the applicant and issue a permit. If the conditions are not met, the Building Inspector shall inform the applicant in writing and may either require needed information or disapprove the plan. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of needed information, the Building Inspector shall again determine if the plan meets the requirements of this Chapter. If the plan is disapproved, the Building Inspector shall inform the applicant in writing of the reasons for the disapproval.
- (f) **Permits.**
- (1) **Duration.** Permits shall be valid for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days, or the length of the building permit or other construction authorizations, whichever is longer, from the date of issuance. The Building Inspector or City Engineer may extend the period one or more times for up to an additional one hundred eighty (180) days. The Building Inspector may require additional control measures as a condition of the extension if they are necessary to meet the requirements of this Chapter.
 - (2) **Surety Bond.** As a condition of approval and issuance of the permit, the Building Inspector may require the applicant to deposit a surety bond or irrevocable letter of

credit to guarantee a good faith execution of the approved control plan and any permit conditions.

- (g) **Permit Requirements.** All permits shall require the permittee to do at least the following:
- (1) Notify the Building Inspector within forty-eight (48) hours of commencing any land disturbing activity.
 - (2) Notify the Building Inspector of completion of any control measures within fourteen (14) days after their installation.
 - (3) Obtain written permission from the City Engineer or Building Inspector prior to modifying the Control Plan. They are authorized to permit only those modifications that comply with the terms of this Chapter.
 - (4) Install all control measures as identified in the Control Plan.
 - (5) Maintain all control measures as identified in the Control Plan.
 - (6) Repair any damage to adjoining surfaces and drainageways resulting from any land developing or disturbing activities on the permitted site.
 - (7) Inspect the control measures after each rain of 0.5 inches or more and make needed repairs immediately.
 - (8) Allow the Building Inspector, City Engineer, or other designated City officials to enter the site for the purpose of inspecting for compliance with the Control Plan or for performing any work necessary to bring the site into compliance with the Control Plan and this Chapter.
 - (9) Keep a copy of the approved Control Plan on site.

Sec. 15-2-9 Inspection.

- (h) The Building Inspector shall inspect construction sites at least once a month during the period starting March 1st and ending October 31st and at least two (2) times during the period starting November 1st and ending February 28th to ensure compliance with the control plan.
- (i) If the land disturbing or land development activities are being carried out without a valid permit, i.e., unauthorized, City inspection officials may enter the land in question pursuant to the special inspection warrant provisions of Sec. 66.0119, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 15-2-10 Enforcement.

- (a) **Violations.** No land development or land disturbing activities within the scope of this Chapter may occur without full compliance with the provisions of this Chapter. Any person who violates or fails to comply with any provision of this Chapter is subject to the enforcement and penalty provisions contained herein.

- (b) **Enforcement.** This Chapter shall be enforced consistent with the policies and purposed underlying its adoption. The following enforcement actions, or any combination thereof, may be taken in case of a violation of this Chapter:
- (1) **Stop Work Order.**
 - a. A stop work order may be issued by the City Engineer, Building Inspector, or their authorized agents, after an inspection if:
 1. Any land disturbing or land developing activity regulated under this Chapter is being undertaken without a permit;
 2. The Control Plan is not being implemented in a good faith manner;
 3. The conditions of the Permit are not being met.
 - b. Stop work orders may be retracted when compliance with the Chapter is obtained. The City Engineer, Common Council, Building Inspector or their designee has the authority to retract a stop work order for Major Land Disturbing activities; the Building Inspector, City Engineer and their designees, may retract stop work orders on Minor Land Disturbing activities.
 - (2) **Revocation of Permit.**
 - a. Where a stop work order has been issued in order to obtain compliance with a Control Plan, the City may revoke the Permit if the permittee does not cease the illegal activity or obtain compliance with the Control Plan or Permit conditions within seventy-two (72) hours from issuance of the Stop Work Order.
 - b. If the landowner or land user where no permit has been issued does not cease the activity within seventy-two (72) hours, the Building Inspector may request the City Attorney to obtain a cease and desist order.
 - c. The Building Inspector may retract the two-work order or the revocation.
 - (3) **City to Perform Work.** Seventy-two (72) hours after posting a stop work order, the City may issue a notice of intent to the permittee or landowner or land user of the City's intent to perform work necessary to comply with this Chapter. Upon receipt of permission from the landowner or pursuant to a court order, the Building Inspector, City Engineer and/or other designated City officials or agents, as determined by the Common Council, may go on the land and commence the work. The costs of the work performed by the City, plus interest, shall be billed to the permittee or the landowner or may be recovered out of any security posted for such purpose. In the event a permittee or landowner otherwise fails to pay the amount due, the City Administrator shall enter the amount due on the tax rolls and collect as a special assessment against the property pursuant to state law.
 - (4) **Injunction and Other Judicial Remedies.** Compliance with the provisions of this Chapter may also be obtained by the Common Council authorizing the City Attorney to commence appropriate action to enjoin violations, compel compliance, or pursue other appropriate judicial relief.
 - (5) **Private Remedies Preserved.** These enforcement provisions are not intended in any way to restrict or limit the rights of private parties to pursue whatever private legal remedies they may have available as a result of any erosion, sediment or water runoff.

15-2-10

- (c) **Penalties.** Any person violating any provision of this Chapter shall be subject to a forfeiture as provided in Section 1-1-7. Each day a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense. Before commencing a forfeiture action, the City shall issue a written warning to the person believed to be violating the Chapter, granting the person two (2) business days in which to remedy the violation and avoid the commencement of a forfeiture action.

Sec. 15-2-11 Appeals; Variances.

(a) **Appeal or Variance Requests.**

- (1) **By Applicant or Permittee.** Any aggrieved applicant, permittee or land user may appeal any order, decision, determination or inaction of the City in administering or enforcing this Chapter, or may apply for a variance from the requirements of this Chapter. A filing fee as prescribed in Section 1-3-1 must accompany the appeal or variance request. Appeal or variance requests must be submitted in writing, state the grounds for the appeal or variance request, and be filed with the City Administrator. Publication and other associated costs will be in addition to this fee and paid by the applicant.
- (2) **Appeal By Citizens.**
- a. An appeal of any order, decision, determination or inaction of the City in administering or enforcing this Chapter may be commenced upon the filing of a petition signed by twenty-five (25) adult residents of the City and payment of a fee as prescribed in Section 1-3-1 to cover the cost of the appeal.
- b. The appeal must be filed with the City Administrator and shall state written grounds for the appeal. A copy of any citizen appeal shall be delivered or mailed to the applicant or permittee by the City Administrator within five (5) business days of its filing with the City. The filing of a citizen appeal, by itself, does not prohibit the commencement or continuation of any work or activity.
- (3) **Appeal Deadline.** Appeals by applicants, permittees or citizens must be filed within forty-five (45) days of the order, decision, determination or inaction being appealed.
- (4) **Multiple Appeals Prohibited.** Once an appeal has been filed on a matter, no other appeal on the same order, decision, determination or inaction will be allowed. The Board of Appeals shall consolidate appeals wherever possible to avoid a multiplicity of appeal proceedings and to hasten the final resolution of a matter. The Board of Appeals may allow additional parties to join a pending appeal where appropriate and where such addition will not delay the proceedings.

(b) **Authority.**

- (1) **Authority to Grant Variances.** The Board of Appeals shall decide all variance requests in accordance with the provisions of this Code of Ordinances. The Board of

Appeals shall only grant such variances from the terms of this Chapter as will not be contrary to the public interest, where owing to special conditions a literal enforcement of the provisions of this Chapter is impracticable or otherwise unreasonable or demonstrated to be unnecessary. Such variances may be granted only when the Board of Appeals has been presented with satisfactory proof that the variance will achieve compliance results comparable to those set forth in this Chapter.

- (2) **Appeals.** The Board of Appeals shall hear and decide appeals where it is alleged that there is error in any order, decision or determination made by City officials in administering this Chapter. The Board of Appeals shall use the rules, procedures, duties and powers authorized by City ordinance and statute for the Board of Appeals in hearing and deciding appeals and authorizing variances. The Board of Appeals shall hear and decide within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written request and payment of the appeal fee, unless an extension is agreed upon by the Appellant and Board of Appeals. The procedures utilized by the Board of Appeals shall be as prescribed in the City Zoning Code.
- (c) **Enforcement Not Stayed.** The filing of an appeal or variance does not preclude the City from commencing or continuing any of the enforcement actions set forth herein or a forfeiture proceeding set forth in this Chapter unless the Common Council specifically agrees to stay such enforcements.

Title 15 ► Chapter 3

Fair Housing

15-3-1	Purpose
15-3-2	Definitions
15-3-3	Unlawful Practices
15-3-4	Exemptions
15-3-5	Procedure
15-3-6	Other Remedies
15-3-7	Penalties
15-3-8	Certain Acts Not Prohibited

Sec. 15-3-1 Purpose.

Pursuant to Sec. 66.1011, Wis. Stats., the purpose of this Chapter is to prohibit discrimination in the sale or rental of housing in the City, solely on the basis of sex, race, color, physical condition, developmental disability as defined in Sec. 51.01(5), Wis. Stats., religion, national origin or ancestry, handicap as defined at 42 U.S.C. 3604(4), sexual orientation or family status. It is the policy of the City of Amery to ensure equal opportunity to all persons to live in decent housing.

Sec. 15-3-2 Definitions.

For the purpose of the Chapter:

- (a) **Real Property.** Includes buildings, structures, lands, tenements, leaseholds, cooperatives and condominiums.
- (b) **Discrimination or Discriminatory Housing Practice.** Any difference in treatment based upon sex, race, color, physical condition, developmental disability, religion, national origin or ancestry, handicap, sexual orientation or family status.
- (c) **Person.** Includes individuals, children, firms, associations, joint ventures, partnerships, estates, trusts, business trusts, syndicates, fiduciaries, corporations and all other groups or combinations.

- (d) **Owner.** Includes a lessee, sublessee, co-tenant, assignee, managing agent or other person having the right of ownership or possession, or the right to sell, rent or lease any housing.
- (e) **Financial Institution.** Any person, as defined herein, engaged in the business of lending money or guaranteeing loans.
- (f) **Real Estate Broker and Real Estate Salesman.** Any individual, qualified by law, who, for a fee, commission, salary or for other valuable consideration, or who with the intention or expectation of receiving or collecting same, lists, sells, purchases, rents, or leases any housing including options thereupon, or who negotiates or attempts to negotiate a loan, secured by a mortgage or other encumbrance, upon transfer of any housing; or who is engaged in the business of charging an advance fee or contracting for collection of a fee in connection with a contract whereby he/she undertakes to promote the sale, purchase, rental or lease of any housing through its listing in a publication issued primarily for such purpose; or an individual employed by or acting on behalf of any of these.
- (g) **Housing or Dwelling.** Any building, mobile home or trailer, structure, or portion thereof which is occupied as, or designed, or intended for occupancy, as a residence by one (1) or more families, and any vacant land which is offered for sale or lease for the construction of location thereon of any such building, mobile home or trailer, structure, or portion thereof or any real property, as defined herein, used or intended to be used for any of the purposes set forth in this subsection.
- (h) **Mortgage Broker.** An individual who is engaged in or who performs the business or services of a mortgage broker as the same are defined by Wisconsin Statutes.
- (i) **Open Market.** The market which is informed of the availability for sale, purchase, rental or lease of any housing, whether informed through a real estate broker or by advertising by publication, signs, or by any other advertising methods directed to the public or any portion thereof; indicating that the property is available for sale, purchase, rental or lease.

Sec. 15-3-3 Unlawful Practices.

In connection with any of the transactions set forth in this Section which affect any housing on the open market, or in connection with any public sale, purchase, rental or lease of any housing, it shall be unlawful in the City, for any person, including but not limited to an owner, financial institution, real estate broker or real estate salesman, or any representative of the above, to discriminate against any person because of sex, race, color, physical condition, developmental disability, religion, national origin or ancestry or handicap, sexual orientation or family status and in the process to:

- (a) Refuse to sell, purchase, rent, or lease or deny to or withhold any housing from a person;
or
- (b) Differentiate against a person in the terms, conditions or privileges of the sale, purchase, rental or lease of any housing, or in the furnishing of facilities or services in connection therewith; or

- (c) Refuse to receive or transmit a bona fide offer to sell, purchase, rent, or lease any housing from or to a person; or
- (d) Refuse to negotiate for the sale, purchase, rental, or lease of any housing to a person; or
- (e) Represent to a person that any housing is not available for inspection, sale, purchase, rental or lease when in fact, it is so available, or to refuse to permit a person to inspect any housing; or
- (f) Make, publish, print, circulate, post or mail, or cause to be made, published, printed, circulated, posted or mailed, any notice, statement or advertisement, or to announce a policy or to sign or to use a form of application for the sale, purchase, rental, lease or financing of any housing, or to make a record of inquiry in connection with the prospective sale, purchase, rental, lease or financing of any housing; or
- (g) Offer, solicit, accept or use a listing of any housing for sale, purchase, rental or lease with the understanding that a person may be subjected to discrimination in connection with such sale, purchase, rental or lease or in the furnishing of facilities or services in connection therewith; or
- (h) For profit induce directly, or attempt to induce directly or indirectly the sale, purchase, rental or lease, or the listing for any of the above, of any housing by representing that the presence or anticipated presence of particular types of persons will or may result in either:
 - (1) The lowering of property values in the area, or
 - (2) An increase in criminal or antisocial behavior in the area, or
 - (3) A decline in the quality of schools serving the area.
- (i) If the person accused of unlawful activity is a bank, building and loan association, insurance company or other corporation, association, firm or enterprise whose business consists in whole or in part, of the making of commercial real estate loans, deny a loan or other financial assistance to a person applying therefore for the purpose of purchasing, constructing, improving, repairing or maintaining a dwelling, or to discriminate against that person in the fixing of the amount, interest rate, duration, or other terms or conditions of such loans or other financial assistance; or
- (j) Deny any qualified person access to or membership or participation in any multiple-listing service, real estate broker's organization, or other service, organization or facility relating to the business of selling or renting dwellings, or to discriminate against that person in their terms or conditions of such access, membership, or participation; or
- (k) Requiring information concerning sex, race, color, physical condition, developmental disability, religion, national origin or ancestry, handicap, sexual orientation or family status.

