

ORDINANCE NO. 2004-\_\_\_\_\_

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS THAT:

Chapter 6, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rockford, Illinois, passed November 30, 1970, approved December 2, 1970 and published December 8, 1970, as amended, be and the same is hereby amended by the following, to wit:

**Section 6-7 is amended as follows:**

**Section 6-7 Residential Code adopted by reference.**

The ICC International Residential Code/2003 as published by the International Code Council including Appendix A, B, C, D, E as amended, G as amended, and H is hereby adopted as the Residential Code of the City of Rockford in the State of Illinois; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said code are hereby referred to, adopted and made a part thereof as if fully set out in the Ordinance, with the additions, insertions, deletions and amendments contained in Section 6-8 of this article.

**Section 6-8 is amended as follows:**

**Section 6-8 Amendments to the Residential Code.**

The ICC International Residential Code /2003 edition is amended as follows:

(1) Section R103.4 is added as follows:

**103.4 Restriction of employees.** An official or employee connected with the enforcement of this code, except whose only connection is that of a member of the board of appeals established under the provisions of section 112 of this code, shall not be engaged in, or directly or indirectly connected with, the furnishing of labor, materials or appliances for the construction, alteration or maintenance of a building, or the preparation of construction documents thereof, unless that person is the owner of the building; nor shall such officer or employee engage in any work that conflicts with official duties or with the interests of the department.

(2) Section R105.2 is amended as follows:

**R105.2 Work exempt from permit.** Permits shall not be required for the following. Exemption from permit requirements of this code shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in any manner in violation of the provisions of this code or any laws or ordinances of this jurisdiction.

Building:

1. One-story detached accessory structures (including decks), provided the floor area does not exceed 200 120 square feet (18.58m<sup>2</sup>) (11.15 m<sup>2</sup>) and is not supported by another structure.
2. ~~Fences not over 6 feet (1219 mm) high~~ Roofing materials provided roof deck or support framing is not being replaced.
3. Retaining walls that are not over 4 feet (1219 mm) in height measured from the grade at bottom of footing to the grade at top of the wall; ~~unless supporting a surcharge.~~
4. Water tanks supported directly upon grade if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons (18,927 L) and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed 2 to 1.
5. Sidewalks, patios and driveways not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above adjacent grade and not over any basement or story below.
6. Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, countertops and similar finish work.
7. Prefabricated swimming pools that are less than 24 inches (610 mm) deep.
8. Swings and other playground equipment ~~accessory to a one or two family dwelling.~~

9. ~~Window Awnings supported by an exterior wall which do not project more than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the exterior wall and do not require additional support and not extending into a City of Rockford right-of-way.~~
10. Replacement of doors and windows provided the size is not changed and a fire rating is not required.
11. Repair or replacement of interior or exterior wall and ceiling coverings, provided:
  - a. not more than 50% of coverings in a room are removed,
  - b. coverings are not part of a fire rated assembly,
  - c. structural elements in a hazardous condition are not exposed,

Electrical:

~~Repairs and maintenance: a~~ An electrical permit shall not be required for: minor repair work, including the replacement of lamps or the connection of approved portable electrical equipment to approved permanently installed receptacles.

1. Temporary cord and plug lighting, provided they are not within a tent requiring a permit.
2. Replacement of plug and switch receptacles, light fixtures or ceiling fans weighing less than 35 lbs. provided wiring and junction box are not altered.
3. Repair or replacement of branch circuit overcurrent devices.
4. Wiring, devices, appliances, apparatus or equipment operating at less than 25v and 50w.
5. Low voltage wiring and systems not associated with fire alarm or other life safety systems.
6. Repair or replacement of interior or exterior wall and ceiling coverings, provided:
  - a. not more than 50% of coverings in a room are removed,
  - b. framing is not exposed to the extent where smoke alarms are required to be wired to buildings electrical system and be interconnected by section R317.1.1,
  - c. electrical wiring in a hazardous condition is not exposed and the minimum standards for receptacles, light switches and light fixtures established in sections 604 and 605 of the International Property Maintenance Code as amended have been met,
  - d. electrical systems are not being resized, rearranged or extended.

7. Replacement of counters, provided they are not lengthened more than two feet where part of a kitchen or wet bar within a dwelling.

Gas:

1. Portable heating, cooking or clothes drying appliances.
2. Replacement of any minor part that does not alter the approval of equipment or make such equipment unsafe.
3. Portable fuel cell appliances that are connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to a power grid.
4. Repair or replacement of interior or exterior wall and ceiling coverings, provided:
  - a. fuel gas systems in a hazardous condition are not exposed, or
  - b. fuel gas systems are not being resized, rearranged or extended.

Mechanical:

1. Portable heating appliance.
2. Portable ventilation appliances.
3. Portable cooling unit.
4. Steam, hot or chilled water piping within any heating or cooling equipment regulated by this code.
5. Replacement of any minor part that does not alter approval of equipment or make such equipment unsafe.
6. Portable evaporative cooler.
7. Self contained refrigeration ~~systems~~ package-type equipment containing 10 pounds (4.54 kg) or less of refrigerant or that are actuated by motors of 1 horsepower (764W) or less in which all components of the refrigeration system are located within a single enclosure without the requirement for on-site assembly or piping.
8. Portable fuel cell appliances that are connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to a power grid.
9. Self contained portable refrigeration appliances.
10. Repair or replacement of interior or exterior wall and ceiling coverings, provided:
  - a. Mechanical systems in a hazardous condition are not exposed, or
  - b. Mechanical systems are not being resized, rearranged or extended.

Plumbing:

~~The stoppage of leaks in drains, water, soil, waste or vent pipe; provided, however, that it does not require the resizing or rearrangement of any defective trap or pipe. If any concealed trap, drain pipe, water, soil, waste or vent pipe becomes~~

~~defective and it becomes necessary to remove and replace the same with new material, such work shall be considered as new work and a permit shall be obtained and an inspection made as provided in this code.~~

~~The clearing of stoppages, removal of fixtures or the repairing of leaks in pipes, valves or fixtures, and the removal and reinstallation of water closets, provided such repairs do not involve or require the replacement~~ resizing or rearrangement of valves, pipes or fixtures.

