

SPONSORED BY: JIM WEBSTER

ORDINANCE  
OF THE  
COUNTY BOARD OF THE COUNTY OF WINNEBAGO, ILLINOIS

SUBMITTED BY: ZONING COMMITTEE

2016 CO 036

ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE 2015 EDITION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Building Department has been involved in a collaborative effort with the City of Rockford and approximately 25 communities and 6 counties in northwest Illinois to create a Regional Building Code to provide some consistency in the adoption of various codes and amendments related to construction; and

WHEREAS, committees consisting of building officials, inspectors, design professionals, contractors, trade associations, labor unions, and local stakeholders were assembled to review new and existing codes as well as local amendments; and

WHEREAS, this collaborative effort resulted in the creation of a proposed Regional Building Code that includes specific agreed upon amendments applicable to the adoption of the 2015 International Residential Code; 2015 International Fire Code; the 2015 International Mechanical Code; the 2015 International Fuel Gas Code; NFPA 70: National Electrical Code, 2015 Edition; and the Illinois State Plumbing Code; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of the County of Winnebago, Illinois, adopted the 2003 International Fire Code on July 26, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Winnebago County Building Department recommends adoption of the 2015 ICC International Fire Code with the amendments proposed in the Regional Building Code; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid 2015 edition of the ICC International Fire Code has been filed in the office of the Winnebago County Clerk pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/5-6005.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the County Board of the County of Winnebago, Illinois, that the 2015 ICC International Fire Code be and the same is hereby adopted by reference pursuant to 55 ILCS 5/5-6002, with modifications as set forth below.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Section 18-43 of the Winnebago County Code of Ordinances is hereby deleted in its entirety.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that Chapter 46, Article II, of the Winnebago County Code of Ordinances is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

ARTICLE II. – FIRE CODE

Sec. 46-26. – Adopted.

The 2015 ICC International Fire Code is hereby adopted by reference thereto as though fully set forth in this section and the whole thereof, save and except those portions as are deleted, modified, or amended in Section 46-27, three copies of which have been on file in the office of the county clerk for use and examination by the public for at least 30 days prior to the adoption thereof.

Sec. 46-27. – Amendments.

The 2015 ICC International Fire Code adopted by Section 46-26 is hereby amended as follows:

- (1) Section 101.1 is amended to read as follows:

*101.1 Title.* These regulations shall be known as the Fire Code of Winnebago County, Illinois, hereinafter referred to as “this code.”

- (2) Section 103.1 is amended to read as follows:

*103.1 General.* The department of fire prevention is hereby created and the executive official in charge thereof shall be the Building Official of Winnebago County.

- (3) Section 108.1 is amended to read as follows:

*108.1 Board of appeals established.* The Fire Chief of the respective Fire Protection District is designated as the board of appeals in order to hear and decide appeals of order, decisions, or determinations made by the fire code official relative to the application and interpretation of this code.

- (4) Section 109.3 is amended to read as follows:

*109.3 Notice of violation.* When the fire code official finds a building, premises, vehicle, storage facility or outdoor area that is in violation of this code, the fire code official shall serve a notice of violation or order to the person responsible for the erection, construction, alteration, extension, repair, moving, removal, demolition or occupancy of a building or structure in violation of the provisions of this code, or in violation of a detail statement or plan approved thereunder, or in violation of a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this code.

Notices shall be in accordance with Section 4-4(b) of the Winnebago County Code of Ordinances. Such notice shall be deemed to be properly served if a copy thereof is delivered as detailed in Section 4-4(d) of the Winnebago County Code of Ordinances.

(5) Section 109.3.1 is deleted in its entirety.

(6) Section 109.3.3 is amended to read as follows:

*109.3.3 Prosecution of violations.* Any person who shall violate a provision of this code, or fail to comply therewith, or with any of the requirements thereof, shall be subject to the code hearing provisions established by Winnebago County Code Chapter 4, or may be prosecuted before a court of competent jurisdiction upon proper filing of a complaint seeking appropriate relief. Nothing in this section 109.3.3 is meant to limit a criminal prosecution of state statutes in any way.