Sec. 15-3-4 Exemptions.

This Chapter shall not apply to:

- (a) A religious organization, association, or society or any nonprofit institution or organization operating, supervised, or controlled by or in conjunction with a religious organization,

association, or society, which limits the sale, rental, or occupancy of dwellings which it owns or operates for other than commercial purpose to persons of the same religion, or which gives preference to such persons, unless membership in such a religion is restricted on account of race, color or national origin.

- (b) A private club not in fact open to the public, which as an incident to its primary purpose or purposes, provides lodgings which it owns or operates for other than a commercial purpose, and which limits the rental or occupancy of such lodgings to its members or gives preference to its members.
- (c) Any single-family house or duplex sold or rented by an owner, provided, that such private individual owner does not own more than three (3) such single-family houses at any one time; provided further, that in the case of the sale of any such single-family house by a private individual owner not residing in such house at the time of such sale or who was not the most recent resident of such house prior to such sale, the exemption granted by this Subsection shall apply only with respect to one such sale within any twenty-four (24) month period; provided further, that such bona fide private individual owner does not own any interest in, nor is there owned or served on his/her behalf, under any express or voluntary agreement, title to or any right to all or a portion of the proceeds from the sale or rental of, more than three (3) single-family houses at any time; provided further, the sale or rental of any such single-family house shall be exempt from the prohibitions of this Chapter only if such house is sold or rented:
 - (1) Without the use in any manner of the sales or rental facilities or the sales or rental services of any real estate broker, agent, or salesman of such facilities or dwelling, or of any employee or agent of any such broker, salesman, or person; and
 - (2) Without the publication, posting or mailing, after notice, of any advertisement of written notice in violation of the provisions of 42 United States Code Section 3604(c); but nothing in this proviso shall prohibit the use of attorneys, escrow agents, abstractors, title companies, and other such professional assistance as necessary to perfect or transfer the title.
- (d) Rooms or units in dwellings containing living quarters occupied or intended to be occupied by no more than four (4) families independently of each other, if the owner actually maintains and occupies one of such living quarters as his/her residence.

Sec. 15-3-5 Procedure.

Any person aggrieved by an unlawful practice prohibited by this Chapter may file a complaint with the City Administrator within thirty (30) days after the aggrieved person becomes aware of the alleged unlawful practice, and in no event more than sixty (60) days after the alleged unlawful practice occurred. The Administrator shall investigate each complaint and attempt to resolve each complaint. Failure to achieve a resolution acceptable to both parties in compliance

with this Chapter shall cause the Administrator to forward the complaint and his/her findings to appropriate County, State and Federal officials and advise the person aggrieved of Sec. 101.22, Wis. Stats.

Sec. 15-3-6 Other Remedies.

Nothing herein contained shall prevent any person from exercising any right or seeking any remedy to which he/she might otherwise be entitled or from filing a complaint with any appropriate governmental agency.

Sec. 15-3-7 Penalties.

Any person violating any provision of this Chapter shall, upon conviction of a first offense, be punished by forfeiture not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each violation thereof. For the second and each subsequent violation the forfeiture shall be between Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00).

Sec. 15-3-8 Certain Acts Not Prohibited.

With respect to rental of housing, nothing contained herein shall prevent landlords from using references, security deposits, or credit checks or making decisions whether to rent and properly care for and make repairs to the premises.



Title 15 ► Chapter 4

Minimum Housing Code

15-4-1	Title
15-4-2	Intent and Purpose
15-4-3	Rules and Definitions
15-4-4	Minimum Standards for Basic Equipment, Lighting, Ventilation, Heating, and Electrical Service
15-4-5	Safe and Sanitary Maintenance of Property
15-4-6	Quantity, Location and Use of Space in Residential Buildings
15-4-7	Fixing the Responsibility of Owners, Operators, and Occupants
15-4-8	Inspection
15-4-9	Designation of Unfit Dwellings and Legal Procedure Therefor
15-4-10	Enforcement, Service of Notices, and Orders and Hearings

Sec. 15-4-1 Title.

This Chapter shall be known as the City of Amery Minimum Housing Code.

Sec. 15-4-2 Intent and Purpose.

- (a) This Chapter is adopted for the purpose of preserving and promoting the public health, safety, comfort, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of the people of the City and environs. This includes, among others, physical, aesthetic, and property values.
- (b) It is recognized that there may now be or may, in the future, be residential buildings, structures, yards or vacant areas, and combinations thereof which are so dilapidated, unsafe, dangerous, unhygienic, overcrowded, inadequately maintained or lacking in basic equipment or facilities, light, ventilation, and heating so as to constitute a menace to the health, safety, and general welfare of the people. The establishment and enforcement of minimum housing and property maintenance standards is necessary to preserve and promote the private and public interest.

Cross-Reference: Title 15, Chapter 8, Rental Housing Code.

Sec. 15-4-3 Rules and Definitions.

- (a) **Rules.** In the construction of this Chapter, the rules and definitions contained in this Section shall be observed and applied, except when the context clearly indicates otherwise:
- (1) Words used in the present tense shall include the future.
 - (2) Words used in the singular number shall include the plural number, and the plural the singular.
 - (3) The word "shall" is mandatory and not discretionary.
 - (4) The word "may" is permissive.
 - (5) The phrase "used for" shall include the phrases "arranged for," "designed for," "intended for," "maintained for," and "occupied for."
- (b) **Definitions.** The following definitions shall be applicable in this Chapter:
- (1) **Adequate.** Adequate as determined by the Building Inspector under the regulations of this Chapter or adequate as determined by an authority designated by law or this Code of Ordinances. "Adequately" shall mean the same as adequate.
 - (2) **Apartment.** One (1) or more rooms with provisions for living, cooking, sanitary, and sleeping facilities arranged for use by one (1) family.
 - (3) **Approved.** Approved by the Building Inspector under the regulations of this Chapter or approved by an authority designated by law, this Chapter or this Code of Ordinances.
 - (4) **Attractive Appearance.** An appearance which is in accordance with generally accepted professional practices for new construction within the City and which is not likely to adversely affect the values of abutting or neighborhood properties, or of the principal property.
 - (5) **Basement.** A portion of a building located partly or wholly underground and having half or more than half of its clear floor-to-ceiling height below the average grade of the adjoining ground.
 - (6) **Boarding House.** See "Lodging House" and "Lodging Room."
 - (7) **Building.** A combination of material to form a construction that is safe and stable and adapted to permanent or continuous occupancy for assembly, business, educational, high hazard, industrial, institutional, mercantile, residential, or a storage purpose; the term "building" shall be construed as if followed by the words "or portion thereof." For the purpose of this Chapter, each portion of a building completely separated from other portions by an unpierced fire wall shall be considered as a separate building.
 - (8) **Capacity in Persons.** The "capacity in persons" of a building is the maximum number of persons that can occupy such building, as determined by the required floor space per person as established in this Chapter.
 - (9) **Compliance Inspection.** An inspection performed in conjunction with a lawful order of the Common Council, City Administrator or Building Inspector for the purpose of certifying the fulfillment of an official requirement listed in the order.

- (10) **Dwelling.** A place of abode, a residence, or a house for use by one (1) or more persons, excluding hotels or motels.
- (11) **Dwelling Unit.** One (1) or more rooms with provisions for living, cooking, sanitary, and sleeping facilities arranged for use by one (1) family.
- (12) **Extermination.** The control or elimination of infestation by eliminating harboring places and removing or making inaccessible materials that may serve as food, and by poisoning, spraying, trapping, fumigation by a licensed fumigator or any other effective elimination procedure.
- (13) **Family.** An individual, or two (2) or more persons related by blood, marriage, or legal adoption, living together as a single housekeeping unit in a dwelling unit, including foster children, and not more than two (2) roomers. For the purpose of this Subsection, "children" means natural children, or a ward as determined in a legal guardianship proceeding. Up to two (2) personal attendants who provide services for family members or roomers who, because of advanced age or physical or mental disability, need assistance with activities of daily living, shall be considered part of the "family." Such services may include personal care, housekeeping, meal preparation, laundry or companionship.
- (14) **Friable Material.** Any material applied on ceilings, walls, structural members, piping, duct work, or any other part of a building which when dry may be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure. The term includes non-friable material after such previously non-friable material becomes damaged to the extent that when dry it may be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.
- (15) **Good Working Condition.** Capable of performing the task for which it was designed and in the manner intended by this Chapter.
- (16) **Habitable Space.** One (1) or more rooms in a dwelling used primarily for sleeping, living, or dining purposes.
- (17) **Impervious to Water.** Constructed of concrete, cement block, terrazzo, brick, tile, or other material approved by the Building Inspector, and having tight-fitting joints.
- (18) **Infestation.** The sustained presence of household pests, vermin, or rodents.
- (19) **Living Room.** A room used primarily for living, dining, or cooking purposes.
- (20) **Lodging House.** A dwelling containing lodging rooms that will accommodate five (5) or more persons not members of a family.
- (21) **Lodging Room.** A portion of a dwelling used primarily for sleeping and living purposes, excluding cooking facilities.
- (22) **Mixed Occupancy.** Occupancy of a building in part for residential use and in part for some other use not accessory thereto.
- (23) **Occupant.** One who occupies or has actual possession of usable space.
- (24) **Operator.** Any person who has charge or control of a building or part thereof in which dwelling units or lodging rooms are located or let.
- (25) **Owner.** Every person, firm, partnership, or any individual member thereof, corporation, business organization of any kind, the state, the county, the City, any

sewer district, drainage district, and any other public or quasi-public corporation having vested interest in the property under consideration and shall include the representative, officer, agent, or other person having the ownership, control, custody, or management of any building. "Owner" does not include any person whose legal or equitable interest in the building is a security interest derived solely from the extension of credit to permit construction or remodeling of the dwelling or purchase of the dwelling by a third party.

- (26) **Person.** A "person" shall mean and include any individual, firm, corporation, association, or partnership.
- (27) **Properly.** As deemed proper by the Building Inspector under the regulations of this Chapter or deemed proper by an authority designated by law or this Chapter.
- (28) **Provided.** Furnished, supplied, paid for or under control of the owner.
- (29) **Residential Building.** A building which is arranged, designed, used, or intended to be used for residential occupancy by one (1) or more families or lodgers, and which includes, but is not limited to, the following types:
 - a. Single-family dwellings.
 - b. Two (2) family dwellings.
 - c. Multiple-family dwellings (including apartment hotels).
 - d. Lodging houses.
 - e. Fraternity and sorority houses.(For the purpose of this Chapter, any building containing any of the above uses together with other uses shall be considered a residential building.)
- (30) **Room.** A partitioned part of the inside of a building. For the purpose of this definition, partition shall mean something that divides interior space, especially an interior dividing wall. A wall is one of the sides of a room or building connecting floor and ceiling and may also include anything which encloses or separates space. A partition or wall which intrudes into the space by more than one-third (1/3) of the least dimension of an existing room may be regarded as creating an additional separate room. The partitioned space shall be considered as a room if privacy is implied; light and ventilation are affected; or a bedroom through a bedroom, bathroom through a bedroom or bedroom through a bathroom situation is created.
- (31) **Rooming House.** See "Lodging House" and "Lodging Room."
- (32) **Sleeping Room.** A room used for sleeping purposes.
- (33) **Structure.** Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires more or less permanent location on the ground, or attached to something having permanent location on the ground.
- (34) **Supplied.** Paid for, furnished, or provided by or under control of the owner or operator.

Sec. 15-4-4 Minimum Standards for Basic Equipment, Lighting, Ventilation, Heating and Electrical Service.

- (a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this Section is to establish minimum standards for basic equipment, lighting, ventilation, and electrical services for all residential buildings and parts thereof and to obtain the public and private benefits accruing from the provision of such services. A suitable environment for safe and healthy living is encouraged by adequate water and sanitary facilities, proper storage, and disposal of garbage, recyclables and other refuse, safe means of egress, provision of light, air, heat, and electrical service.
- (b) **Minimum Standards.** No person shall occupy as owner or let to another for occupancy any space in a residential building for the purpose of living, sleeping, cooking, or eating therein which does not comply with the following requirements:
- (1) **Basic Plumbing Requirements.** Every dwelling unit shall contain a kitchen sink, a flush water closet, a lavatory basin, and a bathtub or shower, all in good working condition and properly connected to hot and cold water lines and to an approved water and sewer system. The flush water closet, lavatory basin, and bathtub or shower shall be contained within a separate room. Water pressure shall be available at all fixtures as specified in Sec. COMM 82.40, Wis. Adm. Code.
 - (2) **Water Heating Facilities.** Every residential building shall have supplied water heating facilities which are properly installed, are maintained in safe and good working condition, are properly connected with the hot water lines required hereunder and are capable of heating water to such a temperature as to permit an adequate amount of water to be drawn at any required kitchen sink, lavatory basin, bathtub, or shower at a temperature of not less than one hundred ten (110) degrees Fahrenheit.
 - (3) **Refuse Storage.** Each resident in every residential building shall be responsible for supplying such building with garbage, refuse and recyclable materials, storage facilities, the type and location of which is in compliance with City regulations.
 - (4) **Egress.** Every dwelling unit and lodging room shall have direct access to at least two (2) accessible unobstructed means of egress leading to a safe and open public street, alley, or court connected to a street. Exterior stairways or exit platforms, or a combination thereof, will be permitted as second exits, provided the platform or stairways terminate at a point not more than ten (10) feet above the grade directly below the lowest platform. All stairs shall terminate at grade or a platform. Platforms shall have a minimum area of fourteen (14) square feet with a minimum dimension of three (3) feet. All stairways and platforms shall be protected with handrails and guardrails as specified in Sections COMM 21.04(2) or COMM 51.161 and COMM 51.162, Wis. Adm. Code. Existing variances to the height limitations specified above may be approved by the Board of Appeals, provided the platforms or stairs are maintained in a sound structural condition.

