

CHAPTER 151: ZONING

Section

General Provisions

- 151.01 Authorization, intent and purpose
- 151.02 Title
- 151.03 Interpretation of terms
- 151.04 Definitions
- 151.05 Zoning map
- 151.06 Annexed land
- 151.07 Compliance with ordinance
- 151.08 Severability

Zoning Districts

- 151.20 Classification of zoning districts
- 151.21 R-1 Single-Family Residential District
- 151.22 R-2 Multiple-Family Residential District
- 151.23 Manufactured home parks
- 151.24 Manufactured homes
- 151.25 C-1 Central Business District
- 151.26 C-2 Commercial District
- 151.27 I Industrial District
- 151.28 Rural Residential and Agricultural District

Performance Standards

- 151.30 Performance standards
- 151.31 Landscaping requirements

Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements

- 151.35 Purpose
- 151.36 Required off-street parking
- 151.37 Special off-street parking requirements
- 151.38 Off-street loading
- 151.39 Parking and storage of certain vehicles
- 151.40 Requirements and prohibitions
- 151.41 Reductions allowed

Permits and Requirements for Fences, Walls or Hedges

- 151.45 Application
- 151.46 General requirements
- 151.47 Residential regulations
- 151.48 Variance

Administration and Enforcement

- 151.49 Consistency with state law
- 151.50 Applications
- 151.51 Public notice and hearings
- 151.52 Final actions
- 151.53 Notice of decision
- 151.54 Land use permit required
- 151.55 Conditional use permits
- 151.56 Board of Appeals and Adjustments
- 151.57 Variances
- 151.58 Nonconforming uses
- 151.59 Amendments
- 151.60 Appeals
- 151.61 Record of decisions
- 151.62 Enforcement
- 151.63 Planning Commission
- 151.64 Certification of taxes paid

- 151.99 Enforcement

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 151.01 AUTHORIZATION, INTENT AND PURPOSE.

(A) This chapter is enacted pursuant to the authority granted by the Municipal Planning Act, M.S. §§ 462.351 et seq. The intent of this chapter is to ensure public health, safety and general welfare in accordance with the adopted development goals, plans and policies as stated hereto. This plan for the city is to ensure that the land uses of the city are properly situated in relation to one another, providing for adequate space for each type of development; to control the density of development in each area of the city so that the property can be adequately serviced by such governmental facilities as streets, schools, recreation and utilities systems; to direct new growth into appropriate areas; to protect existing property by requiring that the development afford adequate light, air and privacy for persons living and working within the city; to improve the quality of the physical environment of the city; to protect and maintain property values, and to preserve and develop the economic base of the city.

(B) This chapter is not in effect until the provisions of § 151.05 are complied with and notice and public hearing is provided as required by M.S. § 462.357 Subd. 3, as it may be amended from time to time.

§ 151.02 TITLE.

This chapter, together with the zoning map required at § 151.05, shall be known as the ‘City Zoning Ordinance’ except as referred to herein, where it shall be known as ‘this Ordinance’ or ‘this chapter.’

§ 151.03 INTERPRETATIONS OF TERMS.

Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this chapter shall be interpreted so as to give them the same meaning as they have in common usage unless such meaning is clearly contrary to the intent of this chapter and so as to give this chapter its most reasonable application. For the purpose of this chapter, the words 'must' and 'shall' are mandatory and 'may' is permissive. All distances, unless otherwise specified, shall be measured horizontally. For the purpose of this chapter, the terms in § 151.04 have the meanings given them.

§ 151.04 DEFINITION OF TERMS.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply, unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

ACCESSORY STRUCTURE OR FACILITY. Any building or improvement located on the same lot as the principal use subordinate to a principal use which, because of the nature of its use, can reasonably be located at or greater than normal structure setbacks.

ACCESSORY USE. A use on the same lot with and incidental and subordinate to the principal use or structure or facility.

BUILDING. Any structure having a roof supported by columns, walls or other means of support for the shelter or enclosure of persons or property.

BUILDING LINE. A line parallel to a lot line or the ordinary high-water level at the required setback beyond which a structure may not extend.

COMMERCIAL USE. The principal use of land or buildings for the sale, lease, rental or trade of products, goods and services and other activities carried out for financial gain.

CONDITIONAL USE. A land use or development as defined by ordinance that would not be appropriate generally but may be allowed with appropriate restrictions as provided by official controls upon a finding that certain conditions as detailed in the zoning ordinance exist, the use or development conforms to comprehensive land use plan of the community, and the use is compatible with the existing neighborhood. The city may impose additional conditions in specific instances to protect the health, safety and welfare.

DECK. A horizontal, unenclosed platform with or without attached railings, seats, trellises, or other features, attached or functionally related to principal use or site and at any point extending more than three feet above ground level.

DWELLING, DUPLEX, TRIPLEX and QUAD. A dwelling structure on a single lot, having two, three, and four units respectively, being attached by common walls and each unit equipped with separate sleeping cooking, eating, living and sanitation facilities.

DWELLING, MULTIPLE. A building or portion thereof used for occupancy by three or more families living independently of each other.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

DWELLING, ONE-FAMILY. A building used exclusively for occupancy by one family.

DWELLING, TWO-FAMILY. A building used exclusively for occupancy by two families living independently of each other.

DWELLING SITE. A designated location for residential use by one or more persons using temporary or movable shelter, including camping and recreational vehicle sites.

DWELLING UNIT. Any structure or portion of a structure or other shelter designed as short or long-term living quarters for one or more persons, including rental or time-share accommodations, such as motel, hotel and resort rooms and cabins.

HOME OCCUPATION. A lawful occupation customarily carried on by a resident of a dwelling as an accessory use within the same building. Such occupation must be clearly secondary to the principal use and not change the nature of the principal use.

INDUSTRIAL USE. The use of land or buildings for the production, manufacture, warehousing, storage or transfer of goods, products, commodities or other wholesale items.

JUNK YARD. Land and structures used for the storage or keeping of junk, including scrap metals, or for the dismantling or wrecking of automobiles or other machinery, other than the storage of materials which is incidental or accessory to any business or industrial use on the same lot.

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL. The assembly, fabrication or processing of goods and materials using processes that ordinarily do not create noise, smoke, fumes, odors, glare or health or safety hazards outside the building or lot where the assembly, fabrication or processing takes place, where the processes are housed entirely within a building, or where the outdoor storage of goods and materials used does not exceed 25% of the floor area of all buildings on the lot.

LOT. A parcel of land designated by plat, metes and bounds, registered land survey, auditors plot, or other accepted means, and separated from other parcels or portions by that description for the purpose of sale, lease or separation. A lot must be situated and have its principal frontage on a public street.

LOT, CORNER. A lot situated at the intersection of two or more streets, or bounded on two or more adjacent sides by street lines.

LOT, INTERIOR. A lot other than a corner lot.

LOT LINE. A line of record bounding a lot which divides a lot from another lot, a public street or any other public or private space.

LOT LINE, FRONT. A lot line abutting a dedicated public right-of-way.

LOT LINE, REAR. The lot line opposite and most distant from the front lot line. In the case of corner lots, the rear lot line shall be determined by the zoning administrator based upon characteristics of the surrounding neighborhood.

LOT LINE, SIDE. Any lot line other than a front or rear lot line.

LOT WIDTH. The shortest distance between lot lines measured at the midpoint of the building line.

MANUFACTURED HOME. A structure, transportable in one or more sections which in the traveling mode is eight feet or more in width or 40 body feet or more in length, or when erected on-site is 320 or more square feet, and which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without permanent foundation when connected to required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating and air conditioning and electrical systems contained therein, and which meets all the requirements established under M.S. § 327.31, as it may be amended from time to time, the Manufactured Home Building Code.

NONCONFORMING STRUCTURE OR USE. A structure or use lawfully in existence on the effective date of this chapter or any amendment thereto, and not conforming to the regulations for the district in which it is situated.

NONCONFORMITY. Any legal use, structure or parcel of land already in existence, recorded, or authorized before the adoption of official controls or amendments thereto that would not have been permitted to become established under the terms of the official controls as now written, if the official controls had been in effect prior to the date it was established, recorded or authorized.

PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, COMMERCIAL. Typically include uses that provide transient, short-term lodging spaces, rooms or parcels, and their operations are essentially service-oriented. For example: hotel/motel accommodations, resorts, recreational vehicle and camping parks, and other primarily service-oriented activities are Commercial Planned Unit Developments.

PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, RESIDENTIAL. A use where the nature of residency is non-transient, and major or primary focus is not service-oriented. For example: residential apartments, manufactured home parks, townhouses and full-fee ownership residences would be considered as Residential Planned Unit Developments. To qualify as a Residential Planned Unit Development, a development must contain at least five dwelling units or sites.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE. A vehicle that is built on a single chassis, is 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection, is designed to be self-propelled or permanently towed by a light duty truck and is primarily designed not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel or seasonal use.

RESTAURANT. An establishment in which food and/or drink is offered or prepared and served for public consumption and is served to customers at tables by employees. Restaurants may include incidental take-out service.

SETBACK. The minimum distance from any lot line that an improvement may be placed, measured perpendicularly from the lot line to the closest point of the improvement.

SETBACK LINE. The line which is the specified setback -distance from and parallel to any lot line, or other specified line, such as the ordinary high-water level, edge of wetland, floodplain, or top of bluff.

STORAGE. Goods, materials or equipment placed or left in a location on a premises.

STRUCTURE. Anything constructed, placed or erected on or attached to, in some manner,

the ground.

STRUCTURE, PRINCIPAL. The building in which is conducted the primary use of the lot on which the building is located.

