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**Polk County**  
**COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE ORDINANCE**  
**Ordinance No. 32-16**  
**Effective Date: September 15, 2016**  
**(Enacted August 16, 2016; Published August 24, 2016)**

**10.1 Article 1: TITLE; AUTHORITY; AND INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS**

The County Board of Supervisors of the County of Polk, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

**10.1.1 Title**

This Ordinance shall be known as the "Polk County Comprehensive Land Use Ordinance", hereinafter referred to as "this Ordinance."

**10.1.2 Authority and Scope of Regulation**

- A) This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority expressed in ss. 30.12(3)(c), 30.13(2), 59.03, 59.69, 59.692, 59.694, 59.696, 87.30, 281.31 and Chapters 91, 236, 287, 289 and 823, Wis. Stats.
- B) This Ordinance shall constitute a comprehensive revision, as described in s. 59.69(5)(d), Wis. Stats., of the following land use ordinances:
  - 1) Polk County Comprehensive Land Use Ordinance, Initially Enacted on April 21, 1971; and Amended on April 21, 1976; June 3, 1981; April 21, 1987; July 21, 1998; November 12, 2002; May 15, 2007; and March 16, 2010.

**10.1.3 Contents**

This Ordinance consists of two distinct but inseparable and integrated parts: written text and zoning maps. The written text and zoning maps taken together constitute this Ordinance and, therefore, shall at all times be considered as interrelated and inseparable parts of a whole. In addition, other maps and materials referenced in the text are used to support this Ordinance.

**10.1.4 Purpose**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote and protect public health, safety, and other aspects of the general welfare. Further purposes of this Ordinance are to:

- A) Aid in the implementation of provisions of the county comprehensive plan.
- B) Promote planned and orderly land use development.
- C) Protect property values and the property tax base.
- D) Fix reasonable dimensional requirements to which buildings, structures, and lots shall conform.

- E) Prevent overcrowding of the land.
- F) Advance uses of land in accordance with its character and suitability.
- G) Provide property with access to adequate sunlight and clean air.
- H) Aid in protection of groundwater and surface water.
- I) Preserve water quality, shoreland and wetlands.
- J) Protect the beauty of landscapes.
- K) Conserve flora and fauna habitats.
- L) Preserve and enhance the county's rural characteristics.
- M) Protect vegetative shore cover.
- N) Promote safety and efficiency in the county's road transportation system.
- O) Define the duties and powers of certain county officers and administrative bodies relative to the application, administration and enforcement of this Ordinance.
- P) Prescribe penalties in the form of civil forfeitures for violation of this Ordinance and to facilitate enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance by injunctive relief

### **10.1.5 Compliance and Applicability.**

- A) No land or water shall hereafter be used and no structure or part thereof shall hereafter be used, located, erected, moved, reconstructed, extended, enlarged, converted, or structurally altered without full compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance or applicable local, county or state regulatory provision.
- B) State agencies are required to comply when s. 13.48(13), Wis. Stats., applies. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is exempt from the requirements of this Ordinance when s. 30.12(4), Wis. Stats., applies.
- C) The provisions of this Ordinance shall be administered and enforced pursuant to the procedural regulations of this Ordinance, s. 10.6.

### **10.1.6 Jurisdiction, Force and Effective Date.**

- A) The jurisdiction of this Ordinance is the unincorporated areas of the Polk County. This Ordinance shall affect the unincorporated areas of Polk County, or applicable portions thereof, as provided in 10.1.6(B)(2).
- B) Effect. Upon enactment and publication by the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Polk, this Ordinance shall go into full force and effect as follows:
  - 1) This Ordinance shall be effective on September 15, 2016, subject to Wisconsin Statute Sections 59.69(5)(d) and 59.69(2)(a).
  - 2) The Polk County Comprehensive Land Use Ordinance shall continue to remain in effect in a town until the date in (B)(1), above, or until this Ordinance is approved by respective town board, whichever period is shorter.
- C) If a town board wishes to withdraw from county zoning prior to a comprehensive zoning ordinance rewrite, they may do so by filing a resolution with the County Clerk and

Governing Committee at least one year prior to the effective date of the withdrawal. However, this withdrawal can only happen when a Comprehensive Plan for the town is developed or revised as required by state law and no more frequently than once every ten (10) years from the original resolution approving the county zoning ordinance and filed with the county clerk.

