


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	24-014	Meeting:	January 8, 2024
	Agenda Item:	40	Roll Call:	24-0075
	Submitted by:	Cody Christensen, Development Services Director John F. TeKippe, Fire Chief		

AGENDA HEADING:

First consideration to amend Chapters 26 and 46 of the Municipal Code to adopt the 2021 editions of the International Building Code; International Residential Code; International Existing Building Code; and International Fire Code.

SYNOPSIS:

Approval of this action amends Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code by amending and adopting the most recent published editions of the following codes:

- 2021 International Building Code (IBC)
- 2021 International Residential Code (IRC)
- 2021 International Existing Building Code (IEBC)
- 2021 International Fire Code (IFC)

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The City of Des Moines Building & Fire Code Board of Appeals has reviewed and recommends adoption of the codes and amendments listed in this section.
- Adoption of these codes follows the recommendation of the Central Iowa Code Consortium.
- Adopting these codes and amendments supports the City's goals for sustainable governance and reducing energy consumption through a unified code adoption process.

The following summarizes amendments to Chapter 26:

- Adopts the 2021 editions of the IRC, IBC, and IEBC. Amendments in this article are consistent with those proposed by the Central Iowa Code Consortium. Notable amendments include the following:
 - Construction requirements for mass timber buildings
 - Use of intermodal shipping containers as a building material
 - Updated accessibility standards

The following summarizes amendments to Chapter 46:

- Chapter 46 is the City Fire Code. The fire code, like the other codes, was reviewed through the Central Iowa Code Consortium (CICC) process. CICC and staff recommendations items have been incorporated into Chapter 46. The most notable changes being the following:
 - Added requirement for Emergency fuel shut off require for new fire pit installations (commercial buildings)
 - Adding an exemption for Tent Permits (allows 10 x 10s without a permit)
 - Adding an exemption to allow new small buildings to be further from a fire hydrant
 - Requirement for new fire alarm systems to be an addressable type
 - Requirement for the specific address of a fire alarm device to be transmitted to the monitoring agency.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 20, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0269](#), [23-0270](#)

Action: [Amending](#) Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code relating to building and building regulation. ([Council Communication No. 23-100](#)) Moved by Gatto that this ordinance be considered and given first vote for passage. Second by Westergaard. Motion Carried 7-0.

- (A) Final consideration of ordinance above, requires six votes. Moved by Gatto that the rule requiring that an ordinance must be considered and voted on for passage at two Council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed be suspended, that the ordinance be placed upon its final passage and that the ordinance do now pass, [#16,224](#). Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: February 10, 2020

Roll Call Number: [20-0261](#), [20-0262](#),

Action: [Amending](#) Sections 46-1, 46-5, 46-61, 46-62, 46-63, 46-65, 46-67, 46-68, 46-70, 46-279, 46-457, 46-469, 46-485, 46-487, 46-498, 46-510, 46-556, 46-581, and 46-582, by repealing Section 46-458, 46-484, and 46-486, and by adding and enacting new Sections 46-71, 46-72, 46-73, 46-441, 46-488, 46-489, 46-490, 46-522, 46-523, 46-584, 46-585 and 46-586, relating to fire prevention and protection. ([Council Communication No. 20-049](#)) Moved by Boesen that this ordinance be considered and given first vote for passage. Motion Carried 7-0. 20-0262

- (A) [Final](#) consideration of ordinance above (waiver requested by the Fire Chief), requires six votes.

Moved by Boesen that the rule requiring that an ordinance must be considered and voted on for passage at two Council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed be suspended, that the ordinance be placed upon its final passage and that the ordinance do now pass, [#15,860](#). Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: February 10, 2020

Roll Call Number: [20-0263](#), [20-0265](#), [20-0266](#)

Action: [Amending](#) Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code by repealing and replacing Article II, Energy Code relating to the adoption of the 2018 edition of the State of Iowa Energy Code. ([Council Communication No. 20-049](#)) Moved by Mandelbaum to table until the State adopts the 2018 Energy Code. Motion Carried 6-1. Nays: Gatto.

[Amending](#) Sections 26-136, 26-138, 26-142, 26-150, and by repealing and replacing Article III. Building Code of Chapter 26, Buildings and Building Regulations, relating to adopting the 2018 editions of the International Building Code; International Residential Code and International Existing Building Code. ([Council Communication No. 20-049](#)) Moved by Gatto that this ordinance be considered and given first vote for passage. Motion Carried 7-0.

(A) [Final](#) consideration of ordinance above (waiver requested by Cody Christensen, Permit and Development Administrator), requires six votes.

Moved by Gatto that the rule requiring that an ordinance must be considered and voted on for passage at two Council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed be suspended, that the ordinance be placed upon its final passage and that the ordinance do now pass, [#15,861](#). Motion carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals

Date: September 14, 2023

Resolution Number: N/A

Action: These changes to the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines and adoption of the 2021 Building and Fire Codes and State Energy Code were recommended by the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

New editions of the construction codes are published every three (3) years. Keeping current editions of the codes adopted allows City regulations to keep up with the latest construction methods and technologies. Staff time will be dedicated to Central Iowa Code Consortium processes for future code adoptions.

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