USE. The purpose or activity for which a premises is designed, arranged or intended or for which it is or may be occupied or maintained.

WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM OR WINDMILL. An apparatus capable of converting wind energy into electricity.

YARD. An open space unobstructed from the ground upward with the exception of landscape materials and minor fixtures of a non-structural nature commonly found in a yard.

YARD, FRONT. The area between the front lot line and the front setback line.

YARD, REAR. The area between the rear lot line and the rear setback line.

YARD, SIDE. A space extending from the front yard to the rear yard along a side lot line measured perpendicularly from the side lot line to the closest point of a structure.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR. The City Clerk or other person designated by the City Council to administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter.

§ 151.05 ZONING MAP.

(A) This chapter has no effect until the boundaries of the use districts are delineated on an Official Zoning Map, created pursuant to M.S. § 462.357, Subd. 1, as it may be amended from time to time, which, once it is adopted by ordinance after notice and hearing as provided in M.S. § 462.357, Subd. 3, as it may be amended from time to time, is hereby adopted by reference and declared to be a part of this chapter. This map shall be on permanent file and available for public inspection in the City Office. It shall be the responsibility of the Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter to maintain and keep the map up to date.

(B) All property within the city shall have the zoning designation shown on the official zoning map. If there is any discrepancy or inconsistency between the official zoning map and any other map, ordinance or source which purports to indicate the zoning of property, the official zoning map shall take precedence. The provisions of this section shall not be interpreted to require the city to zone all properties within the city limits or to prevent zoning of only a portion of the city.

(C) Zoning district boundary lines shown on the official zoning map are intended to follow lot lines, the center lines of streets or alleys, the center lines of street or alleys projected, railroad right-of-way lines, the center of watercourses or the corporate limits of the city, unless otherwise specifically indicated.

§ 151.06 ANNEXED LAND.

Any land hereafter annexed to the city shall be considered to be in the district that is delineated on the adjacent areas than are designated for orderly annexation, unless otherwise reclassified.

§ 151.07 COMPLIANCE WITH ORDINANCE.

(A) No structure or land shall hereafter be used or occupied and no structure shall hereafter be erected, constructed, reconstructed, moved or structurally altered, except in conformity with the regulations specified in the Zoning Ordinance for the district in which it is located.

(B) The provisions of this chapter shall be minimum requirements. Where the conditions imposed by any provision of this chapter differ from those required by any statute or other ordinance of the city, the regulations which are more restrictive or which impose the higher standard shall prevail.

Penalty, see § 151.99

§151.08 SEVERABILITY.

Every section or subdivision of this chapter is declared separable from every other section or subdivision. If any section or subdivision is held to be invalid by competent authority, no other section or subdivision shall be invalidated by such action or decision.

ZONING DISTRICTS

§ 151.20 CLASSIFICATION OF ZONING DISTRICTS.

- (A) R-1 Single Family Residential District
- (B) R-2 Multi-Family Residential District
- (C) C-1 Central Business District
- (D) C-2 Central Business District
- (E) I Industrial
- (F) Rural Residential and Agricultural District

§ 151.21 R-1 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

(A) *Purpose.* The purpose of the R-1 Single Family Residential District is to provide for moderate density one and two-family dwelling units and directly related, complementary uses.

(B) *Permitted uses and structures.*

- (1) One and two-family dwelling units.
- (2) Public, government owned parks, playgrounds, athletic fields and other public recreational uses.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(3) Churches and places of religious assembly, public and private schools and government-owned buildings and facilities.

(4) Agricultural gardens and forestry.

(5) Manufactured homes which meet the standards set forth in §151.24.

(6) As required by M.S. § 462.357, Subd. 7, as it may be amended from time to time, a state licensed residential facility or a housing with services establishment registered under M.S. Ch. 144D, as it may be amended from time to time, serving six or fewer persons, a licensed day care facility serving 12 or fewer persons, and a group family day care facility licensed under Minn. Rules, parts 9502.0315 to 9502.0445, as it may be amended from time to time, to serve 14 or fewer children shall be considered a permitted single family residential use of property for the purposes of zoning, except that a residential facility whose primary purpose is to treat juveniles who have violated criminal statutes relating to sex offenses or have been adjudicated delinquent on the basis of conduct in violation of criminal statutes relating to sex offenses shall not be considered a permitted use.

(C) *Accessory uses.*

(1) Customary accessory uses incidental to the principal uses such as gardens, private garages, screen porches, play equipment, signs, as set forth in division (D)(1) of this section, one storage shed not exceeding 12 feet in height or 500 square feet or covering more than 30% of the area of the side or rear yard in which they are located, satellite dishes and antennae, solar equipment, greenhouses not exceeding 12 feet in height or 500 square feet or covering more than 30% of the area of the side or rear yard in which they are located and swimming pools intended for single-family use.

(2) The renting of rooms by a resident family for lodging purposes only, and for not more than two rooms in a one-family dwelling.

(D) *Conditional uses.* Within the R-1 District no structure or land shall be used for the following except by conditional use permit and in conformance with the standards specified in division (I) of this section.

(1) Home occupations in a residence.

(2) Hospitals and nursing homes, licensed day care centers serving 12 or more persons and cemeteries.

(3) Accessory buildings other than those listed in (C)(1), including storage sheds and green houses over 12 feet in height or 500 square feet or covering more than 30% of the area of the side or rear yard in which they are located.

(4) Wind energy conversion systems or windmills.

(5) Private recreational facilities as a principal use and excluding accessory play equipment and swimming pools intended for single family use.

(E) *Lot requirements and setbacks.* The following minimum requirements shall be observed in an R-1 District, subject to additional requirements, exceptions and modifications set forth in this

chapter:

- (1) *Lot area.* 10,000 square feet (100 x 100).
- (2) *Lot width.* 75 feet.
- (3) *Setbacks.*
 - (a) *Front yards.* Not less than 30 feet;
 - (b) *Side yards.* 5 feet.
 - (c) *Side yards, corner lots.* 25 feet on side adjacent to street, but in no case less than the setback of an adjacent lot which has its front yard on the same street.
 - (d) *Rear yards.* 30 feet.
- (4) *Detached accessory building setback requirements.* Not less than 5 feet from rear yard line and not less than 4 feet from the side yard lines in the rear yard. On corner lots not less than 25 feet from the adjacent street, but in no case less than the setback of an adjacent lot which has its front yard on the same street.
- (5) *Access.* All lots shall front on and have ingress and egress by means of a public right-of-way.
- (F) *Building requirements; height.* No structure shall exceed 2 stories or 35 feet, whichever is less.
- (G) *Parking.* Refer to §§151.35 through 151.39.
- (H) *Height limitations.* Height limitations shall not apply to water towers, chimneys, flag poles, antennae, wind energy conversion systems, church spires, church belfries or church domes not containing habitable space and support towers permitted by §150.04.
- (I) *Conditional use permit standards for the R-1 Single-Family Residential District.*
 - (1) *Purpose.* It is the intent of the city in establishing general and specific criteria for conditional uses that such uses be subject to careful evaluation to ensure that their location, size and design are consistent with the standards, purposes and procedures of this chapter and the comprehensive plan, if one exists. The Planning Commission, if one exists, may recommend and the City Council may impose conditions on such uses in order to effect the purpose of this chapter.
 - (2) *General standards.* No conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the following standards will be met:
 - (a) The use is consistent with the intent of this chapter;
 - (b) The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan, if one exists;
 - (c) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities,

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements; and

(d) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

(3) *Specific standards.* In addition to the standards specified in division (2) above, no conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the specific standards contained in this subdivision will be met.

(a) Licensed day care facilities for 15 or more persons:

1. Located only on a collector or arterial roadway as designated in the comprehensive plan, if one exists, or otherwise located so that access can be provided without conducting significant traffic on local residential streets;

2. Buildings set back 50 feet from all property lines and parking lots set back 15 feet from streets and non-residential property and 25 feet from residential property;

3. Pick-up and drop-off areas located outside of parking setback area;

4. Outdoor recreational areas to be set back 15 feet from all property lines and screening provided to mitigate noise and adverse visual impacts on neighboring properties; and

5. One parking space provided for each six children based upon the licensed capacity of the center;

(b) Storage sheds or greenhouses in excess of 500 square feet of gross floor area or 12 feet in height or occupying more than 30% of the side or rear yard in which they are located:

1. Side and rear setbacks equal to the height of the structure or 15 feet, whichever is greater;

2. Not to be used for commercial activities;

3. Structure to be architecturally consistent with the principal structure;

4. Landscaping to be required to buffer views when the structure is highly visible from adjoining properties;

5. Minimum lot size of four acres; and

6. Must be located in a side or rear yard.

(c) Home occupations in a residence:

1. Such occupation shall be carried on in the-main building;

2. Not more than 25% of the floor space of the residence is used for this purpose;

3. No articles for sale be displayed so as to be visible from the street;

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

4. The conduct of the home occupation shall result in no change in the outside appearance of the building or land, or other visible evidence of the conduct of the home occupation, other than one sign, not exceeding one square foot in area, non-illuminated and mounted flat against the wall of the dwelling;

5. No traffic shall be generated by such home occupation in greater volume than would normally be expected in a residential neighborhood;

6. Only limited retail sales activity;

7. Maximum of one outside employee;

8. Adequate off-street parking based on number of employees and customers per day;

9. Parking area screened from offsite views;

10. No outside storage;

11. Shall not result in significant levels of noise, air or other pollution and shall meet the performance standards of §151.30;

12. Business hours restricted to no more than 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and

13. Outside parking of no more than one commercial type vehicle or vehicle identified for business purposes not to exceed one-ton capacity which is used for both personal and business transportation. The vehicle is to be owned and registered by an occupant of the property and parked in a screened location.

