§ 88-33. Adoption of standards.

A certain document, three copies of which are on file in the Borough Secretary's office of the Borough of Bechtelsville, being marked and designated as "The International Fire Code, 2003," as published by the International Code Council, without Appendices, is hereby adopted by the Borough of Bechtelsville in the County of Berks, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for the control of buildings, structures and premises as herein provided; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said ICC International Fire Code are hereby referred to, adopted and made a part hereof as if fully set out in this article, with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes prescribed in § 88-35 of this article.

§ 88-34. Inconsistent ordinances repealed.

Any and all ordinances which conflict herewith, including Ordinance No. 210 adopting the BOCA National Fire Prevention Code, 1990 Edition, as the Fire Code of the Borough of Bechtelsville, as well as Ordinance No. 218 that amended Ordinance No. 210, are hereby repealed.

§ 88-35. Additions, insertions and changes.

The International Fire Code, 2003 Edition, as referenced in § 88-33, shall be revised as follows:

A. The following subsections and/or words in the code are hereby revised to substitute the following words for the original words contained in the ordinance [original language is contained in brackets]:

1. Section 101.1, substitute "The Borough of Bechtelsville" for "[NAME OF JURISDICTION]."

2. Section 111.4, substitute "$100" for the first reference of "[AMOUNT]" and "$1,000" for the second reference of "[AMOUNT]."

3. Substitute in all sections of the code "Code Enforcement Officer" for "[THE CODE OFFICIAL]."

4. Substitute in all sections of the code "Borough Council" for "[THE GOVERNING BODY]."

5. Substitute in all sections of the code "Borough Council" for "[BOARD OF APPEALS]."

B. Section 202 is hereby revised to include the following additional definitions:
HIGH-RISE BUILDING. A building whose roof is 35 or more feet from the lowest level of fire department access.

OCCUPIED. As applied to a building or portion thereof, shall be construed as though followed by the words, "or intended, arranged or designed to be occupied, or having a certificate of use and occupancy."

C. Section 502 is hereby revised to include the following additional definition:

SMOKE DETECTOR, SINGLE STATION LINE-OPERATED. A device that automatically detects smoke or other products of combustion, is hard wired and powered by AC current, in accordance with NFIPA 72. This shall not include self-contained battery-operated single station smoke detectors.

D. Section 307 is hereby amended to include the following additional subsection known as 307.5:

307.5. Allowable burning. Open burning shall be allowed without prior notification to the Code Enforcement Officer for recreational fires, highway safety flares, smudge pots, and similar occupational needs. In addition, a person may burn paper, wood, and/or dry leaves only in a metal receptacle or burn barrel under the following conditions:

a. The receptacle or burn barrel must be a type approved by the Code Enforcement Officer.

b. The receptacle or burn barrel must have a wire mesh covering, not to exceed 3/4 inch square mesh, placed on the top of the burn barrel or receptacle.

c. The receptacle must be placed a minimum of 15 feet from any structure.

d. Burning shall be allowed only from sunrise to sunset.

e. Burning must be constantly attended until the fire in the receptacle is extinguished.

f. Smoldering fires are prohibited.

E. Subsection 907.3.1 is hereby amended to include the following additional subsection known as 907.3.1.9:

907.3.1.9 Fire alarm systems in high-rise buildings:

907.3.1.9.1 All high-rise buildings, except those buildings protected throughout with an automatic fire suppression system, shall have all exit access corridors protected with an automatic fire alarm system. This system shall include smoke detectors as its primary initiating device and shall announce to a panel in the lobby of the building.
§ 88-35  BECHTELSVILLE CODE  § 88-35

907.3.1.9.2 A minimum of one single-station, line-operated smoke detector shall be installed in each guestroom, suite or sleeping area in occupancies R-1 and R-2. In addition, a minimum of one smoke detector shall be installed on each floor, regardless of whether or not there are any sleeping quarters on that floor.

F. Section 903.2 is hereby amended to include the following additional subsection known as 903.2.14:

903.2.14 Fire suppression systems in high-rise buildings. All high-rise buildings which contain a mix of occupancies shall be equipped with an automatic fire suppression system in those areas, other than those classified as R-1 and R-2, when such use occurs on the same floor as the residential use or on a floor beneath the residential use.

G. Subsection 1003.3.1.3 is hereby amended to include the following additional subsection known as 1003.3.1.3.8:

1003.3.1.3.8 Door locking systems in high-rise buildings. In existing high-rise buildings, exit doors on fire towers, including doors at roof level, may be locked from the stairway side of the door only if a system to automatically unlock the doors is installed. Such system shall comply with Sections 504.1 to 504.3, as follows:

1003.3.1.3.8.1 The door locking system shall be interconnected with the building’s fire alarm system.
1003.3.1.3.8.2 When the building’s fire alarm system is activated, the doors shall be automatically unlocked, but shall remain latched.
1003.3.1.3.8.3 When the building’s power supply fails, the doors shall be automatically unlocked, but shall remain latched. The emergency electrical power in the building shall not be supplied to the locking mechanism.
1003.3.1.3.8.4 Electrical power to energize the locking mechanism shall be supplied by a separate circuit without interconnections with exit signs or any other device.

H. The title of Section 103, Department of Fire Prevention, is deleted in its entirety. A new title is hereby enacted to read as follows: "CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND DEPUTIES."

I. Section 103.1 is deleted in its entirety. A new Section 103.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

103.1. Creation of the office of the Code Enforcement Officer. The office of the Code Enforcement Officer is hereby created, and the executive official(s) in charge thereof shall be known as the Code Enforcement Officer(s). A function of the office shall be the implementation, administration, and enforcement of the provisions of this code.
J. Section 103.2 is deleted in its entirety. A new Section 103.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

103.2. Appointment. The Code Enforcement Officer(s) shall be appointed by Borough Council and shall serve at the pleasure of Borough Council. The Code Enforcement Officer shall have the authority to appoint a Deputy Code Enforcement Officer.

K. Sections 103.4 and 103.4.1 are hereby deleted in their entirety.

L. Section 109.3 is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

109.3 Penalties. Any person or persons who violate a provision of the code, or of a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a summary offense, punishable by a fine of not less than $100, but not more than $1,000, and, in default of payment thereof, to imprisonment for not more than 90 days. Every day that a violation of this code continues shall constitute a separate offense.

M. Section 307.2.1 is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

307.2.1 Authorization. Where required, burning permits shall be issued to residents only. The burning of allowed material shall be in a metal container, as set forth in Section 307.6. The permit holder shall keep the permit at the location of any burning and present it, upon request of any law enforcement, fire officer, or code enforcement officer.

1. There shall be no disposal of hazardous or toxic material, unless approved in writing by PADEP or the United States Environmental Protection Agency prior to disposal.

2. This subsection shall not apply to official activity with reference to instruction and methods of fire-fighting or for research and control of fires in emergency or other extraordinary circumstances.

§ 88-36. Saving clause.

Nothing in this article, or in the Fire Prevention Code hereby adopted, shall be construed to affect any lawsuit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing under any act or ordinance hereby repealed as cited in § 88-34 of this article; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this article.