### **10.1.7 Abrogation and greater restrictions.**

- A) The ordinance identified in s. 10.1.2(b) of this Ordinance, is hereby repealed consistent with s. 10.1.6(B)(2) of this Ordinance.
- B) Except as this Ordinance may conflict with Ch. 91, Wis. Stats., Farmland Preservation, wherever this Ordinance imposes greater restrictions than other similar regulations, the provisions of this Ordinance shall govern.
- C) Wherever the provisions of this Ordinance conflict with the provisions of Ch. 91, Wis. Stats., Farmland Preservation, the provisions of Ch. 91 shall prevail.
- D) It is not intended by this Ordinance to repeal, abrogate, annul, impair, or interfere with any existing easement, covenant, deed restriction, or agreement. The provisions of any easement, covenant, deed restriction or like agreement are a matter of private property interest not within the scope of the regulations contained in this Ordinance. The County of Polk shall not enforce any easement, covenant, deed restriction, or agreement to which it is not a party.
- E) It is not intended by this Ordinance to repeal, abrogate, annul, impair, or interfere with any permit previously issued pursuant to law.

### **10.1.8 Interpretation and application.**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be construed to be minimum requirements and shall be liberally construed in favor of the County and shall not be deemed a limitation or repeal of any other power granted by the Wisconsin Statutes. Further, interpretation and application of the provisions of this Ordinance shall take into account the purposes of this Ordinance and any adverse effects that an interpretation may have upon such purposes.

### **10.1.9 Severability.**

If any section, paragraph, clause, provision, or portion of this Ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby. If any application of this Ordinance to a particular structure, land, or water is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall not be applicable to any other structure, land, or water not specifically included in said judgment.

### **10.1.10 Warning and disclaimer of liability.**

This Ordinance shall not create a liability on the part of, or a cause of action against, Polk County or any office or employee thereof for any damages that may result from reliance on this Ordinance.

### **10.1.11 Vesting of rights.**

No rights to any particular use vest in any property owner simply because the use is permitted by this Ordinance. Such use may be prohibited by future amendment to this Ordinance. However, the approval and issuance of a permit shall vest in the property owner the right to use the property in the manner specifically approved by the permit, unless and until the permit expires. No amendment to this Ordinance which prohibits a particular use shall be applicable to any property developed under a previously issued permit, except to the extent that such use is rendered nonconforming.

### **10.1.12 Commentary, Illustrations, and Examples.**

Throughout this Ordinance, insertions of comments, illustrations and examples, prefaced as "Commentary:" are included. The same are intended to give information, provide illustration or and an example to explain certain provisions in this Ordinance. Commentary, illustrations and examples provided in the ordinance are not by themselves regulatory provisions and shall not be used thusly, unless such illustration is set forth and provided for as a regulation of this Ordinance.

### **10.1.13 Headings.**

Headings are used throughout this Ordinance to assist users of this Ordinance. If a heading should conflict with the text in interpreting this Ordinance, the text shall control. Similarly, statutes incorporated or referenced in this Ordinance have been corrected to reflect the renumberings. If a statutory reference conflicts with the text of otherwise applicable statute, the text of such statute shall apply, regardless of statutory number.

## **10.2 ARTICLE 2: DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this ordinance certain words and terms are defined as follows. Words used in the present tense include the future; the singular number includes the plural number and words in the plural number include the singular number; the word "shall" is mandatory and not discretionary.

**“ACCESSORY BUILDING”** see “Building, Accessory”

**“ACCESSORY STRUCTURE”** see “Structure, Accessory”

**“ANIMAL SHELTER”** means a facility that is operated for the purpose of providing for and promoting the welfare, protection, and humane treatment of animals, that is used to shelter at least 25 dogs and/or cats in a year, and that is operated by a humane society, animal welfare society, animal rescue group, or other nonprofit group.

**“BASE FARM TRACT”** means all land, whether one lot or 2 or more contiguous lots, that is in a farmland preservation zoning district and that is part of a single farm on <enter date

here that is either the date that the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture certifies ordinance or an earlier date determined by the local government> regardless of any subsequent changes in the size of the farm

**“BED & BREAKFAST”** means any place of lodging that provides 8 or fewer rooms for rent to no more than a total of 20 tourists or other transients for more than 10 nights in a 12-month period, is the owner’s personal residence, is occupied by the owner at the time of rental, and in which the only meal served to guests is breakfast.

**“BUILDING”** means a structure having a roof supported by columns or walls.

**“BUILDING, ACCESSORY”** means a detached, subordinate building which is incidental to and customarily found in connection with the primary use of the property.

**“BUILDING ENVELOPE”** means the three dimensional space within which a structure is built.

**“BUILDING FOOTPRINT”** means the perimeter square footage of enclosed building space

**“BUNKHOUSE”** means a residential accessory structure or part of a residential accessory structure with or without plumbing which is used as temporary sleeping quarters only; no cooking or food preparation facilities; and no greater than 400 sq. ft. of enclosed dwelling space.