~~The repair or replacement of fixtures, water softeners or water purifiers in the same location, provided that it does not require the resizing or rearrangement of any trap or piping.~~

Repair or replacement of interior or exterior wall and ceiling coverings, provided:

- a. plumbing systems in a hazardous condition are not exposed, or
- b. plumbing systems are not being resized, rearranged or extended.

(3) Section R105.2.2 is amended as follows:

**R105.2.2 Repairs.** Application or notice to the building official is not required for ordinary repairs to structures, replacement of lamps or the connection of approved portable electrical equipment to approved permanently installed receptacles. Such repairs shall not include the cutting away of any framing within a ceiling, floor, wall, partition or portion thereof, the removal or cutting of any structural beam or load bearing support, or the removal or change of any required means of egress, or rearrangement of parts of a structure affecting the egress requirements; nor shall ordinary repairs include addition to, alteration of, replacement or relocation of any, water supply, sewer, drainage, drain leader, gas, soil, waste, vent or similar piping, electric wiring or mechanical or other work affecting public health or general safety.

(4) Section R105.3.3 is added as follows:

**R105.3.3 Application for mechanical permit.** Each application for a mechanical permit shall be filed with the code official on a form furnished for that purpose and shall contain a general description of the proposed work and its location, the proposed occupancy of the building(s) and other information required by the code official. The

application shall be submitted by a City of Rockford mechanical license holder. In the event that more than one license holder is employed by a firm or corporation, the license holder that is submitting an application shall be listed on that application. Permits are not transferable from one license holder to another.

**Exception:** The owner-occupant of a single family dwelling, or owner of a single family dwelling under construction for his or her occupancy upon completion is permitted to plan, install, alter and repair the mechanical and gas piping systems of such dwelling without a license provided that required permits are obtained and such systems comply with the requirements of this code. The owner-occupant shall not employ other than a City of Rockford licensed mechanical contractor to assist him or her.

(5) Section R105.3.4 is added as follows:

**R105.3.4 Application for plumbing permit.**

Each application for a plumbing permit shall be filed with the code official on a form furnished for that purpose and shall contain a general description of the proposed work and its location, the proposed occupancy of the building(s) and other information required by the code official. The application shall be submitted by a State of Illinois plumbing license holder. In the event that more than one license holder is employed by a firm or corporation, the license holder that is submitting an application shall be listed on that application. Permits are not transferable from one license holder to another.

**Exception:** The owner-occupant of a single family dwelling, or owner of a single family dwelling under construction for his or her occupancy upon completion is permitted to plan, install, alter and repair the plumbing systems of such dwelling without a license provided that required permits are obtained and such systems comply with the requirements of the *Illinois Plumbing Code*. The owner-occupant shall not employ other than a State of Illinois licensed plumber to assist him or her.

(6) Section R105.3.5 is added as follows:

**R105.3.5 Application for electrical permit.**

Each application for an electrical permit shall be filed with the code official on a form furnished for

that purpose and shall contain a general description of the proposed work and its location, the proposed occupancy of the building(s) and other information required by the code official. The application shall be submitted by a City of Rockford registered electrician. In the event that more than one registered electrician is employed by a firm or corporation, the registered electrician that is submitting an application shall be listed on that application. Permits are not transferable from one registered electrician to another.

**Exception:** The owner-occupant of a single family dwelling, or owner of a single family dwelling under construction for his or her occupancy upon completion is permitted to plan, install, alter and repair the electrical systems of such dwelling without a license provided that required permits are obtained and such systems comply with the requirements of this code. The owner-occupant shall not employ other than a City of Rockford registered electrician to assist him or her.

(7) Section R105.7 is amended as follows:

**R105.7 Placement of Permit.** The permit holder shall post the building permit or copy thereof shall be kept in accordance with the building official's instructions on the site of the work in a conspicuous location at all times until the completion of the project and all final inspections have been made and work approved. The building official is authorized to impose a reinspection fee when the permit is not posted. No inspection of any kind will be performed unless a building permit for the address in question is posted and visible to the inspector.

(8) Section R106.1 is amended as follows:

**R106.1 Submittal documents.** Construction documents, special inspection and structural observation programs, and other data shall ~~may~~ be submitted required in one or more sets with each application for a permit. The construction documents shall be prepared by a registered licensed design professional where required by the statutes of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed. Where special conditions exist, the building official is authorized to require additional construction documents to be prepared by a registered licensed design professional.

(9) Section 106.3 is amended as follows:

**R106.3 Examination of Documents.** The building official ~~shall may~~ examine or cause to be examined construction documents for code compliance. When construction documents are submitted for review, the requirements of Sections R106.3.1 through R106.5 shall apply to these documents. The absence of construction documents does not invalidate the application of any section in this code.

(10) Section R108.6 is added as follows:

**R108.6 Reinspection fee.** Any item of inspection that fails to meet code requirements on the initial or first reinspection shall be subject to a reinspection fee per Section 6-15 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rockford, charged to the permit holder for each additional reinspection performed.

(11) Section R108.7 is added as follows:

**R108.7 Work commencing before permit issuance.** When a permit is required by this code, and work is started or proceeded with, prior to obtaining said permit, the fees established in Section R108.2 shall be doubled and not less than \$250.00. *This penalty may be waived by the building official if the person in violation has not obtained a permit in the last year and is performing work on property they own.* For the second offense within a twelve (12) month period, starting or proceeding with the work prior to obtaining a permit, the fees established in Section R108.2 shall be doubled and not less than \$500.00 plus an additional fee of \$500.00 shall be paid for each day work continued without said permit. For the third such instance within a twelve (12) month period, the fees established in Section R108.2 shall be tripled and not less than \$750.00 plus an additional fee of \$750.00 shall be paid for each day work continued without said permit. For the fourth such instance within a twelve (12) month period, the offender shall be prosecuted by the City of Rockford Legal Department as permitted by state Law. The payment of such fees shall not relieve any person from complying with the requirements of this code and the execution of the work, nor from any penalties prescribed herein.