- (5) **Plumbing.** Each lodging house shall provide at least one (1) flush water closet, lavatory basin, and bathtub or shower, properly connected to an approved water and sewer system and in good working condition for each seven (7) persons or fraction thereof residing therein, including members of the operator's family wherever they share the use of said facilities, except that the required number of bathtubs or showers may be reduced by the Board of Appeals for lodging houses utilizing gang bathrooms containing multiple bathtubs or showers. All such facilities shall be located on the floor occupied by persons sharing such facilities or the floor directly above or below and shall be accessible from a common hall or passageway. Every lavatory basin and bathtub or shower shall be supplied with hot water at all times.
- (6) **Windows and Ventilation.**
- a. Every living, sleeping, kitchen or bathroom shall have available natural light and ventilation complying with Sections COMM 21.05 or COMM 57.13, Wis. Adm. Code, as dictated by the occupancy of the building. Existing light and ventilation conditions which do not comply with COMM Codes may remain in use with the granting of a variance by the Board of Appeals.
 - b. Exhaust ventilation shall be installed in all toilet rooms, except those having only one (1) fixture [water closet or one (1) urinal] and in which the window area is greater than four (4) square feet and more than two (2) square feet is openable directly to the exterior of the building. The volume of air exhausted shall not be less than two (2) cubic feet per minute per square foot of floor area.
 - c. All doors and windows required for ventilation shall be protected with insect screen equivalent to not less than sixteen (16) wire mesh installed to prevent the entrance of flies, mosquitoes and other insects, to be annually installed during May before June 1 and maintained until storm windows are installed in autumn.
 - d. All exterior door and windows shall have storm windows or storm doors installed or maintained to prevent excessive drafts and heat loss no earlier than October 15th, but no later than November 15th annually.
 - e. Existing habitable rooms without openable windows shall be provided with a mechanical ventilation system producing one (1) air change per hour. All required exhaust vents shall terminate outside the structure.
- (7) **Electrical.** Every dwelling unit and all public and common areas in multiple dwellings shall be supplied with electrical service, outlets, and fixtures which shall be properly installed, shall be maintained in good and safe working conditions, and shall be connected to a source of electric power in a manner prescribed by the Wisconsin Electrical Code. The minimum capacity of such electrical services and the minimum number of outlets and fixtures shall be as listed below. (For the purposes of this Section, "electrical service" shall mean: "The conductors and equipment for delivering electrical energy from the supply system to the wiring system of the premises or the unit served.") The electrical service shall be of sufficient size to handle the load connected to it. The branch circuits shall be protected by S-type or equivalent

safety type, tamper-proof fuses, not to exceed the ampacity of the smallest wire size in the circuit:

- a. Every dwelling unit or room shall have electric service capable of providing at least three (3) watts per square foot of total floor area [air conditioners, ranges, space heaters and motor driven equipment one-eighth (1/8) hp. or over excluded.]
- b. Every lavatory, bathroom, kitchen or kitchenette, dining room, laundry room and furnace room shall contain at least one (1) approved ceiling or wall type electric light fixture equipped with sufficient lamps or tubes to provide no less than five (5) foot candles at floor level at the center of the room. Where more than one (1) fixture is used or required, they shall be equally spaced as far as practicable. (A switched outlet may be substituted for the ceiling or wall fixture in the dining room.)
- c. Convenience outlet receptacles shall be provided as follows: (measurements are at room perimeter and include doors and door-alcoves)
 1. Living Room: One (1) per seventy-five (75) square feet or major fraction [minimum of two (2).]
 2. Dining Room: One (1) per seventy-five (75) square feet or major fraction [minimum of two (2).]
 3. Kitchen: One (1) per eight (8) feet or fraction of countertop and preparation area measured at rear (preparation area includes countertops, sinks, range tops, and all other similar areas at counter height.) Island type work areas require one for each eight (8) feet or less of length. Separate outlets shall be provided for refrigerators.
 4. Dining Areas in Kitchen: One (1) per seventy-five (75) square feet or major fraction.
 5. Bedroom: One (1) per seventy-five (75) square feet or major fraction [minimum of two (2).]
 6. Laundry: One (1) when laundry equipment is present.
 7. Bathrooms and Lavatories: One (1) [may be part of wall fixture if seventy-two (72.0) inches or less from floor].
 8. Other Habitable Rooms: Minimum of two (2).
- d. Fixed appliances exceeding one-eighth (1/8) hp. or three hundred (300) watts rating shall not be connected to general purpose branch circuits. Convenience outlets are to be located to prevent use of extension cords (NED 400-8).
- e. All cords and temporary wiring not in compliance with NEC Article 400-A, and all exposed abandoned wiring, shall be removed immediately upon the direction of the Building Inspector or Fire Inspector.
- f. Switches or equivalent devices for turning on one (1) light in each room or passageway shall be located so as to conveniently control the area to be lighted.
- g. Public halls and stairways in multiple dwellings shall be adequately lighted by natural or electric light at all times so as to provide in all parts thereof at least

two and one-half (2-1/2) foot candles of light at the tread or floor level. Halls and stairways in structures containing not more than three (3) dwelling units may be supplied with conveniently located switches, controlling the lighting system, which may be turned on when needed. Other occupancies require full time or automatic time-switched lighting. When dwelling unit doors open to the outside a minimum of two and one-half (2-1/2) foot candles of illumination at the locks are required. Required parking areas for more than three (3) cars shall be lighted to a minimum of one (1) foot candle on all surfaces.

- h. When the service in an existing residential building is changed for any reason, the entire building electrical system shall be brought to the above minimum standards. The minimum replacement electrical service shall be one hundred (100) amps for the first two (2) dwelling units in a building and fifty (50) amps for each additional unit. Where electric heat and air conditioner over twenty (20) amps are added or in place, additional capacity to cover this demand is required. All electrical work shall be done in accordance with the National Electrical Code.

(8) **Heating.**

- a. All habitable rooms shall be provided with a permanently connected heating system complying with the City ordinances.
- b. The heating system shall be maintained in a safe and efficient condition by a qualified person and a record kept at the premises showing the date of service and by whom. A minimum temperature of sixty-seven (67) degrees Fahrenheit shall be maintained in all habitable rooms when the outdoor temperature is above zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit, absent the wind-chill factor, and a minimum temperature of sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit shall be maintained in all habitable rooms when the outdoor temperature is zero (0) degrees Fahrenheit or lower, absent the wind-chill factor. The outdoor temperature for the City shall be the temperature as reported by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the reports thereof shall be admissible in evidence and conclusive as to temperature.
- c. The occupant of a room or an apartment may maintain a lesser temperature than is specified above as long as it does not affect the temperature in other habitable areas of the building.

(9) **Lighting.**

- a. Illumination shall be provided at all intersections of passageways, at all exits, and at the head, foot, and landings of every stairway in all buildings accommodating transients, three (3) or more apartments, and lodging houses. The illumination shall be provided during a period one (1) hour before sunset to one (1) hour after sunrise.
- b. Every residential building that will accommodate transients, three (3) or more families, or twenty (20) persons shall have lights at the emergency exit doors or

other places as may be necessary to direct the occupant to the exit doorways. The lights shall be red and accompanied by a sign bearing the word "EXIT" in plain letters five (5) inches high, or a red illuminated translucent exit sign may be used.

- (10) **Cooking Areas Restricted.** The owner or operator of every residential building shall not provide, use, or permit to be used and the occupant shall not provide, use, or permit to be used, in any room other than a kitchen, any equipment designed or intended to be used for cooking or preparation of meals.
- (11) **Emergency Work Information.** Every owner of a multi-family dwelling shall make available to the occupants the names of two (2) or more persons that may be called to arrange for emergency work. The names with the telephone numbers shall be posted in a conspicuous place readily accessible to the occupants. The names with the telephone numbers shall be revised periodically to maintain accurate information at all times.

Sec. 15-4-5 Safe and Sanitary Maintenance of Property.

- (a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this Section is to recognize the private and public benefits resulting from the safe, sanitary, and attractive maintenance of residential buildings, yards, or vacant areas. Attractive and well-maintained property will enhance the neighborhood and City and provide a suitable environment for increasing physical and monetary values.
- (b) **Maintenance Requirements.** Every owner or operator shall improve and maintain all property under his/her control to comply with the following minimum requirements:
 - (1) **Drainage.** All courts, yards, or other areas on the premises shall be properly graded to divert water away from the building. Adjacent ground surface shall be sloped away from the structure with a grading of at least one-half (1/2) inch per foot for a minimum of five (5) feet where possible or by other means such as eaves troughs and downspout extensions.
 - (2) **Weeds.** All exterior property areas shall be kept free from noxious weeds as required by this Code of Ordinances and the Wisconsin Statutes. Where required weed and grass cutting is not performed by the property owner, the Weed Commissioner shall perform said weed cutting and process the charge therefor as a special charge against the benefitted property.
 - (3) **Debris.** All exterior property areas shall be properly maintained in a clean and sanitary condition free from debris, rubbish or garbage, physical hazards, rodent harborage and infestation, and animal feces. All animal feces shall be removed within twenty-four (24) hours.
 - (4) **Fences, Walks, Parking Areas.** Fences, other minor construction, walks, driveways, parking areas, and similar paved areas shall be properly maintained in a safe, sanitary

and substantial condition. Approved walks shall provide convenient all-weather access to buildings.

- (5) **Exterior Surfaces.** Exterior surfaces of buildings and structures not inherently resistant to deterioration shall be treated with a protective coating of paint or other suitable preservative which will provide adequate resistance to weathering and maintain an attractive appearance. Any exterior surface treated with paint or other preservative shall be maintained so as to prevent chipping, cracking, or other deterioration of the exterior surface or the surface treatment and to present an attractive appearance. All paint or other preservative shall be applied in a workmanlike fashion.
- (6) **Yard Areas.** Yard areas of real estate shall not be permitted to deteriorate or remain in a condition that is not in accord with the following: Yard areas shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition, free from any accumulation of combustible or non-combustible materials, debris, or refuse. Yards shall not be used to store appliances, furnaces, hot water heaters, water softeners, or building material not used within ten (10) days, or any unsightly bulk items. Landscaping, plantings and other decorative surface treatments, including common species of grass, shall be installed if necessary and maintained to present an attractive appearance in all court and yard areas. Lawns shall be maintained to a height in compliance with City ordinances. Plantings shall be maintained as not to present hazards to adjoining properties or to persons or vehicles traveling on public ways and shall be maintained so as to enhance the appearance and value of the property on which located, and thereby the appearance and value of the neighborhood and City. The City, after due notice to the property owner, will cause to be cut or trimmed nonconforming areas and place said cost as a special charge due against the property.
- (7) **General Requirements.**
 - a. Every interior floor, wall, and ceiling, including door and window assemblies, shall be kept clean and in good repair, and shall be capable of affording privacy. Any hazardous sagging or bulging shall be properly repaired to a level or plumb position. All surfaces shall be free from serious cracking, irregularities, and peeling paint. A waterproof and hard surface shall be provided in spaces subject to moisture. All surface repairs shall be completed to closely match the existing surface color and texture. Floor surfacing shall provide ease of maintenance and durability appropriate for the use of the room.
 - b. Every foundation, exterior wall, and floor and roof shall be reasonably weathertight, watertight, and rodentproof and shall be kept in proper repair and shall be capable of affording privacy. Any hazardous sagging or bulging shall be properly repaired to a level or plumb position. All chimneys and breaching shall be so constructed and maintained so as to insure that it safely and properly removes the products of combustion from the building.

- c. Every gap allowing the accumulation of dirt or other objectionable matter in bathing, toilet, or food preparation areas shall be tightly sealed with an impervious and cleanable material.
- (8) **Stairs.** Every inside and outside stair, every porch, and every appurtenance thereto shall be so constructed as to be safe to use and capable of supporting the load that normal use may cause to be placed thereon, and shall be kept in proper condition and repair and shall present an attractive appearance. All interior and exterior stairs and steps and every appurtenance thereto shall comply with the requirements specified in Sections COMM 21.04 or 51.16, 51.161, 51.162 and 51.164, Wis. Adm. Code, as dictated by the type of occupancy in the building.
- (9) **Plumbing Fixtures.** Every plumbing fixture and water and waste pipe shall be properly installed and maintained in good working condition, free from defects, leaks, and obstructions.
- (10) **Bathrooms.** Every water closet compartment floor surface and bathroom floor surface shall be properly constructed and maintained so as to be reasonably impervious to water and so as to permit such floor to be easily kept in a clean and sanitary condition.
- (11) **Supplied Facilities.**
- Every supplied facility, piece of equipment, or utility shall be so constructed, installed, and maintained so that it will function in a proper working condition.
 - The owner of any dwelling or apartment in which a cooking stove and/or refrigerator are furnished for the use of the tenants as part of a rental agreement shall keep such cooking stove and/or refrigerator in good mechanical working condition.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the tenant to maintain supplied facilities in a clean and sanitary condition when contained within the tenant's dwelling unit.
- (12) **Equipment Removal Restricted.** No owner, operator, or occupant shall cause any service, facility, equipment, or utility which is required under this Chapter to be removed from or shut off from or discontinued for any occupied dwelling, dwelling unit, or lodging room let or occupied by him/her, except for such temporary interruption as may be necessary while actual repairs are in process, or during temporary emergencies when discontinuance of service is approved by an authorized inspector.
- (13) **Abandoned Fuel Oil Tanks.** Abandoned fuel oil tanks shall be removed from the building.
- (14) **Removal of Debris.**
- No person shall dispose of rocks, trees, stumps, waste building material, or other debris from land development, building construction, street grading, or installation of underground utilities upon the surface of any land in the City, except at approved disposal sites.
 - No land owner shall allow an accumulation of rocks, trees, stumps, waste building material or other debris from land development, building construction, street grading, or installation of underground utilities upon the surface of his/her land for a period of more than ten (10) days.

