

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Council of the Borough of Chambersburg, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, intends to consider for adoption and to vote upon an enactment of the Ordinance summarized below at the regularly scheduled Chambersburg Town Council Meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Office, 100 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Chambersburg, Pennsylvania 17201.

BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-\_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG, FRANKLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 150, ENTITLED “FIRE PREVENTION,” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG TO ADOPT THE 2018 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE AS THE FIRE PREVENTION CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG.

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Code, 8 Pa.C.S. § 101, *et seq.*, at Section 1202(5), authorizes the Borough to make regulations as may be necessary for the health, morals, general welfare, cleanliness, convenience, comfort, and safety of the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council for the Borough of Chambersburg (“Town Council”), at Article II of Chapter 150 of the Code of the Borough of Chambersburg (the “Code”), previously adopted the 2015 Edition of the International Fire Code, as revised, as the Fire Prevention Code of the Borough of Chambersburg; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Town Council of the Borough of Chambersburg have determined it to be in the best interests of the residents of the Borough of Chambersburg to amend Article II of Chapter 150 of the Code to adopt 2018 Edition of the International Fire Code, as revised and supplemented herein, as the Fire Prevention Code of the Borough of Chambersburg.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Town Council of the Borough of Chambersburg, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, and it is enacted and ordained as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 150, Article II of the Code of the Borough of Chambersburg, entitled “Fire Prevention Code,” is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

Article II. Fire Prevention Code

§ 150-5. Adoption of standards.

The 2018 Edition of the International Fire Code, as developed and published by International Code Council, Inc., is hereby adopted as the Fire Prevention Code of the Borough of Chambersburg, except as revised by or supplemented by the provisions of § **150-7** herein following.

§ 150-6. Conflicting regulations.

In the event that any provision of the Fire Prevention Code set forth in this Article is inconsistent with the provisions of any other code in effect in the Borough of Chambersburg, including but not limited to the Uniform Construction Code as adopted by § **113-2** of the Code of the Borough of Chambersburg, the ordinance provision applying the stricter standard shall apply.

§ 150-7. Modification of standards.

The 2018 Edition of the International Fire Code, and all subsequent revisions correspondingly, is hereby amended and revised in the following respects:

- A. Any reference to “jurisdiction” shall be a reference to the Borough of Chambersburg.
- B. Any reference to “department of fire prevention” shall be a reference to the Borough of Chambersburg Fire Department.
- C. Any reference to “chief appointing authority” shall be a reference to the Town Council of the Borough of Chambersburg.
- D. Any reference to “fire code official” shall be a reference to the Emergency Services Chief of the Borough of Chambersburg, the Building Code Official of the Borough of Chambersburg, or any of their designees.
- E. Section 101.1 shall be revised to read as follows:

**101.1 Title.**

These regulations shall be known as the Fire Prevention Code of the Borough of Chambersburg, hereinafter referred to as “this code.”

- F. Section 103.1 and 103.2 shall be deleted.

- G. Section 104.1 shall be revised to read as follows:

**104.1 General.**

Subject to the approval of Town Council, the fire code official is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this code and shall have the authority to render interpretations of this code, and to adopt policies, procedures, rules and regulations in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies, procedures, rules and regulations shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and shall not have the effect of waiving requirements for which provision is specifically made in this code.

H. Section 104.9 shall be revised to read as follows:

**104.9 Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment.**

The fire code official shall have authority to authorize the use of alternative materials and methods in accordance with the procedures and guidelines set forth in the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, Act 45 of 1999.

I. Sections 104.9.1 and 104.9.2 shall be deleted.

J. Section 105.1.1 shall be revised to read as follows:

**105.1.1 Permits required.**

Any property owner or owner's authorized agent who intends to conduct an operation or business, or install or modify systems and equipment that are regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be performed, shall first make application to the fire code official and obtain the required permit. In the event the proposed activity involves construction of facilities regulated by the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, Act 45 of 1999, and the language of this code is inconsistent with the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, the provisions of the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code shall apply.

K. Sections 105.1.2 through 105.5 shall be deleted.

L. Section 105.6.27 shall be revised to read as follows:

**105.6.27 LP-gas.**

An operational permit is required for:

1. Storage and use of LP-gas, regardless of location, where the water capacity of a single container or the aggregate water capacity of multiple containers exceeds 500 gallons.
2. Storage and use of LP-gas, regardless of the size of any container, where the container or containers are located underground, are permanently affixed to a structure, or are used for residential heating or in-home cooking.

M. Section 106.1 shall be revised to read as follows:

**106.1 Fees.**

A fee for each permit shall be paid, as required, in accordance with the Master Fee Schedule established and revised from time to time by resolution of Town Council.