(12) R109.1 is amended as follows:

**R109.1 Type of inspections.** For on-site construction, from time to time the building official, upon notification from the permit holder or

his agent, ~~shall may~~ make or cause to be made any necessary inspections and shall either approve that portion of the construction as completed or shall notify the permit holder or his or her agent wherein the same fails to comply with this code. Where the phrase “shall me made” or “ shall require” is used in Sections 109.1.1, 109.1.2, 109.1.3, 109.1.4, 109.1.5 and 109.1.6 it shall mean “may be made” or “may be required”.

(13) R109.1.4 is amended as follows:

**R109.1.4 Frame and masonry inspection.** Inspection of framing and masonry construction shall may be made after the roof, masonry, all framing, firestopping, draftstopping and bracing are in place and after the plumbing, mechanical and electrical rough inspections are approved and prior to covering or concealment of any of the aforementioned.

(14) Section R112. 1 is amended as follows:

**R112.1 General.** In order to hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the building official relative to the application and interpretation of this code, there shall be and is hereby created a ~~boards~~ of appeals. The building official shall be an ex officio member of said ~~boards~~ but shall have no vote on any matter before the board. The board of appeals shall be appointed by the governing body and shall hold office at their pleasure. The board shall adopt rules of procedure for conducting their business, and shall render all decisions and findings in writing to the appellant with a duplicate copy to the building official.

(15) Section R112.1.1 is added as follows:

**R112.1.1 Building Board of appeals.** The building board of appeals shall be in accordance with section 112 and appendix B of the *International Building Code* as amended.

(16) Section R112.1.2 is added as follows:

R112.1.1 Mechanical Board. The mechanical board shall be in accordance with section 109 of the *International Mechanical Code* as amended.

(17) Section R112.1.3 is added as follows:

**R112.1.1 Electrical Commission.** The electrical commission shall be in accordance with chapter 11 of the *ICC Electric Code* as amended.

(18) Sections R112.2.1 through R112.4 are deleted without substitution.

(19) Section R113.4 is amended as follows:

**R113.4 Violation penalties.** Any person who violates a provision of this code or fails to comply with any of the requirements thereof or erects, constructs, alters or repairs a building or structure, mechanical systems, plumbing systems or electrical systems in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the ~~building code~~ official, or a permit or certificate issued under the provisions of this code, shall be subject to penalties as prescribed by law and punishable by a fine of not less than 50 and not more than \$750. Each day of violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

(20) Section R114.2 is amended as follows:

**R114.2 Unlawful continuance.** Any person who shall continue work on any building or structure, mechanical system, plumbing system or electrical system after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed

(21) Table R301.2 (1) shall read as follows:

TABLE R301.2 (1)  
CLIMATIC AND GEOGRAPHIC DESIGN CRITERIA

GROUND SNOW LOAD (pounds per square foot)	WIND SPEED (mph)	SEISMIC DESIGN CATEGORY <sup>g</sup>	SUBJECT TO DAMAGE FROM				Winter Design Temp <sup>f</sup>	Ice Shield Underlayment Required <sup>i</sup>	Flood Hazards	Air Freezing Index <sup>j</sup>	Mean Annual Temp <sup>k</sup>
			Weathering <sup>a</sup>	Frost Line Depth <sup>b</sup>	Termite <sup>c</sup>	Decay <sup>d</sup>					
30	90	A/B	SEVERE	42"	MODERATE TO HEAVY	SLIGHT TO MODERATE	-4 degF	NO	June 18, 1979 Ord. June 12, 1982 Ord. Map		

g. The Seismic Design category, based upon Figure R301.2(2) presuming soil conditions result in Site Classification of D (Stiff soil profile with average properties in top 100 feet) as follows:  
 Soil shear wave velocity = 600 to 1200 ft/sec.  
 Standard penetration resistance = 15 to 50  
 Soil undrained shear strength = 1000 to 2000 psf  
 Site Classifications of C (Very Dense soil and soft rock), B (Rock) or A (Hard Rock) will result in lower than 0.17g Spectral response accelerations, and therefore a Seismic Design Category of A  
 Site Classification of E (Soft Soil profile) will result in higher than 0.17g and less than 0.33g Spectral response accelerations, and therefore a Seismic Design Category of B.

to perform or remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be ~~subject to penalties as prescribed by law~~ liable for a fine of not more than \$750.00.

(22) Section R202 is amended as follows:

Replace "Manufactured Home with **MANUFACTURED, MOBILE, MODULAR HOMES AND UNITS.** See Appendix E.

Add:

**OCCUPANCY.** Room or enclosed space designed for human occupancy in which occupants congregate for amusement, education or similar purposes or are engaged at labor.

Revise 'Fire Separation Distance' to read:

Amend:

**FIRE SEPARATION DISTANCE.** The distance measured from the building face to the closest interior lot line, or to the centerline of a street, alley or public way, ~~or to an imaginary line between two buildings on the property lot.~~ This distance shall be measured at right angles from the lot line.

IF Site Classification of E or F with plastic, liquefied, organic soils or highly sensitized clays, a qualified geotechnical engineer shall investigate soils and prepare a written report with findings and recommendations.

NOTE: Section R301.2.2 states this code has provisions only for One- and Two-Family Dwellings in seismic category D and accessory structures in seismic categories C and D.