- c. All vacant lands within the City shall be leveled off to permit the mowing of weeds as outlined within this Code. This includes the removal of stones, bottles, wires and other debris that will interfere with mowing operations.
- d. All lands in the City shall be kept free of weeds and maintained so there is no detrimental influence to the public health, safety, comfort or general welfare of the immediate neighborhood or community.

Sec. 15-4-6 Quantity, Location, and Use of Space in Residential Buildings.

- (a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this Section is to establish minimum standards for the quantity, location, and use of space in residential building units so as to preserve and promote the public interest. A suitable environment for safe, healthy, and desirable living can be enhanced by providing adequate space and privacy for occupants of all residential buildings.
- (b) **Size of Dwellings and Rooms.**
 - (1) **Detached Single-Family Dwellings.** Every detached single-family dwelling other than a mobile home shall have at least five hundred (500) square feet of floor area on the first floor level.
 - (2) **Size of Rooms.**
 - a. Apartments. The floor area of an apartment shall provide not less than one hundred fifty (150) square feet of floor area for the first occupant and at least one hundred (100) additional square feet of floor area for each additional occupant.
 - b. Lodging Rooms. The floor area of a lodging room shall provide not less than seventy (70) square feet of floor area for one (1) occupant and fifty (50) square feet for each additional occupant.
 - (3) **Excluded Spaces.** The space used as a laundry, workshop, furnace room, bathroom, storage room, closets, and common halls shall not be included as part of the space required in Subsections (b)(1) and (2) above.
 - (4) **Hallways.** Access to all lodging and sleeping rooms shall be from a common hallway and not through bathrooms or other lodging and sleeping rooms.
 - (5) **Cellar Space.** No cellar space shall be used as a sleeping room.
 - (6) **Basement Use as a Sleeping Area.** No basement space shall be used for a sleeping room unless:
 - a. The floor and walls are impervious to leakage of underground and surface runoff water and are insulated against dampness.
 - b. The total window area in each room is equal to at least the minimum window area required in this Chapter. The required minimum window area must be located entirely above the grade of the ground adjoining such window area.
 - c. The total of openable window area in each room is equal to at least the minimum as required under this Chapter, except where there is supplied some other device affording adequate ventilation and approved by the Building Inspector.

Sec. 15-4-7 Fixing the Responsibility of Owners, Operators and Occupants.

- (a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this Section is to fix the responsibility of owners, operators, and occupants of residential buildings.
- (b) **Responsibilities.** The responsibility of owners, operators, and occupants of residential buildings is as follows:
- (1) Every owner of a residential building containing two (2) or more dwelling units shall be responsible for maintaining in a clean, proper, and sanitary condition the shared or public areas of the residential building and premises thereof.
 - (2) Every occupant of a residential building shall keep in a clean, proper, and sanitary condition that part of the residential building and premises thereof which he/she occupies and controls, except the operator of every lodging house shall be responsible for the sanitary maintenance of all walls, floors, ceilings, and every other part of the lodging house. Every occupant of a residential building shall dispose of all his/her refuse, recyclables, and garbage as required by this Code of Ordinances.
 - (3) Every owner of a residential building shall be responsible for hanging, installation, and maintenance of all screens and double or storm doors and windows, whenever the same are required under provisions of this Code of Ordinances.
 - (4) Every occupant of a dwelling containing a single dwelling unit shall be responsible for the extermination of any insects, rodents, or other pests therein or on the premises and every occupant of a dwelling unit in a residential building shall be responsible for such extermination whenever his/her dwelling unit is the only one infested. Notwithstanding the foregoing by failure of the owner to maintain a residential building in a reasonable condition, extermination shall be the responsibility of the owner. Whenever infestation exists in two (2) or more of the dwelling units or lodging rooms in any residential building or in the shared or public parts of any residential building, extermination thereof shall be the responsibility of the owner.
 - (5) Every occupant of a dwelling unit shall keep all plumbing fixtures therein in a clean and sanitary condition and shall be responsible for the exercise of reasonable care in the proper use and operation thereof.
 - (6) The owner or operator shall not occupy or let to another for occupancy any space in a residential building unless it is clean, sanitary, fit for human occupancy, complies with the requirements of this Chapter and compliance inspections/orders thereunder, and the occupancy is limited to the maximum permitted thereby.
 - (7) Every owner of a lodging house shall make available to the occupants the names of two (2) or more persons that may be called to arrange for emergency work. The names with the telephone numbers shall be posted in a conspicuous place readily accessible to the occupants. The names with the telephone numbers shall be revised periodically to maintain accurate information at all times.

- (8) The operator of every lodging house shall change supplied linen and towels therein at least once each week and prior to the letting of any room to any occupant. The operator shall be responsible for the maintenance of all supplied bedding in a clean and sanitary condition.

Sec. 15-4-8 Inspection.

- (a) The Building Inspector is authorized and empowered to inspect all residential buildings within the City for the purpose of determining whether or not said residential buildings comply with the requirements of this Chapter. If any owner or occupant denies the Building Inspector entry into any residential building or portion thereof, the Building Inspector is authorized to obtain inspection warrants from an appropriate court and then enter and inspect said residential building pursuant to the authority of such warrant.
- (b) No owner of a residential building may deny the Building Inspector of the right to enter and inspect any portion thereof under the control of a tenant when the tenant has consented to said entry and inspection.

Sec. 15-4-9 Designation of Unfit Dwellings and Legal Procedure Therefor.

The designation of dwellings or dwelling units as unfit for human habitation and the procedure for the condemnation and placarding of such unfit dwellings or dwelling units shall be carried out in compliance with the following procedures and guidelines:

- (a) Any dwelling or dwelling unit which shall be found to have any of the following defects shall be condemned as unfit for human habitation and shall be so designated and placarded by the Building Inspector:
 - (1) One which is so damaged, decayed, dilapidated, unsanitary, unsafe, or vermin-infested that it creates a serious hazard to the health, safety, or welfare of the occupants or of the public.
 - (2) One which lacks illumination, ventilation, heating, basic equipment, or sanitation facilities adequate to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the occupants or of the public.
 - (3) One which, because of its general condition or location, is unsanitary or otherwise dangerous to the health, safety, or welfare of the occupants or of the public.
 - (4) One which, because of its general condition, location or appearance, is a blighting influence or causes decreasing physical or monetary value of property in the neighborhood.
- (b) Any dwelling, dwelling unit, building or structure designated and placarded as unfit for human habitation and in need of repair by the Building Inspector shall be vacated within such a reasonable time as is ordered by the Building Inspector.

- (c) No building or structure or part thereof which has been designated and placarded as unfit for human habitation and in need of repairs or razing shall again be used for human habitation until written approval is secured from, and such placard is removed by, the Building Inspector. The Building Inspector shall remove such placard whenever the defect or defects upon which the designation and placarding action were based have been eliminated.
- (d) No person shall deface or remove the placard from any building or structure, or part thereof, which has been condemned as unfit for human habitation and placarded as such.
- (e) Any building or structure or part thereof designated as unfit for human habitation and in need of repairs or razing by the Building Inspector, which in the opinion of the Building Inspector would be unreasonable to repair, shall be razed or removed upon legal written service of the order of Building Inspector. If the owner shall fail or refuse to comply with the order, the Building Inspector shall refer such violation to the City Attorney who will start any legal proceedings necessary to cause such building to be razed or removed as a violation of this Chapter.
- (f) Any building which has been vacant for more than thirty (30) days for any reason and has been damaged, illegally entered or vandalized shall be secured against entry. This shall include adequately boarding up doors, windows, and other openings in a workmanlike manner so as to prevent illegal entry, vandalism or damage.
 - (1) The building utilities, plumbing, electrical and heating systems in vacant buildings shall be maintained at all times in a safe condition or inactivated so as to prevent the possibility of damage to the structure by the failure of such utilities and so as to prevent hazardous and dangerous conditions.
 - (2) When any building has been damaged by fire or other cause and when hazardous or dangerous conditions exist and when such building cannot be secured by conventional locking or boarding up of windows and doors, such building shall be fenced off so as to prevent access and entry to the structure and the area immediately surrounding the structure within three (3) days of the damage by fire or other cause.

Sec. 15-4-10 Enforcement, Service of Notices and Orders and Hearings.

- (a) (1) Whenever the Building Inspector determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that there has been a violation of any provision of this Chapter or of any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, he/she shall give notice of such alleged violation to the person or persons responsible therefor as hereinafter provided. Such notice shall:
 - a. Be in writing.
 - b. Include a statement of the reasons why it is being issued.

- c. Allow a reasonable time for the performance of any act it requires.
 - d. Be served upon the owner or his/her agent, or the occupant, as the case may require, provided that such notice shall be deemed to be properly served upon such owner or agent or upon such occupant, if a copy thereof is served upon him/her personally; or if a copy thereof is sent by registered mail to his/her last-known address; or if a copy thereof is posted in a conspicuous place in or about the dwelling or dwelling unit affected by the notice; or if he/she is served with such notice by any other method authorized or required under the laws of this state.
- (2) The above notice may contain an outline of remedial action which, if taken, will effect compliance with the provisions of this Chapter and with rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
- (b) Whenever there has been notice of a violation issued to the owner, the agent of any owner, or the occupant of property which is in violation of this Chapter, no further notice shall be necessary for any reoccurrence of the violation prior to the commencement of any forfeiture action or prior to seeking an injunction in a court of record.
 - (c) Any person affected by any notice which has been issued in connection with the enforcement of any provision of this Chapter or of any rule or regulations adopted pursuant thereto may request and shall be granted a hearing on the matter before the Building Inspector, provided that such person shall file, in the office of the Building Inspector, a written petition requesting such hearing and setting forth a brief statement of the grounds therefor within ten (10) days after the day the notice was served. Upon receipt of such petition, the Building Inspector shall set a time and place for such hearing and shall give the petitioner written notice thereof. At such hearing, the petitioner shall be given an opportunity to be heard and to show why such notice should be modified or withdrawn. The hearing shall be commenced no later than ten (10) days after the day on which the petition was filed. Upon application of the petitioner, the Building Inspector may postpone the date of the hearing for a reasonable time beyond such ten (10) day period, if, in his/her judgment, the petitioner has submitted a good and sufficient reason for such postponement.
 - (d) Following such hearing, the Building Inspector shall sustain, modify, or withdraw the notice, depending upon his/her findings as to whether the provisions of this Chapter and of the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto have been complied with. If the Building Inspector sustains or modifies such notice, it shall be deemed to be an order. Any notice served pursuant to this Chapter shall automatically become an order if a written petition for a hearing is not filed in the office of the Building Inspector within ten (10) days after such notice is served. Following a hearing in the case of any notice suspending any permit required for this Chapter or by any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, when such notice has been sustained by the Building Inspector, the permit shall be deemed to have been revoked. Any such permit which has been suspended by a notice shall be deemed to be automatically revoked if a petition for hearing is not filed in the office of the Building Inspector within ten (10) days after such notice is served.

- (e) The proceedings at such hearing, including the findings and decision of the Building Inspector, shall be summarized, reduced to writing, and entered as a matter of public record. Such record shall also include a copy of every notice or order issued in connection with the matter. Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Building Inspector may seek relief therefrom in any court of competent jurisdiction, as provided by the laws of this state.
- (f) Whenever the Building Inspector finds that an emergency exists which requires immediate action to protect the public health, safety, or welfare, he/she may, without notice or hearing, issue an order reciting the existence of such an emergency and requiring that such action be taken as he/she deems necessary to meet the emergency. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Chapter, such order shall be effective immediately. Any person to whom such order is directed shall comply therewith immediately, but upon petition to the Building Inspector shall be afforded a hearing as soon as possible. After such hearing, depending upon his/her findings as to whether the provisions of this Chapter and of the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto have been complied with, the Building Inspector shall continue such order in effect, or modify it, or revoke it.
- (g) Determinations of the Building Inspector under this Section may be appealed to the Board of Appeals using the procedures prescribed in Title 13, Chapter 1 of this Code of Ordinances.

Title 15 ▶ Chapter 5

Commercial Property Exterior Maintenance Code

15-5-1	Title
15-5-2	Intent and Purpose
15-5-3	Rules and Definitions
15-5-4	Safe, Sanitary and Attractive Maintenance of Property
15-5-5	Fixing Responsibility of Owners, Operators and Occupants
15-5-6	Enforcement, Service of Notices and Orders and Hearings

Sec. 15-5-1 Title.

This Chapter shall be known as the City of Amery Commercial Property Exterior Maintenance Code.

Sec. 15-5-2 Intent and Purpose.