(d) Private recreational facilities as a principal use:

1. Direct access limited to a collector or arterial roadway as identified in the comprehensive plan, if any, or otherwise located so that access can be provided without conducting significant traffic on local residential streets;

2. Buildings set back 50 feet from all property lines;

3. No more than 70% of the site to be covered with impervious surface and the remainder to be suitably landscaped in accordance with § 151.31;

4. Signs shall be designed to be consistent with the principal use;

5. Adequate off-street parking based on number of employees and customers per day;

6. Parking area and waste management areas screened from offsite views;

7. No outside storage; and

8. Shall not result in significant levels of noise, air or other pollution.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(e) Wind energy conversion systems (WECS):

1. Set back from the nearest property line a distance equal to the height of the tower plus one-half the diameter of the rotor;
2. Certified by a professional engineer as being of a design adequate for the atmospheric conditions of the area;
3. Equipped with over-speed or similar controls designed to prevent disintegration of the rotor in high winds;
4. Compliance with all building and electrical code requirements of the city, the noise regulations of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission and Federal Aviation Administration;
5. If the WECS has not been operated for a period of one year or fails to meet the conditions of this chapter, the City Council may order it dismantled and the site restored to its original condition;
6. If the owner or person responsible for the WECS does not maintain it or comply with all requirements of this chapter, the city may take such steps as are necessary to achieve compliance. The cost of such work, including administrative costs, shall be a lien against the property and may be collected as a special assessment. The city may sell salvaged and valuable materials at public auction on ten days' notice; and
7. The WECS shall meet the performance standards of §151.30.

(f) Hospitals or nursing homes:

1. Direct access limited to a collector or arterial roadway as identified in the comprehensive plan, if any, or otherwise located so that access can be provided without conducting significant traffic on local residential streets;
2. Buildings set back 50 feet from all property lines;
3. No more than 70% of the site to be covered with impervious surface and the remainder to be suitably landscaped;
4. Signs shall be designed to be consistent with the principal use;
5. Adequate off-street parking based on number of employees and customers per day;
6. Parking area and waste management areas screened from offsite views;
7. No outside storage; and
8. Shall not result in significant levels of noise, air or other pollution and shall meet the performance standards of §151.30.

Penalty, see § 151.99

§ 151.22 R-2 MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

(A) *Purpose.* The purpose of the R-2 Multiple Family Residential District is to provide for medium density housing in multiple family structures and directly related complementary uses.

(B) *Permitted uses and structures.*

(1) Any permitted use in a Single-Family Residential District.

(2) Multiple-family dwelling.

(C) *Accessory uses.* Any accessory use permitted in Single-Family Residential District.

(D) *Conditional uses.* Within the R-2 District no structure or land shall be used for the following except by conditional use permit and in conformance with the standards specified in division (H) of this section.

(1) Any conditional use permitted in Single-Family Residential District.

(2) As required by M.S. § 462.357, Subd. 8, a state licensed residential facility serving from 7 through 16 persons under M.S. Ch. 144D, as it may be amended from time to time, or a licensed day care facility serving from 13 through 16 persons.

(E) *Lot requirements and setbacks.* The following minimum requirements shall be observed in R-2 Districts, subject to additional requirements, exceptions and modifications set forth in this chapter:

(1) *Lot area.* 10,000 square feet for one and two-family dwellings and 3,000 square feet per dwelling unit for multiple-family dwellings.

(2) *Lot width.* 75 feet for one and two-family dwellings, and 100 feet for multiple family dwellings.

(3) *Setbacks.*

(a) *Front yards.* Not less than 30 feet.

(b) *Side yards.* 5 feet.

(c) *Side yards, corner lots.* 25 feet on side adjacent to street, but in no case less than the setback of an adjacent lot which has its front yard on the same street.

(d) *Rear yards.* 30 feet.

(4) *Detached accessory building setback requirements.* Not less than 5 feet from the rear lot line and not less than 4 feet from the side yard line in the rear yard. On corner lots, not less than 25 feet from adjacent lot which has its front yard on the same street.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(5) All lots shall front on and have ingress and egress by means a public right-of-way.

(F) *Parking.* Refer to §§151.35 through 151.39.

(G) Height limitations shall not apply to water towers, chimneys, flag poles, antennae, wind energy conversion systems, church spires, church belfries or church domes not containing habitable space and support towers permitted by §150.04.

(H) Conditional use permit standards for the R-2 Multiple-Family Residential District.

(1) *Purpose.* It is the intent of the city in establishing general and specific criteria for conditional uses that such uses be subject to careful evaluation to ensure that their location, size and design are consistent with the standards, purposes and procedures of this chapter and the comprehensive plan, if one exists. The Planning Commission, if one exists, may recommend and the City Council may impose conditions on such uses in order to effect the purpose of this chapter.

(2) *General standards.* No conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the following standards will be met:

(a) The use is consistent with the intent of this chapter;

(b) The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan, if one exists;

(c) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements; and

(d) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

(3) *Specific standards.* In addition to the standards specified in division (2) above, no conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the specific standards contained in this subdivision will be met.

(a) A state licensed residential facility serving from 7 through 16 persons under M.S. Ch. 144D, as it may be amended from time to time, or a licensed day care facility serving from 13 through 16 persons.

1. Located only on a collector or arterial roadway as designated in the comprehensive plan, if one exists, or otherwise located so that access can be provided without conducting significant traffic on local residential streets;

2. Buildings set back 50 feet from all property lines and parking lots set back 15 feet from streets and non-residential property and 25 feet from residential property;

3. Pick-up and drop-off areas located outside of parking setback area;

4. Outdoor recreational areas to be set back 15 feet from all property lines and screening provided to mitigate noise and adverse visual impacts on neighboring properties;

5. One parking space provided for each six attendees based upon the licensed

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

capacity of the center; and

6. Meets the performance standards of §151.30.

(b) Storage sheds or greenhouses in excess of 500 square feet of gross floor area or 12 feet in height or occupying more than 30% of the side or rear yard in which they are located:

1. Side and rear setbacks equal to the height of the structure or 15 feet, whichever is greater;

2. Not to be used for commercial activities:

3. Structure to be architecturally consistent with the principal structure:

4. Landscaping to be required to buffer views when the structure is highly visible from adjoining properties;

5. Minimum lot size of four acres;

6. Must be located in a side or rear yard.

(c) *Home occupations in a residence:*

1. Such occupation shall be carried on in the-main building;

2. Not more than 25% of the floor space of the-residence is used for this purpose;

3. No articles for sale be displayed so as to be visible from the street;

4. The conduct of the home occupation shall result in no change in the outside appearance of the building or land, or other visible evidence of the conduct of the home occupation, other than one sign, not exceeding one square foot in area, non-illuminated and mounted flat against the wall of the dwelling;

5. No traffic shall be generated by such home occupation in greater volume than would normally be expected in a residential neighborhood;

6. Only limited retail sales activity;

7. Maximum of one outside employee;

8. Adequate off-street parking based on number of employees and customers per day;

9. Parking area screened from offsite views;

10. No outside storage;

11. Shall not result in significant levels of noise, air or other pollution and meets the performance standards of §151.30;

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

12. Business hours restricted to no more than 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and

13. Outside parking of no more than one commercial type vehicle or vehicle identified for business purposes not to exceed one-ton capacity which is used for both personal and business transportation. The vehicle is to be owned and registered by an occupant of the property and parked in a screened location.

(d) *Private recreational facilities as a principal use:*

1. Direct access limited to a collector or arterial roadway as identified in the comprehensive plan, if any, or otherwise located so that access can be provided without conducting significant traffic on local residential streets;

2. Buildings set back 50 feet from all property lines;

3. No more than 70% of the site to be covered with impervious surface and the remainder to be suitably landscaped;

4. Signs shall be designed to be consistent with the principal use;

5. Adequate off-street parking based on number of employees and customers per day;

6. Parking area and waste management areas screened from offsite views;

7. No outside storage; and

8. Shall not result in significant levels of noise, air or other pollution and meets the performance standards of §151.30.

(e) *Wind energy conversion systems (WECS):*

1. Set back from the nearest property line a distance equal to the height of the tower plus one-half the diameter of the rotor;

2. Certified by a professional engineer as being of a design adequate for the atmospheric conditions of the area;

3. Equipped with over-speed or similar controls designed to prevent disintegration of the rotor in high winds;

4. Compliance with all building and electrical code requirements of the city, the noise regulations of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission and Federal Aviation Administration;

5. If the WECS has not been operated for a period of one year or fails to meet the conditions of this chapter, the City Council may order it dismantled and the site restored to its original condition;

6. If the owner or person responsible for the WECS does not maintain it or comply with all requirements of this chapter, the city may take such steps as are necessary to

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

achieve compliance. The cost of such work, including administrative costs, shall be a lien against the property and may be collected as a special assessment. The city may sell salvaged and valuable materials at public auction on ten days' notice; and

7. The WECS shall meet the performance standards of §151.30.

(f) *Hospitals or nursing homes:*

1. Direct access limited to a collector or arterial roadway as identified in the comprehensive plan, if any, or otherwise located so that access can be provided without conducting significant traffic on local residential streets;

2. Buildings set back 50 feet from all property lines;

3. No more than 70% of the site to be covered with impervious surface and the remainder to be suitably landscaped;

4. Signs shall be designed to be consistent with the principal use;

5. Adequate off-street parking based on number of employees and customers per day;

6. Parking area and waste management areas screened from off-site views;

7. No outside storage; and

8. Shall not result in significant levels of noise, air or other pollution and meets the performance standards of § 151.30.