(7) Section 109.4 is amended to read as follows:

*109.4 Violation penalties.* Persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directives of the fire code official, or of a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this code, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 for each offense. Each day that a violation exists shall be deemed a separate offense.

(8) Section 111.4 is amended to read as follows:

*111.4 Failure to comply.* Any person who shall continue any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be liable for a fine of not less than \$20.00 and not more than \$200.00.

(9) Section 307.1.1 is amended to read as follows:

*307.1.1 Prohibited open burning.* Opening burning shall be prohibited.

**Exceptions:**

1. Where approved by the local jurisdiction.
2. Unincorporated areas with a burn ordinance.

- (10) Section 307.4.4 is added as follows:

*307.4.4 Materials.* Fuel for all recreational fires and bonfires shall consist only of seasoned dry firewood and other material approved by the fire code official. The fire shall be ignited with a small quantity of paper. The fire shall not be utilized for waste disposal purposes, and the fuel shall be chosen to minimize the generation of air contaminants.

- (11) Section 505.3 is added as follows:

*505.3 Strip malls.* When a strip mall has multiple tenant spaces and a dedicated sprinkler control/fire alarm room, the room shall have its own street address.

- (12) Section 901.4.2.1 is added as follows:

*901.4.2.1 Discontinuance of use.* All non-required fire protection systems shall be approved for discontinuance upon written approval of both the fire code official and the building code official after inspection of the premises and system.

- (13) Section 903.2.11.1 is amended to read as follows:

*903.2.11.1 Stories without openings.* An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout all stories, including basements, of all buildings where the floor area exceeds 1,500 square feet (139.4 m<sup>2</sup>) and where there is not provided not fewer than one of the following types of exterior wall openings:

1. Openings below grade that lead directly to ground level by an exterior stairway complying with Section 1011 or an outside ramp complying with Section 1012. Openings shall be located in each 50 linear feet (15,240 mm), or fraction thereof, of exterior wall in the story on at least one side. The required openings shall be distributed such that the lineal distance between adjacent openings does not exceed 50 feet (15,240 mm).
2. Openings entirely above the adjoining ground level totaling not less than 20 square feet (1.86 m<sup>2</sup>) in each 50 linear feet (15,240 mm), or fraction thereof, of exterior wall in the story on at least one side. The required openings shall be distributed such that the lineal distance between adjacent openings does not exceed 50 feet (15,240 mm). The height of the bottom of the clear opening shall not exceed 44 inches (1118 mm) measured from the floor.
3. An interior stairway that conforms to the requirements of Section 1005 with a fire separation assembly enclosure of not less than 1 hour, which has a door directly to the exterior and the stairway does not connect more than 2 stories. The basement or windowless story floor level shall be 15 feet (4572 mm) or less vertically from the exterior door threshold level and the door threshold shall be within 10 feet (3048 mm) of grade. Interior stair doors or openings

shall be provided in each 50 linear feet (15,240 mm) or fraction thereof on at least one side of the basement or windowless story.

- (14) Section 903.3.9 is added as follows:

*903.3.9 Interior control valves.* The fire code official may require interior control valves to be installed to isolate occupancies that share a fire suppression system. Where valves are installed in a system, valves shall be supervised or locked in the “open” position.

- (15) Section 903.3.10 is added as follows:

*903.3.10 Exterior control valves.* All exterior fire suppression control valves shall have an exterior Indicator Valve (PIV or WPIV) provided in a location approved by the fire code official. Valves shall be locked in the “open” position.

- (16) Section 903.4.2.1 is added as follows:

*903.4.2.1 Strip malls.* Strip malls shall provide individual tenant space notification to comply with IFC 907.1.

- (17) Section 907.1.2.1 is added as follows:

*907.1.2.1 Qualifications.* Shop drawings for fire alarm systems shall be prepared by one of the following:

1. An Illinois licensed Professional Engineer with formal training in fire alarm layout/design.
2. A holder of a valid NICET level III or higher certification in Fire Alarm System Layout, who is either employed by or hired by the fire alarm installation contractor.