- (a) This Chapter is adopted for the purpose of preserving and promoting the public health, safety, comfort, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of the people of the City and environs. This includes, among others, physical, aesthetic and monetary values.
- (b) It is recognized that there may now be or may, in the future, be commercial buildings, structures, yards, or vacant areas and combinations thereof which are so dilapidated, unsafe, dangerous, unhygienic, or inadequately maintained so as to constitute a menace to the health, safety, and general welfare of the people. The establishment and enforcement of minimum commercial property maintenance standards is necessary to preserve and promote the private and public interest.

Sec. 15-5-3 Rules and Definitions.

- (a) **Rules.** In the construction of this Chapter, the rules and definitions contained in this Section shall be observed and applied except when the context clearly indicates otherwise:
 - (1) Words used in the present tense shall include the future.
 - (2) Words used in the singular number shall include the plural number, and the plural the singular.

- (3) The word "shall" is mandatory and not discretionary.
 - (4) The word "may" is permissive.
 - (5) The phrase "used for" shall include the phrases "arranged for," "designed for," "intended for," "maintained for," and "occupied for."
- (b) **Definitions.** The definitions found in Section 15-4-3 shall be applicable in this Chapter.

Sec. 15-5-4 Safe, Sanitary, and Attractive Maintenance of Property.

- (a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this Section is to recognize the private and public benefits resulting from the safe, sanitary, and attractive maintenance of commercial buildings, structures, yards, or vacant areas. Attractive and well-maintained property will enhance the neighborhood and City and provide a suitable environment for increasing physical and monetary values.
- (b) **Minimum Requirements.** Every owner or operator shall improve and maintain all property under their control to comply with the following minimum requirements:
- (1) **Drainage.** All courts, yards, or other areas on the premises shall be properly graded to divert water away from any building or structure.
 - (2) **Weeds.** All exterior property areas shall be kept free from noxious weeds as required by this Code of Ordinances. Where weed cutting is required, the Weed Commissioner shall perform said weed cutting and process the charge therefor as a special assessment against the benefitted property.
 - (3) **Debris.** All exterior property areas shall be properly maintained in a clean and sanitary condition free from debris, rubbish or garbage, physical hazards, rodent harborage and infestation, and animal feces. All animal feces shall be removed within twenty-four (24) hours.
 - (4) **Fences, Walks, and Parking Areas.** Fences, other minor construction, walks, driveways, parking areas, and similar paved areas shall be properly maintained in a safe, sanitary, and substantial condition. Approved walks shall provide all-weather access to buildings or structures.
 - (5) **Exterior Surfaces.** Exterior surfaces of buildings and structures not inherently resistant to deterioration shall be treated with a protective coating of paint or other suitable preservative which will provide adequate resistance to weathering and maintain an attractive appearance. Any exterior surface treated with paint or other preservative shall be maintained so as to prevent chipping, cracking or other deterioration of the exterior surface or the surface treatment and to present an attractive appearance. All paint or other preservative shall be applied in a workmanlike fashion.
 - (6) **Yard Areas.** Yard areas of real estate shall not be permitted to deteriorate or remain in a condition that is not in accord with the following: Yard areas shall be kept in

- a clean and sanitary condition, free from any accumulation of combustible or non-combustible materials (which are not used as an integral part of the authorized business carried out on the premises), debris, or refuse. Unless in a properly zoned district and screened by a visual barrier at least five (5) feet high, yards shall not be used to store appliances, furnaces, hot water heaters, water softeners, or building material not used within five (5) days, or any unsightly bulk items, unless these items are raw materials used in the business carried out on the premises.
- (7) **General Requirements.** Every foundation, exterior wall, and roof shall be reasonably weathertight, watertight, and rodentproof and shall be kept in proper repair and shall be capable of affording privacy. Any hazardous sagging or bulging shall be properly repaired to a level or plumb position. All chimneys and breeching shall be so constructed and maintained so as to insure that it safely and properly removes the products of combustion from the building.
- (8) **Windows and Doors.** Every window, exterior door, and basement hatchway shall be reasonably weathertight, watertight, and rodentproof and kept in proper repair. All door and window hardware shall be installed and maintained in proper working condition.
- (9) **Outside Stairs and Porches.** Every outside stair, every porch, and every appurtenance thereto shall be so constructed as to be safe to use and capable of supporting the load that normal use may cause to be placed thereon, and shall be kept in proper condition and repair and shall present an attractive appearance. All exterior stairs and steps and every appurtenance thereto shall comply with the requirements specified in the Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- (10) **Removal of Debris.**
- a. No person shall dispose of rocks, trees, stumps, waste building material, or other debris from land development, building construction, street grading, or installation of underground utilities upon the surface of any land in the City, except at approved disposal sites.
 - b. No land owner shall allow an accumulation of rocks, trees, stumps, waste building material or other debris from land development, building construction, street grading, or installation of underground utilities upon the surface of his/her land for a period of more than ten (10) days.
 - c. All land filling operations shall be leveled off to permit the mowing of the weeds between June 1 and November 1. This includes the removal of stones, bottles, wire, and other debris that will interfere with mowing operations.

Sec. 15-5-5 Fixing Responsibility of Owners, Operators and Occupants.

Every owner, operator, or occupant of a commercial property, or part thereof, shall maintain that portion of the exterior of the property controlled by him.

Sec. 15-5-6 Enforcement, Service of Notices and Orders and Hearings.

Whenever the Building Inspector determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that there has been a violation of any provision of this Chapter or of any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, he/she shall give notice of such alleged violation to the person or persons responsible therefor and commence an enforcement action pursuant to Section 15-4-10.

Title 15 ▶ Chapter 6

Grievances Regarding Access to Public Buildings, Programs, Services and Employment

15-6-1 Grievance Procedures Regarding Access to Public Buildings, Programs, Services and Employment

Sec. 15-6-1 Grievance Procedures Regarding Access to Public Buildings, Programs, Services and Employment.

(a) **Statement of Purpose.**

- (1) The City of Amery, in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), 42 USC Sec. 12101, has developed a plan by which access to all City programs, facilities, services and employment is guaranteed to all citizens. A transition plan has been adopted by the Common Council and is available from the City Administrator. An ADA Coordinator has been appointed and an ADA Compliance Committee established. Concerns and/or complaints can be addressed to the ADA Coordinator, care of the City of Amery Administrator.
- (2) The ADA Coordinator and ADA Compliance Committee shall be annually appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Common Council, at the Council's organizational meeting. The ADA Compliance Committee shall consist of five (5) members, and shall, if possible, have representatives from the following fields:
 - a. Business and/or non-profit organization.
 - b. Education.
 - c. Disabled representative.
 - d. Elected official.
 - e. Health/medical.
- (3) In the alternative to the committee structure in Subsection (a)(2) above, the Common Council may designate a standing committee to serve as the ADA Compliance Committee.
- (4) City letterhead and other applicable printed notices should contain the words "An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer."
- (5) An ADA Committee meeting shall be treated as any other City committee meeting and notice shall be posted a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

15-6-1

(b) **Complaint Procedure.**

- (1) Complaints shall be filed with the ADA Coordinator, in care of the City Administrator.
- (2) A complaint shall be filed in writing, contain the name and address of the person filing it, and briefly describe the alleged violation or complaint.
- (3) A complaint should be filed within thirty (30) days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged problem.
- (4) An investigation, as may be appropriate, shall follow a filing of a complaint. The investigation will be conducted by the ADA Coordinator.
- (5) A written determination as to the validity of the complaint and description of the resolution, if any, shall be issued by the ADA Coordinator and a copy forwarded to the complainant no later than twenty (20) days after its filing.
- (6) The City Administrator shall maintain the files and records of the City relating to the complaints filed.

(c) **Appeals.**

- (1) If unresolved, the complainant or ADA Coordinator may ask that the complaint be forwarded to the ADA Compliance Committee. The Committee may establish rules to review the complaint and will issue its written decision within thirty (30) days. Review will be conducted in public with a minimum twenty-four (24) hour notice. All proceedings will be transcribed and maintained. The Committee will also review requests or suggestions from disabled persons regarding access to and participation in public facilities, services, activities and functions in the community.
- (2) If unresolved, the complainant or ADA Coordinator may ask that the complaint be heard by the Common Council and that a determination be made within thirty (30) days of the ADA Compliance Committee's hearing. The decision by the Board shall be final. An open, public meeting of the Common Council shall precede the vote.

(d) **Other Remedies.** The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other state or federal remedies. Utilization of this grievance procedure is not a prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies. However, the City believes that resolution of the complaint will be more promptly achieved if the City is able to provide a remedy before the complaint is brought to an external organization.

(e) **Due Process.** This Section shall be construed to protect the substantive rights of interested persons and to meet appropriate due process standards.

Title 15 ► Chapter 7

Historic Preservation

15-7-1	Purpose and Intent
15-7-2	Definitions
15-7-3	Historic Preservation Commission
15-7-4	Historic Structure, historic Site and Historic District Designation Criteria
15-7-5	Powers and Duties of Commission
15-7-6	Procedures
15-7-7	Interim Control
15-7-8	Penalties for Violations

Sec. 15-7-1 Purpose and Intent.

It is hereby declared a matter of public policy that the protection, enhancement, perpetuation and use of improvements or sites of special character or special architectural or historic interest or value is a public necessity and is required in the interest of the health, prosperity, safety and welfare of the people. The purpose of this Section is to:

- (a) Effect and accomplish the protection, enhancement and preservation of such improvements, sites and districts which represent or reflect elements of the City of Amery's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history.
- (b) Safeguard the City of Amery's historic prehistoric and cultural heritage, as embodied and reflected in such historic structures, sites and districts.
- (c) Stabilize and improve property values, and enhance the visual and aesthetic character of the City of Amery.
- (d) Protect and enhance the City of Amery's attractions to residents, tourists and visitors, and serve as a support and stimulus to business and industry.

Sec. 15-7-2 Definitions.

The following definitions shall be applicable in this Chapter:

- (a) **Certificate of Appropriateness.** The certificate issued by the Commission approving alteration, rehabilitation, construction, reconstruction or demolition of a historic structure, historic site or any improvement in a historic district.

- (b) **Historic District.** An area designated by the Common Council on recommendation of the Commission, that contains two (2) or more historic improvements or sites.
- (c) **Historic Site.** Any parcel of land of historic significance due to a substantial value in tracing the history or prehistory of man, or upon which a historic event has occurred, and which has been designated as a historic site under this Chapter, or an improvement parcel, or part thereof, on which is situated a historic structure and any abutting improvement parcel, or part thereof, used as and constituting part of the premises on which the historic structure is situated.
- (d) **Historic Structure.** Any improvement which has a special character or special historic interest or value as part of the development heritage or cultural characteristics of the City of Amery, state, or nation and which has been designated as a historic structure pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter.
- (e) **Improvement.** Any building, structure, place, work of art or other object constituting a physical betterment of real property, or any part of such betterment, including streets, alleys, sidewalks, curbs, lighting fixtures, signs and the like.

Sec. 15-7-3 Historic Preservation Commission.

A Historic Preservation Commission is hereby created, consisting of five (5) members. Of the membership, one (1) shall be an Alderperson, and four (4) shall be citizen members. Each member shall have, to the highest extent practicable, a known interest in historic preservation. The Mayor shall appoint the Commissioners subject to confirmation by the Common Council.

Sec. 15-7-4 Historic Structure, Historic Site and Historic District Designation Criteria.

- (a) For purposes of this Chapter, a historic structure, historic site, or historic district designation may be placed on any site, natural or improved, including any building, improvement or structure located thereon, or any area of particular historic, architectural, archaeological or cultural significance to the City of Amery such as historic structures, sites, or districts which:
 - (1) Exemplify or reflect the broad cultural, political, economic, or social history of the nation, state or community; or
 - (2) Are identified with historic personages or with important events in national, state or local history; or
 - (3) Embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen inherently valuable for a study of a period, style, method of construction, or of indigenous materials or craftsmanship;

- (4) Are representative of the notable work of a master builder, designer or architect who influenced his/her age; or
- (5) Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history.
- (b) The Commission shall adopt specific operating guidelines for historic structure, historic site and historic district designation providing such are in conformance with the provisions of this Chapter.

Sec. 15-7-5 Powers and Duties of Commission.

- (a) **Designation.** The Commission shall have the power, subject to Section 15-7-6, to designate historic structures and historic sites and to recommend designation of historic districts within the City of Amery limits. Such designations shall be made based on Section 15-7-4. Historic districts shall be approved by the Common Council. Once designated, such historic structures, sites and districts shall be subject to all the provisions of this Chapter.
- (b) **Regulation of Construction, Reconstruction, Alteration and Demolition.**
 - (1) No owner or person in charge of a historic structure, historic site or structure within a historic district shall reconstruct, alter or demolish all or any part of the exterior of such property or construct any improvement upon such designated property or properties or cause or permit any such work to be performed upon such property or demolish such property unless a Certificate of Appropriateness has been granted by the Historic Preservation Commission. Unless such certificate has been granted by the Commission, the Building Inspector shall not issue a permit for any such work.
 - (2) Upon filing any application for a Certificate of Appropriateness with the Commission, the Commission shall approve the application unless:
 - a. In the case of a designated historic structure or historic site, the proposed work would detrimentally change, destroy or adversely affect any exterior architectural feature of the improvement or site upon which said work is to be done;
 - b. In the case of the construction of a new improvement upon a historic site, or within a historic district, the exterior of such improvement would adversely affect or not harmonize with the external appearance of other neighboring improvements on such site or within the district;
 - c. In the case of any property located in a historic district, the proposed construction, reconstruction, exterior alteration or demolition does not conform to the purpose and intent of this Chapter and to the objectives and design criteria of the historic preservation plan for said district;
 - d. The building or structure is of such architectural or historical significance that its demolition would be detrimental to the public interest and contrary to the general welfare of the people of the City of Amery and state;

- e. In the case of a request for the demolition of a deteriorated building or structure, any economic hardship or difficulty claimed by the owner is self-created or is the result of any failure to maintain the property in good repair.
- (3) If the Commission determines that the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness and the proposed changes are consistent with the character and features of the property or district, it shall issue the Certificate of Appropriateness. The Commission shall make this decision within forty-five (45) days of the filing of the application.
- (4) The issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness shall not relieve the applicant from obtaining other permits and approvals required by the City of Amery. A building permit or other municipal permit shall be invalid if it is obtained without the presentation of the Certificate of Appropriateness required for the proposed work.
- (5) Ordinary maintenance and repairs may be undertaken without a Certificate of Appropriateness, provided that the work involves repairs to existing features of a historic structure or site or the replacement of elements of a structure with pieces identical in appearance, and provided that the work does not change the exterior appearance of the structure or site and does not require the issuance of a building permit.
- (c) **Appeals.** Should the Commission fail to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness due to the failure of the proposal to conform to the guidelines, the applicant may appeal such decision to the Common Council within thirty (30) days. In addition, if the Commission fails to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness, the Commission shall, with the cooperation of the applicant, work with the applicant in an attempt to obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness within the guidelines of this Chapter.
- (d) **Recognition of Historic Structures, Sites and Districts.** At such times as a historic structure, site or district has been properly designated, the Commission, in cooperation with the property owner, may cause to be prepared and erected on such property at the City of Amery's expense, a suitable plaque declaring that such property is a historic structure, site or district.

