

CO 5569

ORDINANCE NO. 3305

CALENDAR NO. 34

SESSIONS 2025

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BRADFORD, MCKEAN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, WITH AMENDMENTS, AS THE CITY OF BRADFORD FIRE CODE; REPEALING ALL INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES OR PARTS THEREOF; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, the Council of The City of Bradford has enacted the Code of Ordinances, provisions governing fire and life safety in The City of Bradford; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of The City of Bradford has determined that the adoption of the 2018 International Fire Code, with amendments, as the Fire Code of The City of Bradford, as recommended by the City of Bradford Fire Chief, is in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of The City of Bradford;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it, and it is hereby **ORDAINED** by the Council of The City of Bradford, and it is hereby **ENACTED** and **ORDAINED** by authority of same as follows:

I. That a certain document, three (3) copies of which are on file in the office of the City of Bradford Fire Dept. and one (1) copy of which is on file in the office of The City of Bradford Building and Zoning Office, being marked and designated as the *International Fire Code*, 2018 edition, including Appendix Chapters B, C, D, E, and F, as published by the International Code Council, be and is hereby adopted as the Fire Code of The City of Bradford, 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 as herein provided; providing for the issuance of permits and collection of fees therefor; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said Fire Code on file in the office of the Fire Code are hereby referred to, adopted, and made a part hereof, as if fully set out in full in this Ordinance, with the additions, insertions, deletions, and changes, if any, prescribed in Section II. of this Ordinance.

II. That the following sections of the 2018 edition of the International Fire Code are hereby revised as follows:

A. Section 101.1. – Insert: “The City of Bradford, McKean County”

B. The provisions of Section 103.2 shall be amended read as follows:

“The fire code official shall be appointed by the fire chief; and the fire code official shall not be removed from office except for cause and after full opportunity to be heard on specific relevant charges by and before the appointing authority.”

C. Permits. The provisions of Section 105 are herein amended so that the provisions of Subsection 105.1.2 shall read as follows:

Types of permits. There shall be four types of permits as follows:

1. Operational permit. An operational permit allows the applicant to conduct an operation or a business for which a permit is required by Section 105.6 for either:
  - 1.1. A prescribed period.
  - 1.2. 1.2. Until renewed or revoked.
2. Construction permit. A construction permit allows the applicant to install or modify systems and equipment for which a permit is required by Section 105.7.
3. Annual fire safety inspection permit. An annual fire safety inspection permit will be required on all properties that are referred to in the Fire Code. The annual fire safety inspection will ensure that the buildings that receive a fire safety inspection are in compliance with the Fire Code.
4. Use and occupancy permit. A use and occupancy permit would be under the Fire Code when no other building permit would be required for the business to commence operations. This would ensure the business would be in compliance with all fire safety issues.

D. Board of Appeals. The provisions of Section 10 shall be amended to read as follows:

**109.1. Board of Appeals established.** Any appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the Fire Code Official relative to the application and interpretation of this code shall be heard by the Board of Appeals established by the City through the City Code of Ordinances, at Chapter 260, Construction Code, Uniform. The fire code official shall be an ex officio member of said Board but shall not have a vote on any matter before the Board. The rules of procedure shall be those rules adopted by the Board of Appeals, and the Board of Appeals shall render all decisions and findings in writing to the appellant with a duplicate copy to the Fire Code Official.

**109.3. Qualifications.** The Board of Appeals shall consist of the members of the existing Board of Appeals, created through the City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 260, Construction Code, Uniform, and the Fire Code Official as an ex officio member.

E. Section 110.4. -- Insert: "Summary", "not to exceed \$1,000" and "30 days".

F. Section 112.4. -- Insert: "\$500", "Not to exceed \$1,000".

G. A new Section 503.7 is added as follows:

**"Enforcement authority.** The City Fire Chief, City firefighters, and the City Police Department have the authority to enforce and issue citations for violations of the "no parking, stopping, or standing" provisions of this section."

H. The provisions of Section 507.5.1 shall be amended to read as follows:

**Where required.** Fire hydrants shall be provided in sufficient number and be located in a manner that will enable the required fire flow to be delivered through hose lines to any important structure. Fire hydrant locations shall be determined by the fire code official, but in no case shall a hydrant be located in excess of 500 feet from an important structure on a street or road, or 300 feet from any portion of the exterior of a building, or greater than 100 feet from a Fire Department connection. All exceptions noted in this section are deleted.

I. Section 1103.5.3. -- Insert: "by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026".

**Commented [JK1]:** Look into the necessity of Amendment D, G and H

**Commented [JK2R1]:** Amendment I: Refers to sprinklers in I-2 building (Hospitals, Nursing Homes).

**Commented [JK3R1]:** The highlighted amendments are language from another FD that may not be necessary.

- J. Explosives and fireworks. The provisions of Chapter 56, Subsection 5601.2.4, Financial responsibility, shall be amended to read as follows:

“Before a permit is issued, as required by Section 5601.2, the applicant shall file with the City a corporate surety bond in the principal sum of \$2,000,000, or a public liability insurance policy for the same amount in favor of the City, as it relates to blasting, and a specific second certificate of insurance naming the City as an additional insured, with a specific reference to the blasting activities, for the purpose of the payment of damages to persons or property that arise from or caused by the conduct of any act authorized by the permit upon which any judicial judgment results. The fire code official is authorized to specify a greater or lesser amount when, in his or her opinion, conditions at the location of use indicate a greater or lesser amount is required. Government entities shall be exempt from this bond requirement.”

- K. Notification. The provisions of Section 5601.6 shall be amended as follows:

**Section 5601.6 Notification.** Whenever a new explosive material storage or manufacturing site is established, including a temporary job site, the local law enforcement agency, fire department, and local emergency planning committee shall be notified 48 hours in advance, not including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, of the type, quantity, and location of explosive materials at the site. Prior to the issuance of the blasting permit, the applicant shall notify all property owners within 500 feet of the blast-affected area, this notification shall be done five working days prior to the blasting activities by certified mail, return receipt requested. Issuance of the blasting permit may be withheld by the Emergency Services Department if the applicant fails to provide evidence of compliance with this code.

- L. All geographic limits referred to in certain sections of the 2018 International Fire Code are to comply with The City of Bradford Zoning Code.

III. Effect on new construction; conflicts with UCC.

This ordinance shall not apply to new construction that is otherwise regulated or under construction through permits issued under the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code and the International Codes which are mandatorily adopted by The City of Bradford

IV. All provisions of the Code of Ordinances of The City of Bradford, or any ordinance or parts thereof, unaffected by the provisions of this Part 1 shall remain in full force and effect. All provisions of The City of Bradford Code of Ordinances, or parts thereof, that are inconsistent with the terms of this Part 1 are hereby repealed to the extent of the inconsistency.

V. The provisions of this Part 1 are declared to be severable. If this Part 1 or any provision thereof is declared to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall have no effect on the remaining provisions of this Part 1 or the provisions of the Code of Ordinances of The City of Bradford, McKean County, Pennsylvania, as it was the intent of the City Council that it would have adopted the Part 1 even with the offending language removed.

VI. This Ordinance shall become effective the day after its legal adoption.

ENACTED and ORDAINED this

INTRODUCED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, A. D., 2025

FINALLY PASSED \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, A. D., 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor