

CITY OF STERLING

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ORDINANCE NO. 2018-05-17

**ORDINANCE AMENDING THE STERLING CITY CODE BY AMENDING  
CHAPTER 42, ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 42-51, and 42-53 through 42-57  
TO ADOPT THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE OF 2015**

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ADOPTED BY THE

COUNCIL

OF THE

CITY OF STERLING

THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF May, 2018

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Published in pamphlet form by authority of the Council of the City of Sterling, this 8<sup>th</sup>  
day of May, 2018.

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CHAPTER 42, ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 42-51, and 42-53 through 42-57  
TO ADOPT THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE OF 2015**

**Be it Ordained** by the City Council of the City of Sterling, Whiteside County, Illinois, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** That Chapter 42, Article III, Sections 42-51, and 42-53 through 42-57 of the Sterling City Code, as amended, are hereby further amended to read in full as follows:

*"Sec. 42-51. International Fire Code – Adoption.*

There is hereby adopted as the fire code of the city, for the purpose of regulating and governing the safeguarding of life and property from fire and explosion hazards arising from the storage, handling and use of hazardous substances, materials and devices, and from conditions hazardous to life or property in the occupancy of buildings and premises, and providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefor, that certain document entitled "International Fire Code, 2015 Edition" (referred to herein as the "2015 IFC") as published by the International Code Council, including appendices B, C, D, F and H, and the 2015 Errata sheet. Each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said 2015 IFC, as on file in the office of the building official of the city 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 as prescribed in sections 42-53 through 42-57 below.

*Sec. 42-53. Same – Amendments.*

The following sections of the International Fire Code 2015 are amended as provided in this section:

*Section 101.1 Title.* Insert City of Sterling.

*Section 109.4 Violation Penalties.* Insert \$75.00 to \$750.00.

*Section 111.4 Failure to Comply.* Insert \$100 to \$750.

*Section 307.1.1 Prohibited Open Burning.* Open burning shall be prohibited.

Exceptions:

1. Where approved by the local jurisdiction.

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

*Section 901.4.2.1 Discontinuation of use* is added as follows: All non-required fire protection systems shall be approved for discontinuance by the fire code official. All discontinued equipment and devices, such as pull stations, nozzles, detectors, sprinklers, sensors, panels and hose connections shall be removed so as not to give false indication that the structure, area or space is protected.

*Section 903.2.11.1 Stories without openings exception #3* is added as follows:

Exceptions:

3. An interior stairway that conforms to requirements of Section 1005 with a fire separation assembly enclosure of not less than 1 hour, which has a door directly to the exterior and the stairway does not connect more than 2 stories. The basement or windowless story floor level shall be 15 feet (4572 mm) or less vertically from the exterior door threshold level and the door threshold shall be within 10 ft (3048 mm) of grade. Interior stair doors or openings shall be provided in each 50 linear feet (15240 mm) or fraction thereof on at least one side of the basement or windowless story.

*Section 903.3.9 Interior control valves* is added as follows: The fire code official may require interior control valves to be installed to isolate occupancies that share a fire suppression system. Where valves are installed in a system, valves shall be supervised or locked in the "open" position.

*Section 903.3.10 Exterior control valves* is added as follows: All exterior fire suppression control valves shall have an exterior Indicator valve (PIV or WPIV) provided in a location approved by the fire code official. Valves shall be locked in the "open position".

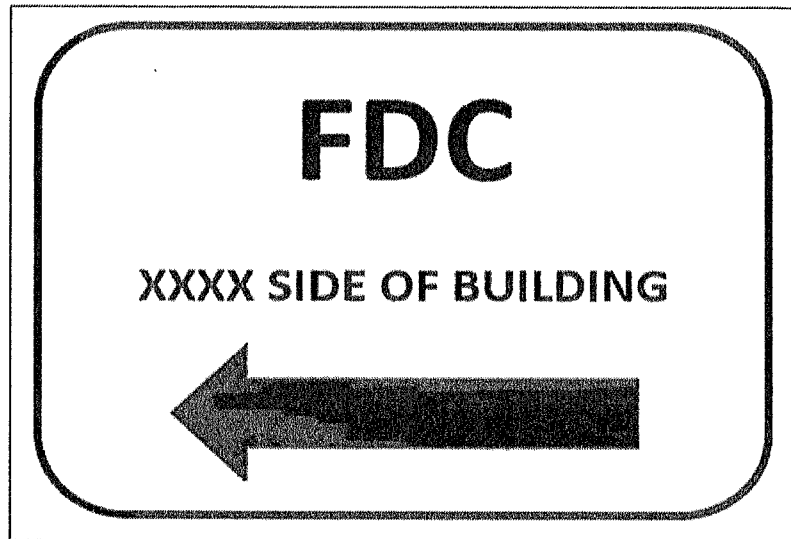
*Section 903.4.2.1 Strip malls* is added as follows: Strip malls shall provide individual tenant space notification to comply with IFC 907.1