Sec. 15-7-6 Procedures.

- (a) **Designation of Historic Structures, Historic Sites and Historic Districts.**
 - (1) The Commission may, after notice and public hearing, designate historic structures, historic sites and recommend historic districts, or rescind such designation or recommendation, after application of the criteria in Section 15-7-4 above. At least ten (10) days prior to such hearing, the Commission shall notify the owners of record, as listed in the office of the City Assessor, who are owners of property in whole or in part situated within two hundred (200) feet of the boundaries of the property affected.
 - (2) The Commission shall then conduct such public hearing and, in addition to the notified persons, may hear expert witnesses and shall have the power to subpoena

such witnesses and records as it deems necessary. The Commission may conduct an independent investigation into the proposed designation or rescission. Within ten (10) days after the close of the public hearing, the Commission may designate the property as either a historic structure, historic site, or recommend its inclusion in a historic district, or rescind the designation. After the designation or rescission has been made, notification shall be sent to the property owner or owners. Notification shall also be given the City Administrator, Building Inspector, Plan Commission and the City Assessor. The Commission shall cause the designation or rescission to be recorded, at City of Amery expense, in the County Register of Deeds office, or the recommendation be submitted to the Common Council as provided by Subsection (b) below.

(b) **Creation of Historic District.**

- (1) For preservation purposes, the Historic Preservation Commission shall select geographically defined areas within the City of Amery to be designated as Historic Districts and shall prepare a historic preservation plan for each area. A Historic District may be designated for any geographic area of particular historic, architectural or cultural significance to the City of Amery, after application of the criteria in Section 15-7-4 above. Each historic preservation plan prepared for or by the Historic Preservation Commission shall include a cultural and architectural analysis supporting the historic significance of the area, the specific guidelines for development, and a statement of preservation objectives.
- (2) Review and adoption procedure:
 - a. Historic Preservation Commission. The Historic Preservation Commission shall hold a public hearing when considering the plan for a Historic District. Notice of the time, place and purpose of the public hearing shall be sent by the City Administrator to the Alderpersons in which the Historic District is located, and the owners of record, as listed in the office of the City Assessor, who are owners of the property within the proposed Historic District or are situated in whole or in part within two hundred (200) feet of the boundaries of the proposed Historic District. Said notice is to be sent at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the public hearing. Following the public hearing, the Historic Preservation Commission shall vote to recommend, reject or withhold action on the plan.
 - b. The Common Council. The Common Council, upon receipt of the recommendations from the Historic Preservation Commission, shall hold a public hearing, notice to be given as noted in Subsection a. above, and shall following the public hearing, either designate or reject the Historic District. Designation of the Historic District shall constitute adoption of the plan prepared for that district and direct the implementation of said plan.

Sec. 15-7-7 Interim Control.

No building permit shall be issued by the Building Inspector for alteration, construction, demolition, or removal of a nominated historic structure, historic site, or any property or structure within a nominated historic district from the date of the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission at which a nomination form is first presented until the final disposition of the nomination by the Historic Preservation Commission or the Common Council, unless such alteration, removal or demolition is authorized by formal resolution of the Common Council as necessary for public health, welfare or safety. In no event shall the delay be for more than one hundred eighty (180) days.

Sec. 15-7-8 Penalties for Violations.

Any person or persons violating any provision of this Chapter shall be subject to a forfeiture pursuant to Section 1-1-7 for each separate violation. Each and every day during which a violation continues shall be deemed to be a separate offense. Notice of violation shall be issued by the Building Inspector.

Title 15 ▶ Chapter 8

Rental Housing Code

15-8-1	Definitions
15-8-2	Inspections
15-8-3	Enforcement; Service of Notices and Orders; Hearings
15-8-4	Minimum Standards for Basic Equipment and Facilities
15-8-5	Minimum Standards for Light, Ventilation and Heating
15-8-6	Requirements Regarding Safe and Sanitary Maintenance
15-8-7	Minimum Space, Use and Location Requirements
15-8-8	Minimum Requirements
15-8-9	Responsibilities of Owners and Occupants
15-8-10	Licensing of Rooming Houses
15-8-11	Designation of Unfit Rental Dwellings; Condemnation
15-8-12	Rental Housing License; Fees
15-8-13	Penalty

Sec. 15-8-1 Definitions.

- (a) **Chapter Definitions.** The following definitions will apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this Chapter:
- (1) **Basement.** A space of full story height below the first floor which is not designed or used primarily for year around living accommodations. Space, partly below grade, which is designed and finished as habitable space is not defined as basement space. (Ref: see pg. 14, FHA No. 300, dated 1-1960). This shall be referred to throughout this Chapter.
 - (2) **Building Inspector.** The Building Inspector of the City of Amery or his/her authorized representative.
 - (3) **Cellar.** A portion of a building located partly or wholly underground and having two-thirds or more of its clear floor-to-ceiling height above the average grade of the adjoining ground (see "Basement" for reference).
 - (4) **Rental Dwelling.** Any building which is wholly or partly used or intended to be used for living or sleeping by human occupants, provided temporary housing as hereinafter defined shall not be regarded as a rental dwelling.

- (5) **Rental Dwelling Unit.** Any room or group of rooms located within a rental dwelling and forming a single habitable unit with facilities which are used or intended to be used for living, sleeping, cooking, and eating.
- (6) **Extermination.** The control and elimination of insects, rodents, or other pests by eliminating their harborage places, by removing or making inaccessible materials which may serve as their food, by poisoning, spraying, fumigating, trapping, or by other recognized and legal pest elimination methods approved by the Building Inspector.
- (7) **Garage.** The animal and vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food.
- (8) **Habitable Room.** A room or other enclosed floor space used or intended to be used for living, sleeping, cooking, or eating purposes, excluding bathrooms, watercloset compartments, laundries, pantries, foyers or communicating corridors, closets, and storage space.
- (9) **Infestation.** The presence within or around a rental dwelling of any insects, rodents or other pests.
- (10) **Multiple Rental Dwelling.** Any rental dwelling containing more than two (2) rental dwelling units.
- (11) **Occupant.** Any person over one year of age living, sleeping, cooking, or eating in or having possession of a rental dwelling unit or rooming unit.
- (12) **Operator.** Any person who has charge, care or control of a building, or part thereof, in which rental dwelling units or rooming units are offered for rent.
- (13) **Ordinary Minimum Winter Conditions.** The temperature which is 15 degrees Fahrenheit above the lower recorded temperature for the previous ten (10) year period. (Lowest temperature 19 degrees Fahrenheit). Figure, winter base temperature not less -15 degrees Fahrenheit with inside room temperature of +70 degrees Fahrenheit minimum for range. (Bathroom +80 degrees Fahrenheit).
- (14) **Owner.** Any person who, alone or jointly, or severally with others"
 - a. Shall have legal title to any rental dwelling unit, with or without accompanying actual possession thereof, provided, whenever the rental dwelling or dwelling unit is subject to conditional sales contract, lease with option to purchase, or any other form of written contract under the terms of which any person is entitled to a conveyance of legal title upon payment of a specified sum. "Owner" shall mean the person who shall have such a contractual right, rather than the person who is holding the legal title; or
 - b. Shall have charge, care or control of any rental dwelling or dwelling unit as executor, executrix, trustee, receiver, or guardian of the owner as defined in Subsection (a)(14)a. Any such person thus representing the actual owner shall be bound to comply with this Chapter to the same extent as if he/she were the owner. Any person acting as the agent of the owner shall not be construed to be

the owner within the terms of this Chapter, but shall be bound to notify the owner, by means of a certified letter addressed to the owner at his/her last known address, of any order or notice to be issued by the Building Inspector relating to the property of the owner.

- (15) **Person.** Includes any individual, firm, corporation, association or partnership.
- (16) **Plumbing.** Includes all of the following supplied facilities and equipment, gas pipes, gas burning equipment, water pipes, garbage disposal equipment, waste pipes, water closets, sinks, installed dishwashers, lavatories, bathtubs, shower baths, installed clothes washing machines, catch basins, drains, vents, floor drains, laundry traps, drinking fountains, gutters, downspouts, area drains, lines, sanitary and storm sewer systems; also subsoil drainage and other supplied fixtures together with all connections to water, sewer or gas lines.
- (17) **Rooming Unit.** Any room or group of rooms forming a single habitable unit used or intended to be used for living and sleeping, but not for cooking or eating purposes.
- (18) **Rooming House.** Any rental dwelling, or that part of any rental dwelling, containing one or more rooming units, in which space is let by the owner or operator to five (5) or more persons who are not husband or wife, sister or brother, son or daughter or father or mother of the owner(s) or operator(s).
- (19) **Rubbish.** Combustible or noncombustible waste materials, except garbage; and the term shall include the residue from the burning of wood, coal, coke, and other combustible material, paper, rags, cartons, boxes, wood excelsior, trimmings, leaves, tin cans, metals, mineral matter, glass, crockery or dust.
- (20) **Supplies.** Paid for, furnished or provided by or under the control of the owner or operator.
- (21) **Temporary Housing.** Any tent, trailer, or other structure used for human shelter which is designed to be transportable and which is not attached to the ground, to another structure or any utilities system on the same premises for more than thirty (30) consecutive days.
- (22) **Definitions Interpretation.** Whenever the words "rental dwelling," "rental dwelling unit," "rooming house," or "premises" are used in this Chapter, they shall be construed as though they were followed by the words "or any part thereof."

Sec. 15-8-2 Inspections.

The Building Inspector shall make biennial inspections to determine the condition of rental dwellings, rental dwelling units, and premises located within the City, in order that he/she may perform his/her duty of safeguarding the health and safety of the occupants of rental dwellings and of the general public. For the purpose of making such inspections, the Building Inspector may enter, examine, and survey, at proper time after due notice, all rental dwelling units, rooming units and premises. The owner or occupant of every rental dwelling, rental dwelling unit and

rooming unit, or the person in charge thereof, shall give the Building Inspector access to such rental dwelling, rental dwelling unit or rooming unit and its premises, at proper times after due notice, for the purpose of such inspection, examination and survey. Every occupant of a rental dwelling unit or rental dwelling shall give the owner thereof, or his/her agent or employee, access to any part of such rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit, or its premises, at all reasonable times for the purpose of making such repairs or alterations as are necessary to affect compliance with the provisions of this Chapter.

Sec. 15-8-3 Enforcement; Service of Notices and Orders; Hearings.

- (a) **Notice.** Whenever the Building Inspector determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that there has been a violation of any provision of this Chapter which affects the health of the occupants of any rental dwelling, rental dwelling unit or rooming unit or the health of the general public, or whenever the Building Inspector determines that there are reasonable grounds to believe that there has been a violation of any such provision which affects the safety of any such occupants or the safety of the general public, the Building Inspector shall give notice of such alleged violation to the person or persons responsible therefore, and to any known agent of such person, as hereinafter provided. Such notice shall:
- (1) Be put in writing.
 - (2) Include a statement of the reasons why it is being issued.
 - (3) Allow a reasonable time for the performance of any act it requires.
 - (4) Be served upon the owner or his/her agent, or the occupant, as the case may require, provided such notice shall be deemed to be properly served upon such owner or agent, or upon such occupant, if a copy thereof is served upon him/her personally, or if a copy thereof is sent by certified mail to his/her last known address, or if a copy thereof is posted in a conspicuous place in or about the rental dwelling affected by the notice, or if he/she is served with such notice by any other method authorized or required under the laws of the state.
 - (5) Shall contain an outline of remedial action which, if taken, will affect compliance with the provisions of this Chapter.
- (b) **Hearing.** Any person affected by any such notice issued by the Building Inspector may request a hearing on the matter before the Common Council, provided such person shall file in the Office of the Building Inspector within ten (10) days after service of the notice, a written petition requesting such hearing and setting forth a brief statement of the grounds therefor. Upon receipt of such petition, the Building Inspector shall arrange a time and place for such hearing and shall give the petitioner written notice thereof. Such hearing shall be held as soon as practicable after the receipt of request therefor. At such hearing, the petitioner shall be given an opportunity to be heard and show cause why such notice should not be complied with.