(23) Table R301.6 is amended as follows:

**TABLE R301.6**  
**MINIMUM ROOF LIVE LOADS IN POUNDS-FORCE**  
**PER SQUARE FOOT OF HORIZONTAL PROJECTION**

ROOF SLOPE	TRIBUTARY LOADED AREA IN SQUARE FEET FOR ANY STRUCTURAL MEMBER		
	0 to 200	210 to 600	Over 600
Flat or rise less than 4 inches per foot (1:3)	<del>20</del> 24	<del>16</del> 20	<del>12</del> 16
Rise 4 inches per foot (1:3) to less than 12 inches per foot (1:1)	16	14	12
Rise 12 inches per foot (1:1) and greater	12	12	12

(24) Section R303.2 is amended as follows:

**R303.2 Adjoining rooms.** When rooms are open without obstruction into adjoining rooms, the required window openings to the outer air shall be based on the combined floor area of the room and adjoining room. For the purpose of determining light and ventilation requirements, any room shall be considered as the portion of an adjoining room when at least one-half of the area of the common wall is open and unobstructed and provides an opening of not less than one-tenth of the floor area of the interior room but not less than ~~25~~ 17 square feet (~~2.32~~ 1.55 m<sup>2</sup>).

(25) Section R303.6 is amended as follows:

**R303.6 Stairway illumination.** All interior and exterior stairways with three or more risers shall be provided with a means to illuminate the stairs, including the landing and treads. Interior stairways with three or more risers shall be provided with an artificial light source located in the immediate vicinity of each landing of the stairway. Exterior stairways with three or more risers shall be provided with an artificial light source located in the immediate vicinity of the top landing of the stair. Exterior stairways with three or more risers providing access to a basement from the outside grade level shall be provided with an

artificial light source located in the immediate vicinity of the bottom landing of the stairway.

**Exceptions:**

1. An artificial light source is not required at the top and bottom landing, provided an artificial light source is located directly over each stair section.
2. Exterior stairs which do not serve as part of the exit required by Section R311.

(26) Section R303.6.1 is amended as follows:

**R303.6.1 Light activation.** The control for activation of the required interior stairway lighting shall be accessible at the top and bottom of each stair without traversing any step of the stair. The illumination of exterior stairs shall be controlled from inside at the point of exit to the stair from the dwelling unit.

**Exception:** Lights that are continuously illuminated or automatically activated.

(27) Section R309.1 is amended as follows:

**R309.1 Opening protection:** Openings from a private garage that is attached to or within 3 feet of a residence shall not be permitted directly into a room used for sleeping purposes ~~shall not be permitted~~. Other openings between the garage and residence shall be equipped with either solid wood doors not less than 1 3/8 4 inch (~~35~~ 45 mm) in thickness, solid or honeycomb core steel doors not less than 1 3/8 inches (35 mm) thick, or 20-minute fire rated doors.

(28) Section 309.2 is amended to read as follows:

**R309.2 Separation required.** The A garage that is attached to or located within 3 feet of a residence shall be separated from the residence and its attic area by not less than 1/2-inch (2.7 mm) gypsum board applied to the garage side. Garages beneath habitable rooms shall be separated from all habitable rooms above by not less than 5/8-inch Type X gypsum board or equivalent. Where the separation is a floor-ceiling assembly, the structure supporting the separation shall also be protected

by not less than ½-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board or equivalent.

(29) Section 309.3.1 is added to read as follows:

**R309.3.1 Door sills.** The sills of door openings between garages and adjacent interior spaces shall be raised not less than 4 inches (102 mm) above garage floor.

(30) Section 310.1 is amended as follows:

**R310.1 Emergency escape and rescue required.** Basements with ~~habitable space and the potential for a ceiling height of 7 ft or more or~~ every sleeping room shall have at least one openable emergency escape and rescue opening. Where basements contain one or more sleeping rooms, emergency egress and rescue openings shall be required in each sleeping room, but shall not be required in adjoining areas of the basement. Where emergency escape and rescue openings are provided, they shall have a sill height of not more than 44 inches (1118 mm) above the floor. Where a door opening having a threshold below the adjacent ground elevation serves as an emergency escape and rescue opening and is provided with a bulkhead enclosure, the bulkhead enclosure shall comply with Section R310.3. The net clear opening dimensions required by this section shall be obtained by normal operation of the emergency escape and rescue opening from the inside. Emergency escape and rescue openings with a finished sill height below adjacent ground elevation shall be provided with a window well in accordance with Section R310.2.

**Exceptions:**

1. Buildings equipped throughout with an automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with NFPA 13, 13R or 13D.
2. Basements equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with NFPA 13D or Section 903.3.5.1.1 of the International Building Code.

(31) Section R311.4.2 is amended as follows:

**R311.4.2 Door Type and size.** The required exit door shall be a side-hinged door not less than 3 feet (914 mm) in width and 6 feet, 8 inches (2032 mm) in height. ~~All other doors shall not be required to comply with these minimum dimensions except closet doors or storage room doors shall be not less~~

than 2 feet, 4 inches in width and 6 feet, 8 inches in height.

(32) Section R311.4.3 is amended as follows:

**R311.4.3. Landings at doors.** There shall be a floor or landing on each side of each exterior door.

**Exception:** Where a stairway of 2 or fewer risers is located on the exterior side of a door, other than the required exit door, a landing is not required for the exterior side of the door.

(33) Section R311.5.3.1 is amended as follows:

**R311.5.3.1 Riser height.** The maximum riser height shall be 7 ¾ inches (196 mm). The riser shall be measured vertically between leading edges of the adjacent treads. The greatest riser height within any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than 3/8 inch (9.5 mm). Treads and risers shall be so proportioned that the sum of two risers plus one tread is not less than 24 inches and not more than 26 inches.

(34) Section R311.5.3.2 is amended as follows:

**R311.5.3.2 Tread depth.** The minimum tread depth shall be 10 inches (254 mm). The tread depth shall be measured horizontally between the vertical planes of the foremost projection of adjacent treads and at a right angle to the tread's leading edge. Treads and risers shall be so proportioned that the sum of two risers plus one tread is not less than 24 inches and not more than 26 inches. The greatest tread depth within any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than 3/8 inch (9.5 mm). Winder treads shall have a minimum tread depth of 9 inches (254 mm) measured as above at a point 12 inches (305 mm) from the side where the treads are narrower. ~~Winder treads shall have a minimum tread depth of 6 inches (152 mm) at any point.~~ Within any flight of stairs, the greatest winder tread depth at the 12 inch (305 mm) walk line shall not exceed the smallest by more than 3/8 inch (9.5 mm).