N. Sections 106.2 through 106.5 shall be deleted.

O. Section 109.1 shall be revised to read as follows:

**109.1 Board of appeals established.**

In order to hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the fire code official relative to the application and interpretation of this code, appeals will be to the Construction Code Board of Appeals established pursuant to Chapter 113, § 113-4, of the Code of the Borough of Chambersburg. For purposes of appeals arising under this code, in addition

to membership of the Board of Appeals established under § 113-4 of the Code of the Borough of Chambersburg, there shall be added to the Construction Code Board of Appeals two additional members to be designated by the Emergency Services Chief; provided, however, that the two additional members so designated shall be individuals with experience and training in fire prevention methods and shall not be individuals employed by the Borough or under the supervision of the Emergency Services Chief.

P. Section 109.3 shall be deleted.

Q. Section 110.4 shall be revised to read as follows:

**110.4 Violation penalties.**

Persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements hereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code official, or of a permit or certificate used under the provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a summary offense, punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

R. Section 307 shall be revised to read as follows:

**SECTION 307**

**OPEN BURNING, RECREATIONAL FIRES AND PORTABLE OUTDOOR FIREPLACES**

**307.1 Open burning.**

Open burning is prohibited in the Borough of Chambersburg.

**307.2 Recreational fires.**

Recreational fires are prohibited in the Borough of Chambersburg.

**307.3 Portable outdoor fireplaces.**

The use of portable outdoor fireplaces is permitted in the Borough of Chambersburg subject to the provisions of Sections 307.3.1 through 307.3.3.

**307.3.1 Manufacturer's instructions; location.**

Portable outdoor fireplaces shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material.

**307.3.2 Attendance; extinguishers; protective screens.**

The use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. At least one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4A rating or other approved on-site fire extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, a water barrel, a garden hose, or a water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization. The use of a portable outdoor fireplace which is

open in design shall require the use of a protective screen to minimize the escape of embers from the portable outdoor fireplace.

**307.3.3 Extinguishment by Fire Department.**

When the use of a portable outdoor fireplace creates or adds to a hazardous situation, manufacturer's instructions are not met, and/or smoke is offensive to neighbors, the Chambersburg Fire Department is authorized to extinguish the fire.

S. Section 504.1 shall be revised to read as follows:

**504.1 Required access.**

Exterior doors and openings required by the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code shall be maintained readily accessible for emergency access by the Chambersburg Fire Department.

T. Section 504.2 shall be revised to read as follows:

**504.2 Maintenance of exterior doors and openings.**

Exterior doors and their function shall not be eliminated without prior approval. Exterior doors that have been rendered nonfunctional and that retain a functional door exterior appearance shall have a sign affixed to the exterior side of the door with the words THIS DOOR BLOCKED. The sign shall consist of letters having a principal stroke of not less than 3/4 inch (19.1 mm) wide and not less than six inches (152 mm) high on a contrasting background.

U. Section 903.2.8 shall be revised to read as follows:

**903.2.8 Group R.**

An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout all buildings with a Group R fire area. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an automatic sprinkler system shall not be required to be installed in a dwelling or townhouse, as those items are defined in Section 202 of this code, even where the use of such dwelling or townhouse qualifies the dwelling or townhouse as a Group R-1 occupancy, unless the dwelling or townhouse is newly constructed and is three (3) or more stories.

V. Section 1101.1 shall be revised to read as follows:

**1101.1 Scope.**

The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all existing buildings constructed prior to the adoption of this code, except the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to dwellings and townhouses as those items are defined in Section 202 of this code.

W. Section 6101.2 shall be revised to read as follows:

**6101.2 Permits.**

Permits shall be required as set forth in Sections 105.6 and 105.7. On the application for any required permit, the applicant shall provide the size (in gallons of water capacity) of each

individual LP-gas container on the property and the aggregate size (in gallons of water capacity) of all of the LP-gas containers on the property. On the application, the applicant shall identify where each LP-gas container is to be located on the property. Each LP-gas container requiring a permit shall be inspected annually by a qualified agent of the entity that installs or fills the LP-gas container. Distributors shall not fill an LP-gas container for which a permit is required unless a permit for installation has been issued for that location by the fire code official.

X. Appendix A is not adopted.

Y. Appendices B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M and N are adopted in their entirety.

§ 150-8. Construal of provisions.

Nothing in this article or in the Fire Prevention Code hereby adopted shall be construed to affect any suit 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 revised or affected by this chapter, nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this article.

**SECTION 2. Repealer.** All provisions of previous ordinances of the Code, which are contrary to this Ordinance, are expressly repealed.

**SECTION 3. Savings Clause.** In all other respects, the Code shall remain as previously enacted and ordained.

**SECTION 4. Severability.** If any word, phrase, sentence, part, section, subsection, or other portion of this ordinance or any application thereof to any person or circumstance is declared void, unconstitutional, or invalid for any reason, then such word, phrase, sentence, part, section, subsection, or other portion, or the proscribed application thereof, shall be severable and the remaining provisions of this ordinance and all applications thereof, not having been declared void, unconstitutional, or invalid, shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately.

[INTENTIONALLY BLANK; SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS.]

**ENACTED, ORDAINED and APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

**BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allen B. Coffman  
President of Town Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamia L. Wright  
Secretary of Town Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth Hock  
Mayor