- (c) **Action After Hearing.** After such hearing, the Common Council shall sustain, modify, or withdraw the notice, depending upon its findings, as to whether the provisions of this Chapter have been complied with. If the Common Council shall sustain or modify such notice, it shall be deemed to be so ordered.
- (d) **Notice To Be An Order If Not Appealed.** Any notice served pursuant to Subsection (a) shall automatically become an order if a written petition for a hearing is not filed in the Office of the Building Inspector within ten (10) days after such notice is served.
- (e) **Revocation.** After a hearing in the case of any notice suspending any permit required by this Chapter, when such notice has been sustained by the Common Council, the permit shall be deemed to have been revoked. Any such permit which has been suspended by a notice shall be deemed to be automatically revoked if a petition for hearing is not filed in the Office of Building Inspector within ten (10) days after such notice is served.
- (f) **Record of Hearing.** The proceeding at such hearing, including the findings and decision of the Common Council, shall be summarized, reduced to writing, and entered as a matter of public record in the offices of the City. Such record shall also include a copy of every notice or order issued in connection with the matter.
- (g) **Appeal to Court.** Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Common Council may seek relief therefrom in any court of competent jurisdiction as provided by the laws of Wisconsin.
- (h) **Emergency Orders.** Whenever the Building Inspector finds that an emergency exists which requires immediate action to protect the public health and/or safety, he/she may, without notice or hearing, issue an order reciting the existence of such an emergency and requiring that such action be taken as he/she deems necessary to meet the emergency. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Chapter, such order shall be effective immediately, but upon petition to the Building Inspector, the person subject to the order shall be afforded a hearing as soon as possible in the manner provided in Subsection (b). After such hearing, depending upon the findings as to whether the provisions of this Chapter have been complied with, the Common Council shall continue such order in effect, or modify it or revoke it.

Sec. 15-8-4 Minimum Standards for Basic Equipment and Facilities.

No person shall occupy as owner/occupant, or let to another for occupancy, any rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit for the purpose of living, sleeping, cooking, or eating therein, which does not comply with the following requirements:

- (a) **Kitchen Sink.** Every dwelling unit shall contain a kitchen sink in good working condition and properly connected to a water and sanitary sewer system approved by the Building Inspector.
- (b) **Bathroom.** Every rental dwelling unit shall contain a room within its walls, separate from the habitable rooms, which affords privacy to a person within said room and which is

equipped with a flush water closet, a lavatory basin and a bathtub and/or shower and the necessary fixtures and accessories therefor in good working condition and properly connected to hot and cold water lines and sanitary sewer system approved by the Building Inspector.

- (c) **Connection of Facilities.** The tub and/or shower required under this Chapter and every kitchen sink, lavatory basin, and bath shall be properly connected with public water lines.
- (d) **Rubbish Storage.** Every rental dwelling unit shall be supplied with adequate rubbish storage facilities conforming to City ordinances.
- (e) **Garbage Disposal Facilities.** Every rental dwelling unit shall have adequate garbage disposal facilities or garbage storage containers.
- (f) **Egress.** Every rental dwelling unit shall have safe, unobstructed means of egress heading to safe and open space at ground level, as required by the laws of the State of Wisconsin and ordinances of the City.

Sec. 15-8-5 Minimum Standards for Light, Ventilation and Heating.

No person shall occupy as owner/occupant or let to another person for occupancy any rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit, for the purpose of living there, which does not comply with the following requirements:

- (a) **Window Area.** Every habitable room shall have at least one window or skylight facing directly to the outdoors. The minimum total window area, measured between stops for every habitable room, shall be ten percent (10%) of the floor area of such room.
- (b) **Openable Window Area.** Every habitable room shall have at least one window or skylight which can easily be opened or such other device as will adequately ventilate the room. The total of openable window area in every habitable room shall be equal to not less than four percent (4%) of the floor area, except where there is supplied a mechanical device affording adequate ventilation.
- (c) **Bathrooms and Water Closets.** Every bathroom and water closet compartment shall comply with the light and ventilation requirements for habitable rooms contained in Subsections (a) and (b), except that no window or skylight shall be required in bathrooms and water closet compartments equipped with a mechanical ventilation system.
- (d) **Heating Facilities.** Every rental dwelling shall have heating facilities which are properly installed, maintained in safe and good working conditions, and capable of safely and adequately heating all habitable rooms, bathrooms and water closet compartments in every rental dwelling unit located therein to a temperature of at least Seventy (70) degrees Fahrenheit, at a distance of thirty (30) inches above floor level, under ordinary minimum winter conditions.
- (e) **Lighting.** Every public hall and stairway in every multiple rental dwelling shall be adequately lighted in conformity with the current issue of the National Electrical Code and the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

- (f) **Basement Windows.** Every basement shall receive natural and artificial light and shall be ventilated according to Federal Housing Administration and Wisconsin Administrative Code requirements. Every basement or cellar window used or intended to be used for ventilation, and every other opening to a basement which might provide an entry for rodents, shall be supplied with a screen or such other device as will effectively prevent their entrance.

Sec. 15-8-6 Requirements Regarding Safe and Sanitary Maintenance.

No person shall occupy as owner/occupant or let to another for occupancy any rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit, for the purpose of living therein, which does not comply with the following:

- (a) **Foundations, Floors, Ceilings, Roofs.** Every foundation, floor, wall, ceiling, and roof shall be reasonably weather tight, watertight, and rodent-proof; shall be capable of affording privacy; and shall be kept in good repair.
- (b) **Skylights, Exterior Doors, Basement Hatchways.** Every window skylight, exterior door, and basement hatchway shall be reasonably weather-tight, watertight and rodent-proof, and shall be kept in sound working condition and good repair.
- (c) **Stairs, Porches and Appurtenances.** Every inside and outside stairs, porch and appurtenance thereto shall be so constructed as to be safe to use and capable of supporting any load that normal use may cause to be placed thereon, and shall be kept in sound condition and good repair.
- (d) **Plumbing Fixtures and Water Waste Pipes.** Every plumbing fixture and water waste pipe shall be properly installed and maintained in good sanitary working condition, free from defects, leaks and obstructions.
- (e) **Bathroom Floor Surface.** Every water closet compartment floor surface and bathroom floor surface shall be constructed and maintained so as to be reasonably imperious to water and as to permit such floor to be easily kept in a clean and sanitary condition.
- (f) **Safe Installation Required.** Every supplied facility, piece of equipment, or utility which is required under this Section shall be so constructed or installed that it will function safely and effectively, and shall be maintained in satisfactory working condition.
- (g) **Disconnection of Utilities Prohibited.** No owner, operator, or occupant shall cause any service facility, equipment or utility which is required under this Section to be removed from or shut off from or discontinued for any occupied rental dwelling let or occupied by him/her except for such temporary interruption as may be necessary while actual repair or alterations are in progress, or during temporary emergencies or when discontinuance of service is approved by the Building Inspector.
- (h) **Rented Premises To Be Fit For Human Occupancy.** No owner shall occupy or let to any other occupant any vacant rental dwelling unit unless it is clean, sanitary and fit for human occupancy.

Sec. 15-8-7 Minimum Space, Use and Location Requirements.

No person shall occupy or let to another for occupancy any rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit, for the purpose of living therein, which does not comply with the following requirements:

- (a) **Gross Floor Area.** Every rental dwelling unit shall contain a minimum gross floor area of not less than one hundred fifty (150) square feet for the first occupant, one hundred (100) square feet for the second occupant, and seventy-five (75) square feet for each additional occupant. The floor area shall be calculated on the basis of the total area of all habitable rooms.
- (b) **Sleeping Rooms.** In every rental dwelling unit of two (2) or more rooms, every room occupied for sleeping purposes by one occupant shall contain at least eighty (80) square feet of floor space, and every room occupied for sleeping purposes by more than one occupant shall contain at least forty (40) square feet of floor space for each occupant thereof over twelve (12) years of age and at least thirty (30) square feet for each occupant thereof under twelve (12) years of age.
- (c) **Ceiling Heights.** At least one-half of the floor area of every habitable room shall have a ceiling height of at least seven (7') feet six (6") inches, and the floor area of that part of any room where the ceiling height is less than five (5) feet shall not be considered as part of the floor area in computing the total floor area of the room for the purpose of determining the maximum permissible occupancy thereof.
- (d) **Basement Rental Dwelling.** No basement or cellar space shall be used as a rental dwelling unit unless it complies with the "Minimum Property Requirements #300" of the Federal Housing Administration, as revised.

Sec. 15-8-8 Minimum Requirements.

- (a) **Water Heating Facilities.** Every rental dwelling unit shall be supplied with water heating facilities which are installed in an approved manner, properly maintained and capable of heating water to such temperature as to permit an adequate amount of water to be drawn at every required kitchen sink, lavatory basin, bathtub, shower, and laundry facility or other similar units, at a temperature of not less than one hundred ten (110) degrees Fahrenheit at any time needed.
- (b) **Electrical Outlets.**
 - (1) Where there is electric service available to the building, every habitable room of a rental dwelling unit shall contain at least two (2) separate and remote outlets, one of which may be a ceiling or wall-type electric light fixture. Every public hall, bathroom, laundry room or furnace room shall contain at least one electric light fixture. In addition, every bathroom and laundry room shall be provided with at least one electric outlet.
 - (2) In wet or damp areas, GFI switches shall be installed.

- (c) **Screen Requirements.** From May 1 to October 1, every rental dwelling unit, for protection against mosquitoes, flies and other insects, shall have supplied and installed screens and a self-closing device for every door opening directly from a rental dwelling unit to outdoor space; and every window or other device with openings to outdoor space, used or intended to be used for ventilation, shall likewise be supplied with screens installed.
- (d) **Fire Extinguishers.** Each rental unit shall have a minimum of one fire extinguisher available within the unit, maintained in proper working order.
- (e) **Smoke Detectors.**
- (1) **Scope.** The requirements of this Subsection shall apply to all new and existing housing rental units, including, but not limited to, apartments, rooming houses and dwellings containing rooming units, university residence halls, hotels, motels, group homes, day care nurseries, homes for the aged and infirm, convalescent homes, one (1) and two (2) family rental units, mobile home rental units and other places of abode for which rent or a fee is obtained.
 - (2) **Definitions.** The following definitions shall be applicable in this Subsection:
 - a. **Apartment.** A room or suite of rooms which is arranged, designed, used or intended to be used as a housekeeping unit for a single family in a multi-family dwelling.
 - b. **Day Care, Nursery.** A licensed facility where persons provide, for compensation or consideration of service, group care for four (4) or more children under seven (7) years of age for less than twenty-four (24) hours a day.
 - c. **Group Homes.** A facility which provides twenty-four (24) hour service to three (3) or more unrelated adults who reside in a facility where care or treatment or services are offered above the level of room and board, but not including nursing services.
 - d. **Rooming House.** Any dwelling containing one (1) or more rooming units in which space is let to three (3) or more persons for pay or other consideration. It is intended that cooperatives, communes or other unchartered groups of people be included under this definition.
 - e. **Rooming or Lodging Unit.** A room rented as sleeping and living quarters, but without cooking facilities and with or without an individual bathroom. In a suite of rooms without cooking facilities, each room which provides sleeping accommodations shall be counted as one lodging room or rooming unit.
 - f. **Sleeping Area.** The area of the unit in which the bedrooms or sleeping rooms are located. Bedrooms or sleeping rooms separated by another use area such as a kitchen or living room are separate sleeping areas, but bedrooms or sleeping rooms separated by a bathroom are not separate sleeping areas. Each individual room or suite of rooms in hotels or motels is considered a separate area.
 - g. **Smoke Detector.** A device which detects particles or products of combustion other than heat.

- (3) **Requirement.** The owner of any building or housing rental unit within the scope of this Subsection shall install and maintain, within ninety (90) days of the effective date hereof, a smoke detector in each sleeping area, at the head of every open stair, and at the door leading to every enclosed stair on each floor level.
- (4) **Installation and Maintenance.**
 - a. Smoke detectors required under this Subsection shall be approved by Underwriters Laboratory, which, when activated, shall provide an audible alarm.
 - b. Smoke detectors shall be installed according to the directions and specifications of the manufacturer and maintained in good working order.
- (5) **Tampering/Removal.** No person other than the owner shall tamper with, alter or remove any smoke detector, fire extinguisher, fire apparatus or alarm from any building or unit, or a battery therefrom.
- (6) **Enforcement.**
 - a. No owner or operator shall be allowed to rent or allow the occupancy of any property in violation of the provisions of this Subsection.
 - b. The Building Inspector shall not issue a rental license to any owner or operator found to be in violation of the provisions of this Subsection.
- (7) **Penalties.**
 - a. The Building Inspector, Housing Inspector or Fire Inspector shall have the power to issue citations for violations of this Subsection.
 - b. Any person violating any of the terms of this Subsection shall, upon conviction, be subject to a forfeiture as prescribed in Section 1-1-7, together with the costs of prosecution, provided that each day a violation is continued shall be construed to be a separate violation.

Sec. 15-8-9 Responsibilities of Owners and Occupants.

- (a) **Public Areas.** Every owner of a rental dwelling containing more than four (4) dwelling units shall be responsible for maintaining, in a clean and sanitary condition, the shared or public area of the rental dwelling and premises thereof.
- (b) **Duty to Keep in Clean and Sanitary Condition.** Every occupant of a rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit shall keep in a clean and sanitary condition that part of the rental dwelling, rental dwelling unit and premises thereof which he/she occupies and controls.
- (c) **Rubbish Disposal.** Every occupant of a rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit shall dispose of his/her garbage and any other organic waste which might provide food for rodents, in a clean and sanitary manner, by placing it in the garbage storage containers required by Section 15-8-4(e). The owner shall supply such facilities or containers for all rental units in a rental dwelling containing more than four (4) rental dwelling units and from all rental dwelling units located on premises where more than four (4) rental dwelling

units share the same premises. In all other cases it shall be the responsibility of the occupant to furnish such facilities or containers.