(35) Section R311.5.3.3 is amended as follows:

**R311.5.3.3 Profile.**

**Exception:**

3. Open risers on exterior stairs shall not permit the passage of a 6-inch diameter sphere.

~~could provide access for hard wiring and interconnection without removal of finishes.~~

(36) Section R311.5.8.3 is added as follows:

**R311.5.8.3 Circular stairways.** Circular stairways shall have a minimum tread depth at a point not more than 12 inches (305 mm) from the side where the treads are narrower of not less than 9 inches (279 229 mm). Tread depth at any walking line, measured a consistent distance from a side of the stairway, shall be uniform as specified in Section R311.5.3.2.

(37) Section R311.5.6.1 is amended as follows:

**R311.5.6.1 Height.** Handrail height, measured vertically from the sloped plane adjoining the tread nosing, or finish surface of the ramp slope, shall not be less than ~~34~~ 30 inches (864 mm) and not more than 38 inches (965 mm).

(38) Section R313.1.1 is amended as follows:

**R313.1.1 Alterations, ~~repairs~~ and additions.** When interior alterations, ~~repairs~~ or additions requiring a permit occur or where one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings, the individual dwelling unit areas having significant portions of the walls exposed and sleeping rooms added or created shall be provided with smoke alarms as required for new dwellings. ~~the~~ These smoke alarms shall be interconnected and hard wired to A/C power with battery backup.

At a minimum, smoke alarms shall be installed throughout every dwelling as required by Illinois State Statue [1 alarm per floor and one alarm within 15' of sleeping rooms with battery or A/C power, without requirement for A/C power or interconnection unless alteration requiring a permit includes removal of finishes to make it possible].

**Exceptions:**

1. Smoke alarms in existing areas shall not be required to be interconnected or hard wired to A/C power where the alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure between alarms and A/C power source and/or other alarms, unless there is an attic, crawl space, or basement available which

(39) Section R313.2 is amended as follows:

**R313.2 Power source.** In new construction, the required smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring when such wiring is served from a commercial source, and when primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for overcurrent protection. Smoke alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated when installed in buildings without commercial power or in buildings that undergo alterations, repairs or additions regulated by Section R317.1.1. Smoke detectors shall not be connected as the only load on a branch circuit. Such detectors shall be supplied by branch circuits having lighting loads consisting of lighting outlets in habitable spaces.

(40) Section R319.1 item 5 is amended to read as follows:

5. Wood siding, sheathing and wall framing on the exterior of a building having a clearance of less than ~~6~~ 2 inches (152 51 mm) from the ground. Reference Section 404.1.6.

(41) Section R321.1 is deleted and replaced as follows:

**R321.1 Premises identification.** Buildings shall have City of Rockford assigned address numbers placed in a position to be plainly legible and visible from the street or road to which the building is addressed. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numerals or English alphabet letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of three inches (77 mm) high when less than 100 feet from the street. When over 100 feet and less than 200 feet from the street, the numbers shall be five inches (128 mm) high. When over 200 feet from the street, the numbers shall be seven inches (179 mm) high. Wherever primary entry doors are visible from the address street, the numbers shall be displayed above, on or adjacent to the primary entry doors. Numbers shall be displayed where they remain visible at all times. Where the building is more than 500 feet from the street, displaying numbers on a building identification sign or other approved

locations near and viewable from the street are encouraged.

(42) Section R323.1.4 amend to read as follows:

**R323.1.4 Lowest floor.** The lowest floor shall be the floor of the lowest enclosed area, including basement, ~~but excluding any unfinished flood-resistant enclosure that is useable solely for vehicle parking, building access of limited storage provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the building or structure in violation of this section.~~

(43) Section R323.2.1 (1 and 3) amend to read as follows:

**R323.2.1 Elevation requirements.**

1. Buildings and structures shall have the lowest floors elevated ~~to or~~ 12" above the design flood elevation.
3. Basement floors that are below grade on all sides shall be elevated ~~to or~~ 12" above the design flood elevation.

~~**Exception:** Enclosed areas below the design flood elevation, including basements whose floors are not below grade on all sides, shall meet the requirements of Section R327.2.2~~

(44) Section R323.2.2 is deleted in its entirety

(45) Section R403.3.5 is added as follows:

**R403.3.5 Detached garages or sheds.** The code official may approve a continuous slab on ground foundations which are located where adequate subsoil drainage frost protection is provided and the following conditions are met:

1. Structure is non-occupiable, unconditioned, detached, of Use Groups S or U, does not contain any masonry and does not exceed (1) one story or 25 feet (7620 mm) in height.
2. Slab/foundation may not bear on peats, organic or other questionable soils.
3. Slab thickness is not less than 4" with a minimum of 6" x 6" 10#/10# WWF reinforcing.
4. The perimeter of the slab turns down to a minimum of 12" below grade and is reinforced with a minimum of 1 continuous [minimum 12" tied laps] #4 steel reinforcing bar.
5. A minimum of 4 inches of screened and washed gravel or crushed stone under entire

slab. The grade surrounding the building shall fall a minimum of 6" within the first 10'.

(46) Section R407.4 is added as follows:

**R407.4. Footing sized for girder support columns:** The minimum footing sizes for girder support columns shall be as set forth in Table 502.5 (3)

(47) Section R502.5 is amended as follows:

**R502.5 Allowable girder spans.** The allowable spans of girders fabricated of dimension lumber shall not exceed the values set forth in Tables R502.5(1) and R 502.5(2) and Table 502.5 (3).

(48) Table R502.5(3) is added as follows:

**SEE NEXT PAGE**

(49) Section R1002.1 is amended as follows:

**R1002.1 Listing and clearances.** Factory-built chimneys shall be listed and labeled and shall be installed and terminated in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instruction. Where, upon inspection, listing specifications are not present or visible, combustible materials within 18 inches of the chimney shall be protected with 5/8" Type X gypsum board or equivalent.