Penalty, see § 151.99

§ 151.23 MANUFACTURED HOME PARKS.

(A) *General.* Manufactured home parks that are licensed by the State Department of Health are conditional uses in any zoning district that allows the construction or placement of a building used or intended to be used by two or more families. All manufactured home parks shall, in addition to any requirements imposed by rule of the State Department of Health or law, meet the following performance standards and any other conditions placed on them by the conditional use permit.

(B) *Permitted uses and structures.*

(1) Manufactured homes.

(2) Essential services such as water, sewer, telephone and electric utilities.

(C) *Accessory uses.*

(1) Recreational vehicles and equipment.

(2) Recreational facilities, gardens, commons and open space which are operated for the

enjoyment and convenience of the residents of the principal use and their guests, such as tennis courts and swimming pools.

(3) Building for storage of maintenance equipment incidental to the principal use.

(4) Solar panels and equipment.

(D) *Conditional use.* Customary home occupations as set forth in § 151.21(D).

(E) *Lot requirements and setbacks.* The following minimum requirements shall be observed in a manufactured home park, subject to additional requirements, exceptions and modifications set forth in this chapter:

(1) *Lot area.* Each individual manufactured home site shall contain at least 5,000 square feet for exclusive use of the occupant.

(2) *Lot width.* Each individual manufactured home site shall have a lot width of at least 50 feet.

(3) *Setbacks for each individual manufactured home site.*

(a) *Front yards.* Not less than 15 feet.

(b) *Side yards.* 5 feet.

(c) *Rear yards.* 8 feet.

(4) *Detached accessory building setback requirements.* Not less than 5 feet from the rear lot line and not less than 4 feet from the side yard lines in the rear yard.

(F) *Parking.* Refer to §§ 151.35 through 151.39.
Penalty, see § 151.99

§ 151.24 MANUFACTURED HOMES.

The city authorizes the placement of manufactured homes in residential districts within the city if such manufactured homes comply with the following conditions:

(A) Manufactured homes shall comply with all zoning regulations for the district in which they are located.

(B) A building permit and any other required permits shall be obtained for manufactured homes.

(C) All such manufactured homes shall be built in compliance with any Minnesota Statutes regulating manufactured homes.

(D) Connection to city utilities, if available, shall be required.
Penalty, see § 151.99

§ 151.25 C-1 CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT.

(A) *Purpose.* The purpose of the C-1 Central Business District is in recognition of the existing downtown business and commercial development and the need for its future expansion, rehabilitation and redevelopment.

(B) *Permitted uses and structures.*

(1) Business and commercial establishments including:

(a) Retail establishments, including grocery, hardware, drug, clothing, variety and furniture stores; eating and drinking places, auto dealers, automobile service stations, farm implement dealerships, farm supply stores, seasonal evergreen sales and meat locker shops.

(b) Personal services, including laundries, beauty shops, barber shops, funeral homes, shoe repair shops, printing and publishing shops and photographic studios.

(c) Professional services, including medical and dental clinics and attorney's offices.

(d) Repair services, including automobile, jewelry, radio and television repair shops, appliance repair shops, farm and implement repair shops, plumbing contractor's shop and electrical contractor's shop.

(e) Entertainment and amusement services, including motion picture theatres, recreation halls and bowling alleys.

(f) Lodging services, including hotels and motels.

(g) Finance, insurance, real estate and tax services.

(2) Public and semi-public buildings, including post office, fire hall and city hall.

(3) Private clubs.

(4) Apartments, provided they are located above the first-floor level.

(5) Automobile parking lots.

(6) Essential services, such as sewer, water, telephone and electric utility facilities.

(7) Churches and places of religious assembly.

(C) *Accessory uses.* Uses incidental to the foregoing principal uses, such as off-street parking and loading and unloading areas, signs, indoor storage of merchandise and wholesaling and manufacturing, when incidental to a permitted use, solar panels, satellite dishes and antennas.

(D) *Conditional uses.* Within the C-1 District no structure or land shall be used for the following except by conditional use permit and in conformance with the standards specified in division (I) of this section.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(1) One and two-family dwellings and multiple-family dwellings, including manufactured homes meeting the standards as set forth in § 151.24, and manufactured home parks licensed by the state.

(2) Nonresidential licensed day care facilities.

(3) Outdoor storage incidental to a principal use.

(4) Drive-thru or drive-up window accessory to a principal use.

(5) Sidewalk cafes and outdoor eating or dining areas accessory to a principal use.

(E) *Lot requirements and setbacks.* The following minimum requirements shall be observed in C-1 Districts, subject to additional requirements, exceptions and modifications set forth in this chapter:

(1) *Lot area.* None.

(2) *Lot width.* None.

(3) *Setbacks.*

(a) *Front yards.* None.

(b) *Side yards.* None.

(c) *Rear yards.* 15 feet.

(4) All lots shall front on and have ingress and egress by means of a public right-of-way.

(F) *Building requirements; height.* No structure shall exceed 3 stories or 45 feet, whichever is less.

(G) *Parking.* Refer to §§ 151.35 through 151.39.

(H) *Height limitations.* Height limitations shall not apply to water towers, chimneys, flag poles, antennae, wind energy conversion systems, church spires, church belfries or church domes not containing habitable space and support towers permitted by § 150.04.

(I) *Conditional use permit standards for the C-1 Central Business District.*

(1) *Purpose.* It is the intent of the city in establishing general and specific criteria for conditional uses that such uses be subject to careful evaluation to ensure that their location, size and design are consistent with the standards, purposes and procedures of this chapter and the comprehensive plan, if one exists. The Planning Commission, if one exists, may recommend and the City Council may impose conditions on such uses in order to effect the purpose of this chapter.

(2) *General standards.* No conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the following standards will be met:

(a) The use is consistent with the intent of this chapter;

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(b) The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan, if one exists;

(c) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements; and

(d) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

(e) The use meets meet the performance standards of § 151.30.

(3) *Specific standards.* In addition to the standards specified in division (2) above, no conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the specific standards contained in this division (I) will be met.

(a) One and two family dwellings and multiple-family dwellings, including manufactured homes meeting the standards set forth in § 151.24 and manufactured home parks licensed by the state.

1. Building and site design shall provide a quality residential environment which is compatible with the permitted use;

2. At least two off-street parking spaces must be provided for each residential unit, with such parking to be in a garage, carport or on a paved area specifically intended for that purpose;

3. The dwelling unit must be in compliance with all applicable building, housing, electrical, plumbing, heating and related city codes;

4. The use will be permitted only where the dwelling unit will not have an undue adverse impact on adjacent properties and where there will not be a substantial alteration of the neighborhood character;

5. The city may require buffering or screening if needed.

(b) Nonresidential licensed daycare facilities.

1. Shall have loading and drop-off points designed to avoid interfering with traffic and pedestrian movements and designed to promote the safety of children entering the center;

2. Outdoor play areas shall be fenced and located and designed in a manner which mitigates visual and noise impacts on adjoining residential areas (if any);

3. One parking space for each six attendees based on the licensed capacity of the center shall be provided; and

4. Shall obtain all applicable state, county and city licenses.

(c) Outdoor storage incidental to a principal use.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

1. Outdoor storage shall not be located within 100 feet of any residential parcel;

2. Outdoor storage shall be screened by suitable materials, such as a fencing or natural landscaping features (trees, shrubbery, berms), as determined by Council. The screen must be,
at minimum, equal to the height of the tallest item stored on the site;

3. Outdoor storage must be located in a rear or side yard;

4. Shall be kept in a neat and orderly fashion;

5. Shall not contain any unlicensed or inoperable motor vehicles; and

6. Shall not be operated in a manner as to constitute a nuisance or harborage of rodents or other wild animals.

(d) Drive-thru or drive-up windows accessory to a principal use.

1. Drive-up windows and stacking areas shall not be located adjacent to any residential parcel;

2. Stacking areas shall provide for a minimum of six cars per aisle;

3. Public address system shall not be audible from any residential parcel;

4. Drive-up windows and stacking areas shall be screened with suitable materials from adjacent parcels; and

5. Drive-up windows shall be designed to avoid interfering with traffic and pedestrian movements.

(e) Sidewalk cafes and outdoor eating or dining areas accessory to a principal use.

1. Shall be located in a controlled or cordoned-area with at least one opening to an acceptable pedestrian walk. When a liquor license is involved, an enclosure is required and the enclosure shall not be interrupted; access shall be only through the principal building;

2. Shall not be permitted within 200 feet of any residential parcel and shall be separated from residential parcels by the principal structure or other method of screening acceptable to the city;

3. Shall be located and designed so as not to interfere with pedestrian and vehicular circulation;

4. Shall not be located to obstruct parking spaces;

5. Shall be located adjacent to an entrance to the principal use;

6. Shall be equipped with refuse containers and periodically patrolled for litter

pick-up; and

7. Shall not have speakers or audio equipment which is audible from adjacent parcels.

Penalty, see § 151.99

§ 151.26 C-2 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT.

(A) *Purpose.* The purpose of the C-2 Commercial District is to provide for commercial development outside of the C-1 Central Business District.

(B) *Permitted uses and structures.* All uses of a commercial nature, including retail, light industrial, wholesale, service, office, financial, recreational, professional, lodging, and sexually oriented businesses in compliance with Chapters 119 and 153, including all uses permitted in the C-1 Central Business District, and those other commercial uses as are not considered industrial as listed in § 151.27.

(C) *Accessory uses.* Those accessory uses permitted in the C-1 Central Business District.