- (d) **Hanging Screens.** Every occupant of a rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit shall be responsible for hanging screens whenever the same are required under this Section or under any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, except where the owner has agreed to supply such service.
- (e) **Extermination of Pests.** Every occupant of a rental dwelling unit containing a single rental dwelling unit shall be responsible for the extermination of any insects, rodents or other pests therein or on the premises; and every occupant of a rental dwelling unit in a rental dwelling containing more than one rental dwelling unit shall be responsible for such extermination whenever his/her rental dwelling unit is the only one infested. Notwithstanding such provisions, whenever infestation is caused by failure of the owner to maintain a rental dwelling in a ratproof or reasonable insect-proof condition, extermination shall be the responsibility of the owner.
- (f) **Plumbing Fixtures.** Every occupant of a rental dwelling unit shall keep all plumbing fixtures therein in a clean and sanitary condition and shall be responsible for the exercise of reasonable care in the proper use and operation thereof.

Sec. 15-8-10 Licensing of Rooming Houses.

No person shall operate a rooming house, or shall occupy or let to another for occupancy any rooming unit in any rooming house except in compliance with the provisions of this Section except the provisions of Sections 15-8-4 and 15-8-9. Such person shall also comply with the following:

- (a) **Rooming House License.** No person shall operate a rooming house unless he/she holds a valid rooming house license issued by the Office of the City Administrator in the name of the operator and for the specific rental dwelling unit. The operator shall apply to the Office of the Building Inspector for a permit for license, which shall be issued by the City Administrator upon compliance by the operator to the satisfaction of the Building Inspector with the applicable provisions of this Chapter. This license shall be displayed in a conspicuous place within the rooming house at all times. No such license shall be transferable. Every person holding such a license shall give notice in writing to the Office of City Administrator and/or Building Inspector within twenty-four (24) hours after having sold, transferred, given away, or otherwise disposed of ownership of, interest in or control of any rooming house. Such notice shall include the name and address of the person succeeding to the ownership or control of such rooming house. Every rooming house license shall expire at the end of one year following its date of issuance, unless sooner suspended or revoked as hereinafter provided.
- (b) **Hearing.** Any person whose application for a permit to obtain a license to operate a rooming house has been denied may request and shall be granted a hearing on the matter, under the procedure provided in Section 15-8-3.

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- (c) **Notice of Violation; Suspension of License.** Whenever, upon inspection of any rooming house, the Building Inspector finds that conditions or practices exist which are in violation of any provision of this Chapter, the Building Inspector shall give notice in writing to the operator of such rooming house that, unless such conditions or practices are corrected within a reasonable period, to be determined by the Building Inspector, the operator's rooming house license will be suspended. At the end of such period, the Building Inspector shall reinspect such rooming house, and if he/she finds that such conditions or practices have not been corrected, he/she shall give notice in writing to the operator that the latter's license has been suspended. Upon receipt of notice of suspension, such operator shall immediately cease operation of such rooming house, and no person shall occupy for sleeping or living purposes any rooming unit therein.
- (d) **Hearing.** Any person whose license to operate a rooming house has been suspended, or who has received notice from the Building Inspector that his/her license is to be suspended unless existing conditions or practices at his/her rooming house are corrected, may request and shall be granted a hearing on the matter before the body designated by the Common Council, under the procedure provided by Section 15-8-3, provided if no petition for such hearing is filed within ten (10) days following the day on which such license was suspended, such license shall be deemed to have been automatically revoked.
- (e) **Water Closets, Wash Basin, Bathtub, or Shower.** At least one flush closet, lavatory basin and bathtub or shower, properly connected to a water and sanitary sewer system approved by the Building Inspector and in good working condition, shall be supplied for each ten (10) persons or fraction therefor residing within a rooming house, including members of the operator's family wherever they share the use of the said facilities, provided that in a rooming house where rooms are let only to males, tank system urinals of the floor resting type fixtures may be substituted for not more than one-half of the required number of water closets. All such facilities shall be so located within the rental dwelling as to be reasonably accessible from a common hall or passageway to all persons sharing such facilities. Every lavatory basin and bathtub or shower shall be supplied with hot water at all times. No such facilities shall be located in a basement except by written approval of the Building Inspector.
- (f) **Changing Linen and Towels.** The operator of every rooming house shall change supplied bed linen and towels therein at least once a week, and prior to the letting of any room to any occupant. The operator shall be responsible for the maintenance of all supplied bedding in a clean and sanitary manner.
- (g) **Sleeping Room Areas.** Every room occupied for sleeping purposes by one person shall contain at least eighty (80) square feet of floor space, and every room occupied for sleeping purposes by more than one person shall contain at least forty (40) square feet of floor space for each occupant thereof over twelve (12) years of age and at least thirty (30) square feet for each occupant therein under twelve (12) years of age, as computed in accordance with Section 15-8-7(b).

units share the same premises. In all other cases it shall be the responsibility of the occupant to furnish such facilities or containers.

- (d) **Hanging Screens.** Every occupant of a rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit shall be responsible for hanging screens whenever the same are required under this Section or under any rule or regulation adopted pursuant thereto, except where the owner has agreed to supply such service.
- (e) **Extermination of Pests.** Every occupant of a rental dwelling unit containing a single rental dwelling unit shall be responsible for the extermination of any insects, rodents or other pests therein or on the premises; and every occupant of a rental dwelling unit in a rental dwelling containing more than one rental dwelling unit shall be responsible for such extermination whenever his/her rental dwelling unit is the only one infested. Notwithstanding such provisions, whenever infestation is caused by failure of the owner to maintain a rental dwelling in a ratproof or reasonable insect-proof condition, extermination shall be the responsibility of the owner.
- (f) **Plumbing Fixtures.** Every occupant of a rental dwelling unit shall keep all plumbing fixtures therein in a clean and sanitary condition and shall be responsible for the exercise of reasonable care in the proper use and operation thereof.

Sec. 15-8-10 Licensing of Rooming Houses.

No person shall operate a rooming house, or shall occupy or let to another for occupancy any rooming unit in any rooming house except in compliance with the provisions of this Section except the provisions of Sections 15-8-4 and 15-8-9. Such person shall also comply with the following:

- (a) **Rooming House License.** No person shall operate a rooming house unless he/she holds a valid rooming house license issued by the Office of the City Administrator in the name of the operator and for the specific rental dwelling unit. The operator shall apply to the Office of the Building Inspector for a biennial license, which shall be issued by the City Administrator upon compliance by the operator to the satisfaction of the Building Inspector with the applicable provisions of this Chapter. This license shall be displayed in a conspicuous place within the rooming house at all times. No such license shall be transferable. Every person holding such a license shall give notice in writing to the Office of City Administrator and/or Building Inspector within twenty-four (24) hours after having sold, transferred, given away, or otherwise disposed of ownership of, interest in or control of any rooming house. Such notice shall include the name and address of the person succeeding to the ownership or control of such rooming house. Every rooming house license shall expire at the end of one year following its date of issuance, unless sooner suspended or revoked as hereinafter provided.
- (b) **Hearing.** Any person whose application for a permit to obtain a license to operate a rooming house has been denied may request and shall be granted a hearing on the matter, under the procedure provided in Section 15-8-3.

- (c) **Notice of Violation; Suspension of License.** Whenever, upon inspection of any rooming house, the Building Inspector finds that conditions or practices exist which are in violation of any provision of this Chapter, the Building Inspector shall give notice in writing to the operator of such rooming house that, unless such conditions or practices are corrected within a reasonable period, to be determined by the Building Inspector, the operator's rooming house license will be suspended. At the end of such period, the Building Inspector shall reinspect such rooming house, and if he/she finds that such conditions or practices have not been corrected, he/she shall give notice in writing to the operator that the latter's license has been suspended. Upon receipt of notice of suspension, such operator shall immediately cease operation of such rooming house, and no person shall occupy for sleeping or living purposes any rooming unit therein.
- (d) **Hearing.** Any person whose license to operate a rooming house has been suspended, or who has received notice from the Building Inspector that his/her license is to be suspended unless existing conditions or practices at his/her rooming house are corrected, may request and shall be granted a hearing on the matter before the body designated by the Common Council, under the procedure provided by Section 15-8-3, provided if no petition for such hearing is filed within ten (10) days following the day on which such license was suspended, such license shall be deemed to have been automatically revoked.
- (e) **Water Closets, Wash Basin, Bathtub, or Shower.** At least one flush closet, lavatory basin and bathtub or shower, properly connected to a water and sanitary sewer system approved by the Building Inspector and in good working condition, shall be supplied for each ten (10) persons or fraction therefor residing within a rooming house, including members of the operator's family wherever they share the use of the said facilities, provided that in a rooming house where rooms are let only to males, tank system urinals of the floor resting type fixtures may be substituted for not more than one-half of the required number of water closets. All such facilities shall be so located within the rental dwelling as to be reasonably accessible from a common hall or passageway to all persons sharing such facilities. Every lavatory basin and bathtub or shower shall be supplied with hot water at all times. No such facilities shall be located in a basement except by written approval of the Building Inspector.
- (f) **Changing Linen and Towels.** The operator of every rooming house shall change supplied bed linen and towels therein at least once a week, and prior to the letting of any room to any occupant. The operator shall be responsible for the maintenance of all supplied bedding in a clean and sanitary manner.
- (g) **Sleeping Room Areas.** Every room occupied for sleeping purposes by one person shall contain at least eighty (80) square feet of floor space, and every room occupied for sleeping purposes by more than one person shall contain at least forty (40) square feet of floor space for each occupant thereof over twelve (12) years of age and at least thirty (30) square feet for each occupant therein under twelve (12) years of age, as computed in accordance with Section 15-8-7(b).

- (h) **Egress.** Every rooming unit shall have safe, unobstructed means of egress leading to safe and open space at ground level, as required by the laws of this state and the City.
- (i) **Maintaining Sanitary Condition.** The operator of every rooming house shall be responsible for the sanitary maintenance of all walls, floors and ceilings, and for maintenance of a sanitary condition in every other part of the rooming house and shall be further responsible for the sanitary maintenance of the entire premises where leased or occupied by the operator.
- (j) **Application to Efficiency Apartments.** Every provision of this Chapter which applies to rooming houses shall also apply to efficiency apartments, cabins, hotels and similar accommodations except to the extent that any such provision may be found in conflict with the laws of this state or with the lawful regulations of any state board or agency.
- (k) **Emergencies.** The Building Inspector may suspend the operation of Section 15-8-7(a) or (b) or 15-8-10(g) by special or general order in writing when he/she shall deem an emergency exists, which, in his/her discretion shall warrant such suspension; provided, however, no such general or special order so suspending operation of Section 15-8-7(a) or 15-8-10(g) shall be for longer than ten (10) days.

Sec. 15-8-11 Designation of Unfit Rental Dwellings; Condemnation.

- (a) **Requirement to Condemn.** The designation of rental dwellings or rental dwelling units as unfit for human habitation and the procedure for the condemnation and placarding of such unfit rental dwelling or rental dwelling units shall be carried out in compliance with the following requirements:
 - (1) Any rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit which shall be found to have any of the following defects outlined in Subsection (a)(2) through (4) below shall be condemned as unfit for human habitation and shall be so designated and placarded by the Building Inspector.
 - (2) One which is so damaged, decayed, dilapidated, unsanitary, unsafe or vermin-infested that it creates a serious hazard to the health or safety of the occupants or of the public.
 - (3) One which lacks illumination, ventilation or sanitary facilities adequate to protect the health or safety of the occupants or of the public.
 - (4) One which, because of its general condition or location, is unsanitary or otherwise dangerous to the health or safety of occupants or of the public.
- (b) **Vacating Premises.** Any rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit condemned as unfit for human habitation, and so designated and placarded by the Building Inspector, shall be vacated within sixty (60) days as ordered by the Building Inspector.
- (c) **Reoccupation of Premises.** No rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit which has been condemned and placarded as unfit for human habitation shall again be used for human habitation until written approval is secured from and such placard is removed by the

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Building Inspector. The Building Inspector shall remove such placard whenever the defect or defects upon which the condemnation and placarding action were based have been eliminated.

- (d) **Defacing or Removing Placards.** No person shall deface or remove the placard from any rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit which has been condemned as unfit for human habitation and placarded as such, except as provided in Subsection (c) above.
- (e) **Hearing.** Any person affected by any notice or order relating to the condemning and placarding of a rental dwelling or rental dwelling unit as unfit for human habitation may request and shall be granted a hearing on the matter before the Common Council under the procedure set forth in Section 15-8-3.

Sec. 15-8-12 Rental Housing License; Fees.

- (a) **License Required For Rental Dwellings.** Any owner of a rental dwelling, rental dwelling unit or dwelling unit or premises shall have a rental housing license issued by the City. Application for such license shall be on a form approved by the City. Any owner, or the owner's agent, heirs or assigns, shall not rent any property within the City limits without having been issued a rental housing license through the Office of Building Inspector.
- (b) **Fees.** Fees as prescribed in Section 1-3-1 shall be paid for each of the following:
 - (1) Individual rental dwelling unit.
 - (2) Multiple dwelling unit.
 - (3) Rooming houses.
 - (4) Sleeping rooms in owner-occupied building.
 - (5) Transfer fee.
- (c) **Term.** Licenses shall be issued for a period of two (2) years and are non-transferable without further application.

Sec. 15-8-13 Penalty.

Any person who shall violate any provision of this Chapter or any order, rule or regulation made hereunder shall be subject to a penalty as provided in Sec. 1-1-7 of this Code of Ordinances.