(50) Section R1004.1 amend to read as follows:

**R1004.1 General and clearances.** Factory built fireplaces shall be listed and labeled and shall be installed in accordance with the conditions of the listing. Factory-built fireplaces shall be tested in accordance with UL 127. Where, upon inspection, listing specifications are not present or visible, combustible materials within 36 inches of the chimney shall be protected with 5/8" Type X gypsum board or equivalent.

(51) Section M1201.2 is amended as follows:

**M1201.2 Application.** In addition to the general administration requirements of Chapter 1, the administrative provisions of this chapter shall also apply, to the mechanical requirements of Chapters 13 through 24 and City of Rockford amendments to the *International Mechanical Code*.

(52) Section M1202.4 is added as follows:



**M1202.4 Existing mechanical systems.** All existing mechanical systems shall comply with the 2000 ICC National Property Maintenance code as amended.

(53) Section M1203.1 is added as follows:

**SECTION 1203**  
**SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

**M1203.1 Modular Homes.** All new installations and equipment shall comply with all requirements and conform with all codes adopted by the City of Rockford.

(54) Section M1203.2 is added as follows:

**M1203.2 Where heating is required.** Heat shall be supplied to all rooms (including bathrooms) except unoccupied storage or other unoccupied spaces.

(55) Section M1203.3 is added as follows:

**M1203.3 Areaway below grade.** Where outside ventilating air intake and exhaust openings are located in any areaway below grade, the top of the areaway shall be at least ten (10) feet from the surface of any street, alley, driveway or parking lot.

(56) Section M1301.2 is added as follows:

**M1301.2 Licenses:** Mechanical licenses and permits shall be obtained in accordance with Chapter 1 of the 2003 ICC International Mechanical Code as amended.

(57) Section M1401.6 is added as follows:

**M1401.6 Furnace cement or welding.** The use of furnace cement or welding for the repair of furnace heat exchangers is prohibited.

(58) Section M1407.1.1 is added as follows:

**M1407.1.1 Electric duct heaters.** An approved automatic reset air outlet temperature-limit control that will limit the outlet air temperature to not more than 200 degrees F shall be provided on all electric duct heaters. The electric elements of the heater shall be equipped with fusible links or a manual reset temperature-limit control that will prevent air temperature in the immediate vicinity of the heating elements from exceeding 250 degrees F.

(59) Section M1408 is deleted in its entirety.

(60) Section M1501.3 is amended as follows:

**M1501.3 Length limitation.**

**Exceptions:**

1. Where a clothes dryer booster fan is installed and listed and labeled for the application, the maximum length of the exhaust duct, including any transition duct, shall be permitted to be in accordance with the booster fan manufacturer's installation instructions. Both fans shall be interconnected to operate simultaneously. Where a clothes dryer booster fan is installed and not readily accessible from the room in which the dryer is located, a permanent identifying label shall be placed adjacent to where the exhaust duct enters the wall. The label shall bear the words "This dryer exhaust system is equipped with a remotely located booster fan."

(61) Section M1601.3.9 is added as follows:

**M1601.3.9 Duct length.** Flexible air ducts shall be limited in length to 14 feet (4267 mm) overall from termination point and contain no more than the equivalent of one 90 degree turn with no offset greater than 45 degrees. All flexible air ducts shall be of the insulated type. Flexible ducts shall only be used for branches.

(62) Section M1601.3.10 is added as follows:

**M1601.3.10 Connector length.** Flexible air connectors shall be limited in length to 14 feet (4267 mm) overall from termination point and contain no more than the equivalent of one 90 degree turn with no offset greater than 45 degrees. All flexible air connectors shall be of the insulated type. Flexible ducts shall only be used for branches.

(63) Section M1602.1.1 is added as follows:

**M1602.1.1 Where required.** Return air shall be taken from all rooms including manufactured / modular homes and buildings; except unoccupied storage; kitchen; garages; and bathrooms.

(64) Section M1603 is added as follows:

**M1603 Vehicle garages.** Heating and/or ventilation systems of occupiable and/or habitable spaces shall not be connected to the heating and/or ventilation system of a vehicle garage.

(65) Section M1702.2 add exception as follows:

**Exception:** If gas appliance has own direct supply of combustion air then additional combustion air is not required.

(66) Section M1804.4 is added as follows:

**M1804.4 Labeling.** Every fuel-burning appliance utilizing a vent material other than metal shall be marked/labeled every 36 inches so as to distinguish it from plumbing piping.

(67) Section M2002.6 added as follows:

**M2002.6 Multiple boiler installation.** Where the operating temperature actuated control may be installed in a header of other point common to all boilers, and can be isolated from any and all of the boilers, there shall be at least one high-limit-temperature-actuated combustion control mounted on each boiler.

(68) Section M2002.7 is added as follows:

**M2002.7 Operation.** The low water cut off shall be located as high as possible over the top of the boiler and shall automatically stop the combustion operation of the appliance when the water level drops below the lowest safe water level as established by the manufacturer.

(69) Section M2007 is added as follows:

#### **SECTION M2007** **FLOW SENSING DEVICE**

**M2007.1 Scope.** A coil-type boiler or a water tube boiler with heat input greater than 400,000 BTUH requiring forced circulation to prevent overheating of the coils or tubes shall have a flow-sensing device installed in the outlet piping in addition the low-water fuel cutoff required above to automatically cut off the fuel supply when the circulating flow is interrupted.

(70) Section G2413.1.1 is added as follows:

**G2413.1.1 Welded connections required.** All gas lines two and one half inches (2 1/2") inside diameter size or larger shall be of welded construction between the consumer's connection to the gas meter and the shut-off valve located immediately adjacent to any gas burning unit. All gas fuel lines carrying gas at one (1) P.S.I.G. or greater, shall be of welded construction between the consumer's connection to the gas meter and the shut-off valve located immediately adjacent to any gas burning unit.

**Exception:** Alternate material of equivalent rating; such application tested and certified by an approved agency and as approved by the Code Official and the Mechanical Board of Appeals.