(D) *Conditional uses.* Within the C-2 district no structure or land shall be used for the following except by conditional use permit and in conformance with the standards specified in section (I) of this ordinance: All conditional uses permitted in the C-1 District.

(E) *Lot requirements and setbacks.* The following minimum requirements shall be observed in C-2 Districts, subject to additional requirements, exceptions and modifications set forth in this chapter:

(1) *Lot area.* None.

(2) *Lot width.* None.

(3) *Setbacks.*

(a) *Front yards.* None.

(b) *Side yards.* None.

(c) *Rear yards.* 15 feet.

(4) All lots shall front on and have ingress and egress by means of a public right-of-way.

(F) *Building requirements; height.* No structure shall exceed three stories or 45 feet, whichever is less.

(G) *Parking.* Refer to §§ 151.35 through 151.39.

(H) Height limitations shall not apply to water towers, chimneys, flag poles, antennae, wind energy conversion systems, church spires, church belfries or church domes not containing habitable space and support towers permitted by § 150.04.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(I) Conditional use permit standards for the C-2 Central Business District.

(1) *Purpose.* It is the intent of the city in establishing general and specific criteria for conditional uses that such uses be subject to careful evaluation to ensure that their location, size and design are consistent with the standards, purposes and procedures of this chapter and the comprehensive plan, if one exists. The Planning Commission, if one exists, may recommend and the City Council may impose conditions on such uses in order to effect the purpose of this chapter.

(2) *General standards.* No conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the following standards will be met:

- (a) The use is consistent with the intent of this chapter;
- (b) The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan, if one exists;
- (c) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements;
- (d) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare; and
- (e) The use meets the performance standards of § 151.30.

(3) *Specific standards.* In addition to the standards specified in division (2) above, no conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the specific standards contained in this subdivision will be met.

(a) *One and two family dwellings and multiple family dwellings, including manufactured homes meeting the standards set forth in § 151.24 and manufactured home parks licensed by the state.*

1. Building and site design shall provide a quality residential environment which is compatible with the permitted use;

2. At least two off-street parking spaces must be provided for each residential unit, with such parking to be in a garage, carport or on a paved area specifically intended for that purpose;

3. The dwelling unit must be in compliance with all applicable building, housing, electrical, plumbing, heating and related city codes;

4. The use will be permitted only where the dwelling unit will not have an undue adverse impact on adjacent properties and where there will not be a substantial alteration of the neighborhood character; and

5. The city may require buffering or screening if needed.

(b) *Nonresidential licensed daycare facilities.*

1. Shall have loading and drop-off points designed to avoid interfering with

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

traffic and pedestrian movements and designed to promote the safety of children entering the center;

2. Outdoor play areas shall be fenced and located and designed in a manner which mitigates visual and noise impacts on adjoining residential areas (if any);

3. One parking space for each six attendees based on the licensed capacity of the center shall be provided; and

4. Shall obtain all applicable state, county and city licenses.

(c) *Outdoor storage incidental to a principal use.*

1. Outdoor storage shall not be located within 100 feet of any residential parcel;

2. Outdoor storage shall be screened by suitable materials, such as a fencings or natural landscaping features (trees, shrubbery, berms), as determined by Council. The screen must be, at minimum, equal to the height of the tallest item stored on the site;

3. Outdoor storage must be located in a rear or side yard;

4. Shall be kept in a neat and orderly fashion;

5. Shall not contain any unlicensed or inoperable motor vehicles; and

6. Shall not be operated in a manner as to constitute a nuisance or harborage of rodents or other wild animals.

(d) *Drive-thru or drive-up windows accessory to a principal use.*

1. Drive-up windows and stacking areas shall not be located adjacent to any residential parcel;

2. Stacking areas shall provide for a minimum of six cars per aisle;

3. Public address system shall not be audible from any residential parcel;

4. Drive-up windows and stacking areas shall be screened with suitable materials from adjacent parcels; and

5. Drive-up windows shall be designed to avoid interfering with traffic and pedestrian movements.

(e) *Sidewalk cafes and outdoor eating or dining areas accessory to a principal use.*

1. Shall be located in a controlled or cordoned area with at least one opening to an acceptable pedestrian walk. When a liquor license is involved, an enclosure is required and the enclosure shall not be interrupted; access shall be only through the principal building;

2. Shall not be permitted within 200 feet of any residential parcel and shall be

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

separated from residential parcels by the principal structure or other method of screening acceptable to the city;

3. Shall be located and designed so as not to interfere with pedestrian and vehicular circulation;
4. Shall not be located to obstruct parking spaces;
5. Shall be located adjacent to an entrance to the principal use;
6. Shall be equipped with refuse containers and periodically patrolled for litter pick-up; and
7. Shall not have speakers or audio equipment which is audible from adjacent parcels.

§ 151.27 INDUSTRIAL.

(A) *Purpose.* The purpose of the I Industrial District is to provide for industrial development outside of the other districts authorized by this chapter. Development within the district shall be regulated through the performance standards outlined in § 151.30 of this chapter to promote sensitive site design and to mitigate external site impacts.

(B) *Permitted uses and structures.* Within the I District no structure or land may be used except for the following uses occurring within an enclosed building:

- (1) Warehouse
- (2) Storage
- (3) Manufacturing
- (4) Processing
- (5) Office
- (6) Wholesale
- (7) Research
- (8) Government buildings

(9) Other such industrial uses which in the determination of the City Council and as formally documented will be compatible and will not be detrimental to uses allowed in this or contiguous districts.

(C) *Accessory structures and uses.* Within the I District the following accessory uses are permitted provided they are subordinate to and associated with a permitted use:

- (1) Living quarters for security personnel, provided they are located within the principal

structure;

(2) Overnight outside storage of vehicles, provided the vehicles are associated with the business and are screened from view from residential properties or public views;

(3) Outside storage, including fuel storage, provided it is screened from general public view;

(4) Retail or service uses not exceeding 25% of the gross floor area of the principal structure;

(5) Other uses customarily associated with but subordinate to a permitted use, as determined by the city.

(6) Solar panels and equipment, satellite dishes and-antennas.

(D) *Conditional uses.* Within the I District no land or structure may be used for the following except by conditional use permit and in conformance with the performance standards contained in ' 151.30 of this ordinance:

(1) Retail, or service uses occupying between 25% and 50% of the gross area of the principal structure.

(2) Wind energy conversion systems or windmills.

(E) *District standards.* No building or land in the I District shall be used except in conformance with the following:

(1) *Building height.* Maximum of 45 feet or three stories, whichever is less;

(2) *Front yard setback.* Minimum of 35 feet from local and neighborhood collector streets as identified in the comprehensive plan, if any, or the zoning map if no comprehensive plan is in existence; or a minimum of 50 feet from railroad lines and from major collector or arterial roadways as designated in the comprehensive plan if any, or the zoning map if no comprehensive plan is in existence;

(3) *Side and rear yard setbacks.* Minimum setbacks shall be in accordance with the following when measured from land designated accordingly in the comprehensive plan if any, or the zoning map if no comprehensive plan is in existence:

(a) 70 feet from R-1 and R-2 residential uses;

(b) 30 feet from C-1 and C-2 commercial business uses; and

(c) 20 feet from I District uses.

(4) *Lot coverage.* Maximum lot coverage shall be 85% and shall be calculated to include building footprints; parking areas; driveways; loading, storage and trash areas and other areas covered by any impervious surface;

(5) Access: from a collector or arterial roadway as designated in the comprehensive plan,

if any, or a street specifically designed to accommodate industrial traffic;

(6) Trash enclosures or accessory buildings not to exceed 600 square feet in size shall be located behind the front building line of the principal building and not in any required set back;

(7) Parking shall be regulated pursuant to §§ 151.35 through 151.39; and

(8) Performance standards shall be regulated pursuant to §151.30.

(F) Conditional use permit standards for the Industrial District.

(1) *Purpose.* It is the intent of the city in establishing general and specific criteria for conditional uses that such uses be subject to careful evaluation to ensure that their location, size and design are consistent with the standards, purposes and procedures of this chapter and the comprehensive plan. The Planning Commission, if any, may recommend and the City Council may impose conditions on such uses in order to ensure compliance or to effect the purpose of this chapter.

(2) *General standards.* No conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the following standards will be met:

(a) The use is consistent with the intent of this chapter;

(b) The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan, if any;

(c) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements;

(d) The use is in compliance with the performance standards specified in § 151.30, of this chapter; and

(e) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

(3) In addition to the standards specified in division (2), no conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that each of the following specific standards will be met.

(a) Retail or service uses occupying between 25% and 50% of the gross area of the principal structure:

1. Shall be no exterior modifications to the building;

2. Shall have no outside storage or display and no accessory structures for retail sales purposes; and

3. Shall have sufficient parking to accommodate the additional retail traffic.

(b) Wind energy conversion systems or windmills.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

1. Set back from the nearest property line a distance equal to the height of the tower plus one-half the diameter of the rotor;
2. Certified by a professional engineer as being of a design adequate for the atmospheric conditions of the area;
3. Equipped with over-speed or similar controls designed to prevent disintegration of the rotor in high winds;
4. Compliance with all building and electrical code requirements of the city, the noise regulations of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission and Federal Aviation Administration;
5. If the WECS has not been operated for a period of one year or fails to meet the conditions of this chapter, the City Council may order it dismantled and the site restored to its original condition; and
6. If the owner or person responsible for the WECS does not maintain it or comply with all requirements of this chapter, the city may take such steps as are necessary to achieve compliance. The cost of such work, including administrative costs, shall be a lien against the property and may be collected as a special assessment. The city may sell salvaged and valuable materials at public auction on ten days' notice.