- (18) Section 907.1.4 is added as follows:

*907.1.4 Strip malls.* Fire alarm systems shall be capable of identifying a fire alarm device activation or waterflow device activation in each tenant space. An audio/visual device shall be provided at the front entrance to each tenant space to identify the location of an activated device(s).

- (19) Section 912.2.2 is amended to read as follows:

*912.2.2 Existing buildings.* On existing buildings, wherever the fire department connection is not visible to approaching fire apparatus, the fire department connection shall be indicated by an approved sign mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Such sign shall be reflective and constructed of

material designed to resist weathering. The sign shall have a white background with all lettering and graphics red in color. Such sign shall have the letters "FDC" not less than 6 inches (152 mm) high and words in letters not less than 2 inches (51 mm) high or an arrow to indicate the location not less than 3 inches (75mm) high. Such signs shall be subject to the approval of the fire code official.

- (20) Section 912.6 is amended to read as follows:

*912.6 Backflow protection.* A water supply serving a fire suppression system shall be protected against backflow with a Reduced Pressure Zone (RPZ) backflow device and comply with the requirements of the Illinois Plumbing Code.

- (21) Section 1008.3.3 is amended to read as follows:

*1008.3.3 Rooms and spaces.* In the event of power supply failure, an emergency electrical system shall automatically illuminate all of the following areas:

1. Electrical equipment rooms.
2. Fire command centers.
3. Fire pump rooms.
4. Generator rooms.
5. Public restrooms.

- (22) Section 5601.2.2 is amended to read as follows:

*5601.2.2 Sale and retail display.* Persons shall not construct a retail display nor offer for sale explosives, explosive materials, or fireworks (1.3G or 1.4G).

- (23) Section 5608.1 is amended to read as follows:

*5608.1 General.* Outdoor fireworks displays, use of pyrotechnics before a proximate audience and pyrotechnic special effects in motion picture, television, theatrical and group entertainments productions shall comply with Section 5608.2 through 5608.10 and NFPA 1123, 1126 and all requirements of the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshall (OSFM).

- (24) Appendix B "Fire-Flow Requirements for Buildings" is incorporated as part of this Code.

- (25) Appendix C "Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution" is incorporated as part of this Code.

- (26) Appendix D "Fire Apparatus Roads" is incorporated as part of this Code.

- (27) Appendix F "Hazard Ranking" is incorporated as part of this Code.

- (28) Appendix H “Hazardous Materials Management Plan (HMMP) and Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement (HMIS) Instructions” is incorporated as part of this Code.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the penalty for violation of any of the provisions of the 2015 ICC International Fire Code shall be a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 for each offense and that each day that a violation exists shall be considered a separate offense; nothing herein, however, shall preclude enforcement proceedings by means other than a fine, including injunction proceedings.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the previously adopted 2003 ICC International Fire Code is hereby repealed, provided that such repeal shall not affect the right of the County to institute any action at law or equity to require compliance or prosecute violations thereunder; it being the intention of the County to preserve the cause of action and not to excuse any violation under the previous code.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if there is any conflict between the 2015 ICC International Fire Code and other codes adopted by the County, the most restrictive provision shall prevail.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that the 2015 International Fire Code shall become effective ~~April 1~~, 2016 and that the County Clerk is hereby directed to distribute a certified copy of this Ordinance to the Winnebago County Building Official and the Winnebago County State’s Attorney’s Office – Civil Bureau.

Respectfully submitted,

**ZONING  
COMMITTEE**

**AGREE**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Webster, Chairman

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Angie Goral

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John Guevara

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Kelley

  
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Faye Lyon

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Julio Salgado

  
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Steve Schultz

**DISAGREE**

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Jim Webster, Chairman

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Angie Goral

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John Guevara


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Dave Kelley

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Faye Lyon


\_\_\_\_\_  
Julio Salgado

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Steve Schultz

The above and foregoing Ordinance was adopted by the County Board of the County of Winnebago, Illinois, this 10th day of March, 2016.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott H. Christiansen  
Chairman of the County Board  
of the County of Winnebago, Illinois

Attested by:

  
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Margie M. Mullins  
Clerk of the County Board  
of the County of Winnebago, Illinois