(71) Section G2415.9 (404.9) is amended as follows:

**G2415.9 (404.9) Minimum burial depth.** Underground piping systems shall be installed a minimum depth of ~~12 inches (305 mm)~~ 24 inches (610 mm) below grade and six inches below any electrical or cable system if in the same trench, except as provided for in Section G2415.9.1.

(72) Section G2427.5.4 (503.5.5) is amended as follows:

#### **G2427.5.4 (503.5.5) Size of chimneys.**

3. For sizing a chimney venting system connected to two appliances with draft hoods, the effective area of the chimney flue shall ~~be not be greater than two sizes over the effective area required for the remaining appliances. not less than the area of the larger draft hood outlet plus 50 percent of the area of the smaller draft hood outlet, nor greater than seven times the smallest draft hood outlet area.~~

(73) Section G2445 (621) is deleted and replaced by the following:

#### **SECTION G2445 (621)** **UNVENTED ROOM HEATERS**

**G2445.1 General.** Unvented room heaters are prohibited.

(74) Section G2447.3 (622.3) **Domestic appliances** is hereby deleted in its entirety.

(75) Section P2601.1 is amended as follows:

**P2601.1 Scope.** The provisions of this Chapter and the Illinois State Plumbing Code including local amendments shall govern the installation of plumbing not specifically covered in other chapters applicable to plumbing systems. Where differences occur, the provisions of the Illinois Plumbing Code shall apply. All work shall be performed by State of Illinois licensed plumbers in accordance with the Plumbing License Act, and shall be bonded with the City of Rockford.

(76) Section E3301.2 is amended as follows:

**E3301.2 Scope.** Chapters 33 through 42 shall cover the installation of electrical systems, equipment and components indoors and outdoors that are within the scope of this code, including services, power distribution systems, fixtures, appliances, devices and appurtenances. Services within the scope of this code shall be limited to 120/240-volt, 0- to 400 ampere, single phase systems. These chapters specifically cover the equipment, fixtures, appliances, wiring methods and materials that are most commonly used in the construction or alteration of one- and two-family dwellings and accessory structures regulated by this code. The omission from these chapters of any material or method of construction provided for in the referenced standard NFPA 70 shall not be construed as prohibiting the use of such material or method of construction. Electrical systems, equipment or components not specifically covered in these chapters shall comply with the applicable provisions of the ICC Electric Code and NFPA 70 as amended and adopted by the City of Rockford.

(77) Section E3901.5 is added as follows:

**SECTION E3301.5**  
**REGISTRATION AND PERMITS**

**E3301.5.1 Registration.** Electricians shall be registered sections 405.1 and 405.2 of the ICC Electric Code as amended.

**E3301.5.2 Registration and permits.** Electrical registrations and permits shall be obtained in accordance with Section 6-55 through 59 of the City of Rockford Code of Ordinances.

(78) Section E3301.6 is added as follows:

**E3301.6 Existing electrical systems.** All existing electrical systems shall comply with

International Property Maintenance Code as amended.

(79) Section E3304.2.1 is added as follows:

**E3304.2.1 Available short circuit current form.** The code official has the authority to require the applicant to complete an available short circuit current (ASSC) form before a permit is issued for an electrical service. The ASSC, if required, will be kept on file with the City of Rockford Building Department.

(80) Section 3306.2 is amended as follows:

**3306.2 Conductor material.** Conductors used to conduct current shall be of copper ~~except as otherwise provided in Chapters 33 through 42 or~~ aluminum size #2 or larger. Where the conductor material is not specified, the material and the sizes given in these chapters shall apply to copper conductors. Where other materials are used, the conductor sizes shall be changed accordingly.

(81) Section 3401 is amended to add the following:

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR.** Whenever the term “electrical contractor” is used, it shall mean any person, firm, or corporation undertaking the execution of electrical work or engaged in the business of installing or altering by contract electrical equipment for utilization of electricity, supplied for light, heat, or power, not including radio apparatus or equipment for wireless reception of sounds and signals, and not including apparatus, conductors and other equipment installed for or by public utilities, including common carriers, which are under jurisdiction of the Illinois Commerce Commission for use in their operation as public utilities; the term “electrical contractor” does not include employees employed by such contractor to do or supervise such work, nor does it include homeowners who do their own work in their own home.

**ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT.** Whenever the term “electrical equipment” is used, it shall mean conductors and equipment installed for the utilization of electricity supplied for light, heat, or power, but does not include radio apparatus or equipment for the wireless reception of sounds and signals, and does not include apparatus, conductors, and other equipment installed for or by public utilities, including common carriers which are under the jurisdiction of the Illinois

Commerce commission for use in their operation as public utilities.

(82) Section E3501.8 is added as follows:

**E3501.8 Temporary connection.** The code official shall have the authority to authorize the temporary connection of the building or system to the utility source of energy, fuel or power with conditional certificate of approval for a reasonable time to supply and use current in part of an electrical installation before such installation has been fully completed and the final certificate of approval has been issued. The part covered by the temporary certificate shall comply with all the requirements specified for temporary lighting, heat or power in this code. Such temporary use permits are subject to discontinuance and complete revocation upon expiration, and to condemnation and revocation at any time during use.

(83) Section E3505.5 is deleted and replaced as follows:

**E3505.5 Service conductors.** Service conductors supplied from overhead drops shall be installed in rigid galvanized conduit, intermediate metal conduit, or aluminum conduit. Service conductors supplying underground services may be underground cable.

(84) Section E3602.5.1 is added as follows:

**E3602.5.1 Smoke detector circuits.** Smoke detectors required by this code shall not be connected as the only load on a branch circuit. Such detectors shall be supplied by branch circuits having lighting loads consisting of lighting outlets in habitable spaces.

(85) Section E3701.2 is amended as follows:

**E3701.2 Non-metallic sheathed cable.** Non-metallic sheathed cable shall be permitted to be installed in structures not exceeding three floors above grade.