*Section 907.1.2.1 Qualifications* is added as follows: Shop drawings for fire alarm systems shall be prepared by one of the following:

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

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

*Section 912.2.2 Existing buildings* is added as follows: On existing buildings, wherever the fire department connection is not visible to approaching fire apparatus, the fire department connection shall be indicated by an *approved* sign mounted on the street front or on the side of the building. Such sign shall be reflective and constructed of material designed to resist weathering. The sign shall have a white background with all lettering and graphics red in color. Such sign shall have the letters "FDC" not less than 6 inches (152 mm) high and words in letters not less than 2 inches (51 mm) high or an arrow to indicate the location not less than 3 inches (75 mm) high. Such signs shall be subject to the approval of the fire code official.



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

*Section 5601.1 General* is amended as follows: Outdoor fireworks displays, use of pyrotechnics before a *proximate audience* and pyrotechnic special effects in motion picture, television, theatrical and group entertainments productions shall comply with Section 5608.2 through 5608.10 and NFPA 1123, 1126 and all other requirements of the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM).

*Section 5704.2.9.6.1* (Geographic limits in which the storage of Class I and Class II liquids in above-ground tanks outside of buildings is prohibited) City wide.

*Section 5706.2.4.4* (Geographic limits in which the storage of Class I and Class II liquids in above-ground tanks outside of buildings is prohibited) City wide.

*Section 5806.2* (Geographic limits in which the storage of flammable cryogenic fluids in stationary containers is prohibited) All residential and business zoning.

*Section 6104.2* (Geographic limits in which the storage of liquefied petroleum gas is restricted for the protection of heavily populated or congested areas) All residential zoning.

Any reference within the 2015 IFC to any plumbing code shall mean the State of Illinois Plumbing Code.

*Sec. 42-54. Bureau of fire prevention.*

- (a) *Established supervision.* The bureau of fire prevention is hereby established as part of the fire department of the city for the purpose of enforcing the International Fire Code. The fire chief shall have the ultimate responsibility for the supervision and operation of the fire prevention bureau.
- (b) *Director.* The deputy chief may be the director of the bureau of fire prevention and shall be responsible for the operation of the fire prevention bureau, shall promote fire prevention measures and activities, shall enforce the provisions of the fire prevention code and shall in all other respects carry out the duties and responsibilities of the enforcement authority as contained in the International Fire Code 2015 and also carry out such other duties related to the bureau of fire prevention as assigned by the fire chief.
- (c) *Inspectors.* The fire chief may detail members of the fire department as inspectors as shall from time to time be necessary. The fire chief shall recommend to the city council the employment of technical inspectors to assist in carrying out the fire prevention code.
- (d) *Reports.* The director of the bureau of fire prevention shall transmit an annual report to the city manager through the chief of the fire department. The report shall contain all proceedings held under the fire prevention code and all recommendations of the director of the fire prevention bureau and the fire chief for amendments to the fire prevention code.

*Sec. 42-55. Storage of flammable liquids; manufacture or storage of explosives and blasting agents.*

- (a) The storage of flammable liquids in outside aboveground tanks is prohibited within the city limits.
- (b) New bulk plants for the storage of flammable liquids are prohibited within the city limits.
- (c) The manufacture or storage of explosives and blasting agents, as defined in the International Fire Code, is prohibited within the city limits.

*Sec. 42-56. Modification of requirements.*

The director of the bureau of fire prevention, with the concurrence of the fire prevention board of appeals, shall have power to modify any of the provisions of the International Fire Code upon application in writing by the owner or lessee, or his duly authorized agent, when there are practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the strict letter of the code, provided that the spirit of the code shall be observed, public safety secured, and substantial justice done. The particulars of such modification, when granted or allowed, and the decision of the director of the bureau of fire prevention thereon shall be entered upon the records of the department and a signed copy shall be furnished the applicant.

*Sec. 42-57. Determination of permit requirements for new materials, processes or occupancies.*

The mayor, the chief of the fire department and the director of the bureau of fire prevention shall act as a committee to determine and specify, after giving affected persons an opportunity to be heard, any new materials, processes or occupancies which shall require permits, in addition to those now enumerated in the International Fire Code 2015. The director of the bureau of fire prevention shall post such list in a conspicuous place in his office, and distribute copies thereof to interested persons.”

**SECTION 2.** In all other respects, Chapter 42, Article III, shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 3.** The provisions and sections of this ordinance shall be deemed to be separable, and the invalidity of any portion of this ordinance shall not affect the validity of the remainder.

**SECTION 4.** All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

**SECTION 5.** The City Clerk is hereby directed to publish this ordinance in pamphlet form.

**SECTION 6.** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect on and after the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2018, following its passage, approval, and publication as required by law.

Passed by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Sterling on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2018.

Charles W. "Shy" Lee  
Mayor

Marie Romerouts  
ATTEST: City Clerk