§ 151.28 RURAL RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT.

(A) *Purpose.* The purpose of the Rural Residential and Agriculture District is to allow suitable areas of the city to be retained and utilized in open space and/or agricultural uses.

(B) *Permitted uses.* The following are permitted uses in the Rural Residential and Agriculture District:

(1) Agriculture, including farm dwellings and agricultural related buildings and structures subject to state pollution control standards, but not including commercial feedlots or other commercial operations.

(2) One-family dwelling units.

(3) Public, government owned parks, playgrounds, wild life areas and game refuges, athletic fields and other public recreational uses.

(4) Churches and places of religious assembly, public and private schools and government-owned buildings and facilities.

(5) Manufactured homes which meet the standards set forth in ' 151.24.

(6) As required by M.S. § 462.357, Subd. 7, as it may be amended from time to time, a state licensed residential facility or a housing with services establishment registered under M.S. Ch. 144D, as it may be amended from time to time, serving six or fewer persons, a licensed day care facility serving 12 or fewer persons, and a group family day care facility licensed under Minn. Rules, parts

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

9502.0315 to 9502.0445, as it may be amended from time to time, to serve 14 or fewer children shall be considered a permitted single-family residential use of property for the purposes of zoning, except that a residential facility whose primary purpose is to treat juveniles who have violated criminal statutes relating to sex offenses or have been adjudicated delinquent on the basis of conduct in violation of criminal statutes relating to sex offenses shall not be considered a permitted use.

(C) *Accessory uses.* The following are permitted accessory uses in the Rural Residential and Agriculture District:

(1) Operation and storage of such vehicles, equipment and machinery which are incidental to permitted or conditional uses allowed in this district.

(2) Boat houses, piers and docks serving a single-family residence.

(3) Private garages, screen porches, play equipment, solar panel equipment, satellite dishes and antennae.

(4) The renting of rooms by a resident family for lodging purposes only, and for not more than two rooms in a one-family dwelling.

(D) *Conditional uses.* Within the Rural Residential and Agriculture District no structure or land shall be used for the following except by conditional use permit and in conformance with the standards specified in division (I) of this chapter.

(1) Bed and breakfast inns.

(2) Wind energy conversion systems or windmills.

(3) Home occupations.

(E) *Lot requirements and setbacks.* The following minimum requirements shall be observed in the Rural Residential and Agriculture District, subject to additional requirements, exceptions and modifications set forth in this chapter:

(1) *Lot area.* A minimum of two and one-half acres of upland area, upland being land above the 100-year flood elevation or non-wetland.

(2) *Lot width.* A minimum of 200 feet.

(3) *Lot depth.* A minimum of 300 feet.

(4) *Setbacks.*

(a) *Front yard.* A minimum of 40 feet.

(b) *Side yards.* A minimum of 10 feet.

(c) *Side yards, corner lots.* A minimum of 30 feet on side adjacent to street, but in no case less than the setback of an adjacent lot which has its front yard on the same street.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(d) *Rear yard.* A minimum of 30 feet.

(e) *Rear yard, corner lots.* A minimum of 15 on side adjacent to street, but in no case less than the setback of an adjacent lot which has its rear yard on the same street.

(5) *Detached accessory building setback requirements.* Not less than five feet from rear yard line and not less than four feet from the side yard lines in the rear yard. On corner lots not less than 25 feet from the adjacent street, but in no case less than the setback of an adjacent lot which has its front yard on the same street.

(6) *Access.* All lots shall front on and have ingress and egress by means of a public right-of-way.

(F) *Building requirements; height.* No structure shall exceed two stories or 35 feet, whichever is less.

(G) *Parking.* Refer to §§ 151.35 through 151.39.

(H) Height limitations shall not apply to water towers, chimneys, flag poles, antennae, wind energy conversion systems, church spires, church belfries or church domes not containing habitable space and support towers permitted by § 150.04.

(I) Conditional use permit standards for the Rural Residential and Agriculture Single-Family Residential District.

(1) *Purpose.* It is the intent of the city in establishing general and specific criteria for conditional uses that such uses be subject to careful evaluation to ensure that their location, size and design are consistent with the standards, purposes and procedures of this chapter and the comprehensive plan, if one exists. The Planning Commission, if one exists, may recommend and the City Council may impose conditions on such uses in order to effect the purpose of this chapter.

(2) *General standards.* No conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the following standards will be met:

(a) The use is consistent with the intent of this chapter;

(b) The use is consistent with the goals, policies and objectives of the comprehensive plan, if one exists;

(c) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on governmental facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements; and

(d) The use does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare.

(3) *Specific standards.* In addition to the standards specified in division (2), no conditional use permit shall be granted unless the City Council determines that all of the specific standards contained in this division will be met.

(a) *Home occupations.*

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

1. Such occupation shall be carried on in the main building;
2. Not more than 25% of the floor space of the residence is used for this purpose;
3. No articles for sale be displayed so as to be visible from the street;
4. The conduct of the home occupation shall result in no change in the outside appearance of the building or land, or other visible evidence of the conduct of the home occupation, other than one sign, not exceeding one square foot in area, non-illuminated and mounted flat against the wall of the dwelling.
5. No traffic shall be generated by such home occupation in greater volume than would normally be expected in a residential neighborhood.
6. Only limited retail sales activity;
7. Maximum of one outside employee;
8. Adequate off-street parking based on number of employees and customers per day;
9. Parking area screened from offsite views;
10. No outside storage;
11. Shall not result in significant levels of noise, air or other pollution;
12. Business hours restricted to no more than 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and
13. Outside parking of no more than one commercial type vehicle or vehicle identified for business purposes not to exceed one-ton capacity which is used for both personal and business transportation. The vehicle is to be owned and registered by an occupant of the property and parked in a screened location.

(b) *Wind energy conversion systems (WECS).*

1. Set back from the nearest property line a distance equal to the height of the tower plus one-half the diameter of the rotor;
2. Certified by a professional engineer as being of a design adequate for the atmospheric conditions of the area;
3. Equipped with over-speed or similar controls designed to prevent disintegration of the rotor in high winds;
4. Compliance with all building and electrical code requirements of the city, the noise regulations of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission and Federal Aviation Administration;
5. If the WECS has not been operated for a period of one year or fails to meet

the conditions of this chapter, the City Council may order it dismantled and the site restored to its original condition;

6. If the owner or person responsible for the WECS does not maintain it or comply with all requirements of this chapter, the city may take such steps as are necessary to achieve compliance. The cost of such work, including administrative costs, shall be a lien against the property and may be collected as a special assessment. The city may sell salvaged and valuable materials at public auction on ten days' notice; and

7. The WECS shall meet the performance standards of § 151.30.

(c) *Bed and breakfast inns.*

1. The conduct of the bed and breakfast inn shall result in no change in the outside appearance of the building or land, or other visible evidence of the conduct of the bed and breakfast inn, other than one sign, not exceeding one square foot in area, non-illuminated and mounted flat against the wall of the dwelling.

2. No traffic shall be generated by such bed and-breakfast inn in greater volume than would normally be expected in a residential neighborhood.

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

§ 151.30 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.

(A) *Purpose.* The purpose of performance standards is to establish specific and quantifiable limitations on identified types of pollution and other activities which have a high nuisance potential. The performance standards apply in all zoning districts unless specifically stated to the contrary.

(B) *Performance Standards Regulating Exterior Lighting.*

(1) Exterior lighting shall be designed and arranged to limit direct illumination and glare upon or into any contiguous parcel. Reflected glare or spill light shall not exceed five-tenths foot-candles as measured on the property line when abutting any residential parcel and one foot-candle on any abutting commercial or industrial parcel. Street lights installed in public right-of-way shall be excepted from these standards.

(2) Mitigative measures shall be employed to limit glare and spill light to protect neighboring parcels and to maintain traffic safety on public roads. These measures shall include lenses, shields, louvers, prismatic control devices and limitations on the height and type of fixtures. The city may also limit the hours of operation of outdoor lighting if it is deemed necessary to reduce impacts on the surrounding neighborhood.

(3) No flickering or flashing lights shall be permitted.

(4) Direct, off-site views of the light source shall not be permitted except for globe and/or ornamental light fixtures approved in conjunction with a site and building plan. Globe and

ornamental fixtures shall only be approved when the developer can demonstrate that off-site impacts stemming from direct views of the bulb are mitigated by the fixture design and/or location.

(5) The city may require submission of a light distribution plan if deemed necessary to ensure compliance with the intent of this chapter.

(C) Performance standards regulating noise and vibration.

(1) Noises emanating from any use shall be in compliance with and regulated by the standards of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Any use established or remodeled after the effective date of this chapter shall be so operated as to prevent vibration discernable at any point beyond the lot line of the site on which such use is located. The city may also limit the hours of operation of outdoor noise if it is deemed necessary to reduce impacts on the surrounding neighborhood.

(2) Ground vibration and noise caused by motor vehicles, trains, aircraft operations or temporary construction or demolition shall be exempt from these regulations. However, if deemed appropriate, the city may establish limits on the hours of operation of temporary construction or demolition operation to limit off-site impacts.

(D) Performance standards regulating smoke and particulate matter. No use shall produce or emit smoke, dust or particulate matter exceeding applicable regulations established by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

(E) Performance standards regulating odor. No use shall produce unreasonable or disturbing odors beyond the property line exceeding applicable regulations established by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

(F) Performance standards regulating toxic or noxious matter. No use or operation shall emit a concentration of toxic or noxious matter across the property line which exceeds applicable regulations of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

(G) Performance Standards Regulating Radiation. No operation shall be conducted which exceeds the standards established by applicable regulations of the Minnesota Department of Health.