**(a) Type NM.** Type NM cable shall be permitted for both exposed and concealed work in normally dry locations. It shall be permissible to install or fish Type NM cable in air voids in masonry block or tile walls where such walls are not exposed or subject to excessive moisture or dampness.

**(b) Type NMC.** Type NMC cable shall be permitted as follows:

- (1) For both exposed and concealed work in dry, moist, damp or corrosive locations.
- (2) In outside and inside walls of masonry block or tile.
- (3) In a shallow chase in masonry, concrete or adobe protected against nails or screws by a steel plate at least 1/16 inch (1.59 mm) thick, and covered with plaster, adobe, or similar finish.

**(c) Type NMS.** Type NMS cable shall be permitted for both exposed and concealed work in normally dry locations. It shall be permissible to install or fish type NMS cable in air voids in masonry block or tile walls where such walls are not exposed or subject to excessive moisture or dampness. Type NMS cable shall be used as permitted in Article 780.

(86) Section E3703.4 is amended as follows:

**E3703.4 Protection from damage.** Direct buried conductors and cables emerging from the ground shall be protected by enclosures or raceways extending from the minimum cover distance below grade required by section E3703.1 to a point at least 8 feet (2438 mm) above finished grade. In no case shall the protection be required to exceed 18 inches (457 mm) below finished grade. Service laterals that are not encased in concrete and that are buried 18 inches (457 mm) or more below grade shall have their location identified by a warning ribbon that is placed in the trench at least 12 inches (305 mm) above the underground installation. Conductors entering a building shall be protected to the point of entrance. All service conductors supplied from underground service laterals and where the any other underground enclosure or raceway is subject to physical damage, the conductors shall be installed in galvanized rigid metal conduit, galvanized intermediate metal conduit, Schedule 80 rigid nonmetallic conduit or Schedule 40 rigid nonmetallic conduit covered by 2" of concrete the equivalent.

**Exception:** Service conductors installed and owned by a utility shall not be required to be in conduit and if Schedule 40 rigid nonmetallic conduit is used concrete covering shall not be required.

(87) Section E3802.1 is deleted and replaced as follows:

**E3802.1 Bathrooms.** All openings for bathrooms are to be ground fault circuit interrupter protected (G.F.C.I.) except bath fans and lights not installed in tub/shower area. Fan units and lights shall not be installed in tub/shower area unless they are testing lab approved and ground fault circuit interrupter (G.F.C.I.) protected. Fixtures 8 feet or more above the bathtub rim or 10 feet above a shower floor are not required to be (G.F.C.I.) protected. In the context of this section, a bathroom is an area including a basin with one or more of the following: a toilet or a shower.

(88) Section 3803.4 is amended as follows:

**E3803.4 Storage or equipment spaces.** In attics, under-floor spaces, utility rooms, and basements, at least one lighting outlet shall be installed ~~where these spaces are used for storage or contain equipment requiring servicing.~~ Such lighting outlet shall be controlled by a wall switch or shall have an integral switch. At least one point of control shall be at the usual point of entry to these spaces. ~~The~~ Also, a lighting outlet shall be provided at or near the any equipment requiring servicing.

(89) Section AE101.2 is hereby added as follows:

**AE101.2 Mobile (manufactured) and modular units** shall comply with Manufactured Housing and Mobile Home Safety Act of the State of Illinois.

Mobile structures are subject to the regulations of the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and shall be installed in accordance with appendix A Sections A101, A201, A305 through 605. Such units shall bear a red label permanently affixed to the unit.

Modular or manufactured units shall meet the provision of this code and the Illinois Statutes Chapter 67 1/2 and Title 77, Chapter 1, Subchapter 1, Part 880 of the Illinois Administrative Code. Modular units shall bear a seal approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health on the unit.

(90) Section AE201.1 is amended as follows:

**MANUFACTURED HOME.** A structure transportable in one or more sections, which in the

traveling mode is 8 body feet (2438 body mm) or more in width or ~~40~~ 32 body feet (~~12192~~ 9754 body mm) or more in length, or, when erected on site, is 320 or more square feet (30 m<sup>2</sup>), and which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, and electrical systems contained therein; except that such term shall include any structure which meets all the requirements of this paragraph except the size requirements and with respect to which the manufacturer voluntarily files a certification required by the secretary (HUD) and complies with the standards established under this title.

For mobile homes built prior to June 15, 1976, a label certifying compliance to the Standard for Mobile Homes, NFPA 501, ANSI 119.1, in effect at the time of manufacture is required. For the purpose of these provisions, a mobile home shall be considered a manufactured home.

The following definition is added:

**MODULAR OR MANUFACTURED HOME.** A building assembly or system of built sub-assemblies, designed for habitation as a dwelling for one or more persons, including the necessary electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilating and other service systems, which is of closed or open construction and which is made or assemble by a manufacturer, on or off the building site, for installation, or assembly and installation on the building site with a permanent foundation.

(91) Section AG101.2 is added as follows:

**AG101.2 Overhead Conductor Clearances.** The following parts of spas, hot tubs and pools shall not be placed under existing service-drop conductors or any other open overhead wiring; nor shall such wiring be installed above the following: (1) pools and the area extending 10 feet (3.05 m) horizontally from the inside of the walls of the pool; (2) diving structure or (3) observation stands, towers, or platforms.

(92) Appendices F, I, J and K are deleted.

The provisions and sections of the Ordinance shall be deemed severable, and the invalidity of any portion of this Ordinance shall not affect the validity of the remainder.

All orders, resolutions, or ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed insofar as such conflict exists, and this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage, approval and publication as required by law.

A full, true and complete copy of this Ordinance shall be published within ten (10) days after passage in pamphlet form by and under authority of the Corporate Authorities.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTESTED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
LEGAL DIRECTOR

PASSED:

APPROVED:

PUBLISHED:

ATTESTED and FILED in my office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, and published in pamphlet form this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Director and ex officio  
Keeper of the Records and Seal

Published in pamphlet form this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by order of the City Council of the City of Rockford, Illinois.