(H) Performance standards regulating heat and humidity. No use shall produce any unreasonable, disturbing or unnecessary emissions of heat or humidity beyond the property line which cause material distress, discomfort or injury to persons of ordinary sensitivity.

(I) Performance standards regulating electromagnetic interference. No use shall produce electromagnetic interference with normal radio or television reception in any residential district, or exceed applicable standards established by any applicable federal or state regulations.

(J) Performance standards regulating liquid or solid waste. All uses shall be subject to applicable regulations of the city governing discharge into a public storm or sanitary sewer, waterway or stream.

§151.31 LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(A) All open areas of a lot which are not used or improved for required parking areas, drives or storage shall be landscaped with a combination of overstory trees, understory trees, shrubs, flowers and ground cover materials.

(B) All new landscape trees and shrubs must meet the American Standard for Nursery Stock and American National Standard relating to planting guidelines, quality of stock and appropriate sizing of the root ball. Landscape trees must be balled and burlapped or moved from the growing site by tree spade. Deciduous trees will be not less than one and one quarter inches but not more than three inches caliper for balled and burlapped trees, and not less than three inches but not more than six inches caliper for spade-moved trees. Coniferous trees will not be less than six feet in height but no more than eight feet for balled and burlapped trees, and not less than eight feet in height but not more than fourteen feet for spade-moved coniferous trees. The city may allow larger balled and burlapped or spade moved trees if these trees are accompanied with a three-year guarantee.

(C) All lot areas not covered by buildings, sidewalks, parking lots, driveways, patios or similar hard surface materials shall be covered with sod or an equivalent ground cover approved by the city. This requirement shall not apply to site areas retained in a natural state.

OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS

§ 151.35 PURPOSE.

The purpose of the off-street parking regulations is to alleviate or prevent congestion of the public right-of-way and to promote the safety and general welfare of the public, by establishing minimum requirements for off-street parking of motor vehicles in accordance with the utilization of various parcels of land and structures. No building shall be hereafter erected, substantially altered, or its use changed unless off-street parking spaces have been provided in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

Penalty, see §151.99

§151.36 REQUIRED OFF-STREET PARKING.

The number of off-street parking spaces provided shall be at least the minimum number provided for the following uses:

(A) One and two-family dwellings: Two spaces per unit.

(B) Multiple-family dwellings: Two spaces per unit.

(C) Manufactured home park: Two spaces per unit.

(D) Theatres, auditoriums, churches and other similar places of assembly: One space per every four seats.

(E) Restaurants, bars and the like: One space for every three seats.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(F) Retail stores: One space per every 500 square feet of retail floor space.

(G) Motels, hotels: One space per sleeping room or unit.

(H) Service commercial shops, such as auto repair shops, furniture repair shops, appliance repair shops and the like: One space per every 500 square feet of gross floor space.

(I) Industrial establishments: One space per every two persons of maximum employment during any work period.

(J) Wholesale, warehouses: One space per every employee during any work period.

(K) Uses not mentioned: For any use not specifically mentioned in the schedule of off-street parking requirements, the number of spaces required shall be that required for that use in the schedule which is determined by the City Council to be most similar.

Penalty, see § 151.99

§ 151.37 SPECIAL OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS.

(A) *Offices outside C-1 District.* Adequate off-street parking area shall be provided for all employees so as to avoid routine usage of the public street for parking. However, parking will be allowed on the side of the public street adjacent to the office's property for routine employee parking.

(B) *Industrial establishments within C-1, C-2 and I Districts.* Adequate off-street parking areas shall be required for all employees so as to avoid routine usage of a public street for parking, except during the climatic seasons that result in a deterioration of the available parking area serviceability to a point that reasonable judgment dictates temporary disuse. Parking will be allowed on the side of the public street adjacent to the establishment's property for routine employee parking.

Penalty, see §151.99

§ 151.38 OFF-STREET LOADING.

(A) *Off-street loading spaces.* No building shall be hereafter erected, substantially altered, or its use changed unless loading spaces have been provided in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. One off-street loading space shall be provided and maintained on the same lot for each commercial and industrial use requiring regular delivery of goods.

(B) *Improvement and maintenance of off-street parking and loading spaces.* All parking and loading areas shall provide drainage of surface water to prevent drainage of such water on the adjacent properties or walkways. The owner of any parking or loading area shall maintain the area in good condition.

Penalty, see § 151.99

§ 151.39 PARKING AND STORAGE OF CERTAIN VEHICLES.

No motor vehicle or trailer without current license plates shall be parked or stored on any property in a residential district other than in a completely enclosed building, or as otherwise

provided in this code.

Penalty, see § 151.99

§ 151.40 REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITIONS.

(A) Required parking and loading areas and the driveways providing access to them shall not be used for storage, display, sales, rental or repair of motor vehicles or other goods or for the storage of inoperable vehicles or snow.

(B) All required parking spaces shall be accessed by adequate maneuvering space.

§ 151.41 REDUCTIONS ALLOWED.

If warranted by the unique characteristics and/or documented parking demand for similar developments, the city may allow a reduction in the number of parking spaces actually constructed as long as the applicant provides proof of a future parking plan. The plan must show the location for all minimum required parking spaces in conformance with all applicable setback requirements. The city may require installation of the additional parking spaces whenever the need arises.

PERMITS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR FENCES, WALLS OR HEDGES

§ 151.45 APPLICATION.

The requirements of this subchapter shall apply to all new or replacement fences, walls, or shrubbery erected or installed from and after the effective date of this subchapter, but shall not apply to the mere repair of existing fences.

§ 151.46 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.

(A) All fences of more than 30 inches in height shall require a permit.

(B) No fence shall contain barbed wire.

(C) No fence shall be charged with electric current, except within an agricultural district.

(D) No fence, wall or other obstruction to vision above a height of 30 inches from the established street grades shall be permitted within the triangular area formed at the intersection of any street right-of-way lines by a straight line drawn between the right-of-way lines at a distance along each line of 25 feet from their point of intersection.

(E) Fences must be maintained so as not to endanger life or property and any fence which, through lack of repair, type of construction or otherwise, that imperils health, life or property or the well-being of a neighborhood shall be deemed a nuisance.

(F) All fences must be located on the private property of the person, firm or corporation constructing the fence.

(G) All fences must comply with all other requirements of law or this code as it applies to fence installation and materials.

Penalty, see § 151.99

§ 151.47 RESIDENTIAL REGULATIONS.

(A) *Prohibited material.* No fence or wall shall be constructed of any electrically charged element or barbed wire.

(B) *Approved material.* All fences in residential districts shall be constructed of stone, brick, finished wood, chained link or vinyl. The finished side of the fence, or that side of the fence without exposed support or posts, shall face the neighboring property or streets.

(C) *Side and rear yard requirements.* No fence or wall located in a side or a rear yard shall be of height exceeding six feet, measured from its top edge to the ground at any point.

(D) *Front yards.* No fence or wall shall be located in a front yard.

(E) *Maintenance.* Every fence or wall shall be maintained in a good and safe condition at all times. Every damaged or missing element of any fence or wall shall be prepared or replaced immediately.

(F) *Setbacks.* No fence may be located less than two feet from a property line. No fence, wall, hedge or other screening device shall be permitted to encroach on any public right-of-way. Penalty, see § 151.99

§151.48 VARIANCE.

Any deviation from the provisions of this subchapter shall require a variance. If a variance is requested, the variance shall be considered in accordance with the zoning variance procedures and fees for this variance will be in accordance with the zoning variance fee.

ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

§ 151.49 CONSISTENCY WITH STATE LAW.

Notwithstanding anything in this chapter to the contrary, the provisions of M.S. §15.99 as it may be amended from time to time, and the following sections shall govern the process for making decisions under this chapter. To the extent to which these sections conflict with the provisions of M.S. § 15.99, as it may be amended from time to time, the provisions of that statute shall apply.

§ 151.50 APPLICATIONS.

(A) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this chapter, all applications for any site plan,

conditional use permit, land use permit, variance, or for any other city approval required by this chapter, or to amend this chapter, shall be made in writing on a form provided by the city, if the city has a form, to the City Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter. The Zoning Administrator is authorized to reject in writing any incomplete application within 15 business days of receipt if the application is incomplete, stating the reasons for its rejection, including what information is missing. This rejection shall be sent by first-class mail to the applicant. Every application shall contain the legal description of the property and a statement of the specific permit or action being sought.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent the city from requesting additional information from the applicant upon which to base a decision.

(B) As authorized by M.S. § 462.353, as it may be amended from time to time, if a dispute arises over a specific fee imposed by the city, the amount of the fee must be deposited and held in escrow, and the person aggrieved by the fee may appeal to district court, as provided by M.S. § 462.361, as it may be amended from time to time. The application shall proceed as if the fee had been paid, pending a decision of the court.

§ 151.51 PUBLIC NOTICE AND HEARINGS.

As required by M.S. § 462.357 and M.S. § 462.3595 a public hearing shall be held by the City Council or the Planning Commission, if a Planning Commission exists in the city, before any conditional use permit, variance, or zoning amendment may be granted. A notice of the time, place and purpose of the hearing shall be published in the official newspaper of the city at least ten days prior to the day of the hearing. In the case of an amendment to the zoning code which involves changes in district boundaries affecting an area of five acres or less, and in the case of an application for a conditional use permit or a variance, a similar notice shall be mailed at least ten days before the day of the hearing to each owner of affected property and property situated wholly or partly within 350 feet of the property to which the zoning code amendment, conditional use or variance relates. The applicant shall provide a list of the owners of affected property and property situated wholly or partly within 350 feet of the property to which the hearing relates. The Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter may use any appropriate records to determine the names and addresses of owners. A copy of the notice and a list of the owners and addresses to which the notice was sent shall be attested to by the Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter and shall be made a part of the records of the proceedings. The failure to give mailed notice to individual property owners, or defects in the notice shall not invalidate the proceedings, provided a bona fide attempt to comply with the mailed notice requirements has been made.

§ 151.52 FINAL ACTIONS.

As required by M.S. § 15.99 as it may be amended from time to time, commonly called the 60-day rule, all approvals and denials of applications for a zoning amendment, site plan, conditional use permit, land use permit, variance or any other application which requires a city approval under this chapter must be made within the timeline and following the process of M.S. § 15.99. Failure to follow the requirements of the statute may result in automatic approval of applications.

§151.53 NOTICE OF DECISION.

As required by M.S. § 15.99, as it may be amended from time to time, commonly called the 60-day rule, notice of approvals and denials of applications for a zoning amendment, site plan, conditional use permit, land use permit, variance or any other application which requires a city approval under this chapter must be provided within the timeline and following the process of M.S. § 15.99. Failure to follow the requirements of the statute may result in automatic approval of applications.

§ 151.54 LAND USE PERMIT REQUIRED.

No structure or fence subject to §151.46 shall be constructed until a land use permit has been obtained from the City Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter. The application shall contain a plan showing the location on the structure or fence on the property that demonstrates that all requirements of this code will be met. The application shall also contain the plans for the structure to be built that demonstrates that the structure will meet all of the standards established by this zoning code. If an application requires a zoning amendment, conditional use permit or variance, no land use permit shall be issued by the Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter until any application for a zoning amendment, conditional use permit or variance has been acted upon by the City Council. A decision by the Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter not to issue a land use permit may be appealed to the Board of Appeals and Adjustments as provided for in §151.60. No residential contractor who is required to be licensed by the state, and no person employing a residential contractor who is required to be licensed, shall be issued a land use permit unless that contractor is licensed. Any person applying for a permit who is required to have a state license, but who does not have a state license, shall be reported to the State Commissioner of Commerce.

§ 151.55 CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS.

Pursuant to M.S. § 462.3595, as it may be amended from time to time, conditional uses may be approved by the City Council by a showing by the applicant that the standards and criteria stated in this zoning code, and any conditions imposed by the City Council, will be satisfied. A public hearing on the granting of a conditional use permit shall be held in the manner provided in § 151.51. A conditional use permit shall remain in effect as long as the conditions agreed upon are observed, but the Council may enact or amend the zoning code to change the status of conditional uses. A conditional use permit shall not become effective until a certified copy is filed by the applicant with the County Recorder, which shall include the legal description of the property included.

§ 151.56 BOARD OF APPEALS AND ADJUSTMENTS.

The City Council shall be the Board of Appeals and Adjustments for this city, and have the powers granted under M.S. §§ 462.357, Subd. 6 and 462.359, Subd. 4, as they may be amended from time to time.

§ 151.57 VARIANCES.

Pursuant to M.S. § 462.357, Subd. 6, as it may be amended from time to time, the City Council, acting as a Board of Appeals and Adjustments, may issue variances from the provisions of this zoning code. A variance is a modification or variation of the provisions of this zoning code as applied to a specific piece of property. A variance from the literal provisions of this zoning code may be granted by the Board of Appeals and Adjustments only when the variance is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the zoning code and the variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan, if the city has adopted one. A variance may be granted when the applicant for the variance establishes that there are **PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES** in complying with the zoning ordinance. **PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES** as used in connection with granting a variance, means the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the zoning code; the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner; and the variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the locality. Economic considerations alone do not constitute practical difficulties. Practical difficulties include, but are not limited to, inadequate access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems.

Variances shall be granted for earth sheltered construction as defined in M.S. § 216C.06, Subd. 14, as it may be amended from time to time, when in harmony with this zoning code. The Board of Appeals and Adjustments may not permit as a variance any use that is not allowed under this zoning code for property in the zone where the affected person's land is located. The Board of Appeals and Adjustments may permit as a variance the temporary use of a one-family dwelling as a two-family dwelling. The Board of Appeals and Adjustments may impose conditions in the granting of variances to ensure compliance and to protect adjacent properties. A condition must be directly related to and must bear rough proportionality to the impact created by the variance. The variance shall not become effective until a certified copy is filed by the applicant with the County Recorder, which shall include the legal description of the property included.

§ 151.58 NONCONFORMING USES.

(A) As required by M.S. § 462.357, as it may be amended from time to time, any nonconformity, including the lawful use or occupation of land or premises existing at the time of the adoption of these zoning regulations, may be continued, including through repair, replacement, restoration, maintenance or improvement, but not including expansion, unless the nonconformity or occupancy is discontinued for a period of more than one year, or any nonconforming use is destroyed by fire or other peril to the extent of greater than 50% of its market value, and no building permit has been applied for within 180 days of when the property is damaged. In this case, the City Council may impose reasonable conditions upon a building permit in order to mitigate any newly created impact on adjacent property. A subsequent use or occupancy of the land or premises shall be a conforming use or occupancy.

(B) Notwithstanding division (A), the city may regulate the repair, replacement, maintenance, improvement, or expansion of nonconforming uses and structures in floodplain areas to the extent necessary to maintain eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program and not increase flood damage potential or increase the degree of obstruction of flood flows in the floodway.

(C) Nonconforming shoreland lots of record are subject to the provisions of M.S. § 462.357, as it may be amended from time to time.

§ 151.59 AMENDMENTS.

(A) The clerk, or other person appointed by the City Council, may inspect any property that is the subject of any application under this chapter, with either the permission of the owner, resident or other person in control of the property, or after first obtaining an administrative search warrant as provided for under § 10.20.

(B) An amendment to this zoning code may be initiated by the City Council or by petition of affected property owners. The requirements for public notice and hearing contained in § 151.51 shall be followed. The zoning code may be amended by a majority vote of all of the members of the City Council. The adoption of an amendment which changes all or part of the existing classification of a zoning district from residential to either commercial or industrial requires a two-thirds majority vote of all members of the City Council.

§ 151.60 APPEALS.

Appeals to the City Council acting as the Board of Appeals and Adjustments may be taken by any affected person where it is alleged that there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by an administrative officer of the city in the enforcement of the zoning code. No mailed or published notice of the hearing on the appeal is required, but a public hearing shall be held on each appeal.

§ 151.61 RECORD OF DECISIONS.

The Council may provide that a record be made of its proceedings concerning its actions on any application for a permit, zoning ordinance amendment, or appeal. This record may include the minutes of the meeting, the findings of the Council and the action taken.

§ 151.62 PLANNING COMMISSION.

The provisions of Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances §§ 31.45 to 31.48 are inoperable until the Council appoints a Planning Commission. Nothing in those provisions requires the Council to appoint a Planning Commission.

§ 151.63 FEES.

As provided by M.S. § 462.353, Subd. 4, as it may be amended from time to time, fees may be established as follows:

(A) The Council may in a separate ordinance, or in the Ordinance Establishing Fees and Charges, prescribe fees sufficient to defray the costs incurred in reviewing, investigating, and administering applications for an amendment to the provisions of this chapter and to all official maps, and applications for a permit, a variance or for some other approval required under this chapter.

(B) These fees must be fair, reasonable and proportionate to the actual cost of the service for which the fee is imposed. The city shall adopt management and accounting procedures to ensure that fees are maintained and used only for the purpose for which they are collected.

(C) If a dispute arises over a specific fee imposed by a city, the amount of the fee must be deposited and held in escrow, and the person aggrieved by the fee may appeal to district court as provided by M.S. § 462.361, as it may be amended from time to time. The application shall proceed as if the fee had been paid, pending a decision by the court.

§ 151.64 CERTIFICATION OF TAXES PAID.

Prior to approving an application for any city land use permit, the applicant shall provide certification to the city that there are no delinquent property taxes, special assessments, unpaid utility charges certified for payment as taxes, interest, or city utility fees due upon the parcel of land to which the land use permit relates.

§ 151.99 ENFORCEMENT.

(A) The City Council may direct the Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter to send a notice of any violation. When so directed, a notice of a violation shall be mailed by the Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter to any person who, in the opinion of the Clerk or other person appointed by the City Council to administer this chapter, is in violation of the provisions of the zoning code. The notice shall state the nature of the violation and the penalty for the violation. A person who is issued a notice of violation may appeal the issuance to the City Council under the provisions of § 151.60.

(B) If the person to whom the notice of violation is directed fails to comply with the applicable provisions of the zoning code, that person is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided by § 10.99.

(C) Each day the violation continues is a separate offense.

(D) The city may also enforce any provision of this zoning code by mandamus, injunction, or any other appropriate remedy in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(E) A person who knowingly makes or submits a false statement or document in connection with an application or procedure required by this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided by § 10.99.

(F) A person who violates, fails to comply with or assists, directs or permits the violation of a performance standards required by § 151.30 must reimburse the city or its agent for the actual costs of the tests, measurements or other procedures necessary to demonstrate that violation.

(G) A violation of this chapter or a condition imposed under this chapter is a public nuisance. The public nuisance may be abated in accordance with Chapter 92.

Minnesota Basic Code of Ordinances - Land Usage

(H) No section or part of this chapter designating the duties of an official, employee or appointee of the city may be construed to make that official, employee or appointee liable for the penalty provided by the city ordinances for violation of this chapter.