**“CAMPGROUND”** means any lot or tract of land owned by a person, the state or a local government, which is designed, maintained, intended or used for the purpose of providing sites for nonpermanent overnight use by 4 or more camping units, or by one to 3 camping units if the lot or tract of land is represented as a campground.

**“CAMPING UNIT”** means any portable device, no more than 400 square feet in area, used as a temporary dwelling, including but not limited to a camping trailer/travel trailer, motor home, park model, pick-up truck camping topper or tent

**“CONDITIONAL USE”** see “Use, Conditional”

**“CONSERVATION DESIGN DEVELOPMENT”** means a style of development that clusters houses onto smaller lot sizes in order to preserve some feature, function, aspect of the property that is being developed.

**“CONTRACTOR’S STORAGE YARD”** means the outdoor portion of a lot where construction or service contractor stores and maintains 4 or more pieces of equipment and other materials in an area greater than 250 sq feet customarily used by the construction or service contractor. This excludes vehicles which require a Class D drivers license to operate.

**“DECK”** (Patio) An unenclosed exterior structure that has no roof or sides

**“DISTRICT”** means lots or sections of Polk County, Wisconsin, for which the regulations for governing the use of land and buildings are uniform.

**“DWELLING, SINGLE-FAMILY”** means a structure, or that part of a structure, which is used or intended to be used as a home, residence or sleeping place by one person or by 2 or more persons maintaining a common household, to the exclusion of all others. This includes

manufactured homes, but not mobile homes, camping units, travel trailers, and other temporary sleeping units.

**“DWELLING, TWO-FAMILY”** means a structure, or that part of a structure, which is used or intended to be used as a home, residence or sleeping place by two-families, to the exclusion of all others. In density-based zoning districts, it shall count as one dwelling unit.

**“DWELLING, MULTIPLE-FAMILY”** means a structure, or that part of a structure, which is used or intended to be used as a home, residence or sleeping place by more than two families, to the exclusion of all others. In density-based zoning districts, it shall count as one dwelling unit.

**“ESSENTIAL SERVICES”** means services provided by public and private utilities, necessary for the exercise of the principal use or service of the principal structure. These services include underground, surface, or overhead gas, electrical, steam, water, sanitary sewerage, stormwater drainage, and communication systems and accessories thereto, such as poles, towers, wires, mains, drains, vaults, culverts, laterals, sewers, pipes, catch basins, water storage tanks, conduits, cables, fire alarm boxes, police call boxes, traffic signals, pumps, lift stations, and hydrants, but not including those uses listed in the Polk County Telecommunications Towers, Antennas, and Related Facilities Ordinance.

**“EXPANSION, HORIZONTAL”** (Addition) means expansion of a principal structure outside of its existing building footprint.

**“EXPANSION, VERTICAL”** means expansion of a principal structure either up or down, within its existing building footprint and includes full replacement of roofs and basements/foundations.

**“FAMILY”** means the body of persons who live together in one dwelling unit as a single housekeeping entity.

**“FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN”** means a plan for the preservation of farmland in a county, including an agricultural preservation plan under subch. IV of ch. 91, 2007 stats.

**“FARM RESIDENCE”** means any of the following structures that are located on a farm:

- A. A single-family dwelling or two-family dwelling that is the only residential structure on the farm or is occupied by any of the following:
  - 1. An owner or operator of the farm.
  - 2. A parent or child of an owner or operator of the farm.
  - 3. An individual who earns more than 50 percent of his or her gross income from the farm.
- B. A migrant labor camp that is certified under State Statute 103.92.

**“FENCE, PRIVACY”** means a structure for enclosure or screening that is greater than 4 feet in height and greater than 50% opaque.

**“FLOOD PLAIN”** means the land which has been or may be hereafter covered by flood water during the regional flood. The flood plain includes the floodway and the flood fringe as those terms are defined in ch. NR 116.

**“FRONTAGE”** means all the property abutting on one side of a road or street between two intersecting roads or streets or all of the property abutting on one side of a street between an intersecting street and the dead end of a street.

**“FRONT YARD”** means a yard extending the full width of the lot between the front lot line and the nearest part of the principal building, excluding uncovered steps.

**“HEIGHT”** means the elevation from the lowest exposed grade of the structure to the highest peak of the roof, excluding window wells and stairways.

**“HOME BUSINESS”** means a gainful occupation operated out of a residence, when such occupation is:

- A) Conducted solely by a member or members of the resident family
- B) Entirely within the residence or accessory building and incidental to the residential use of the premises
- C) No external alterations that would effect a substantial change in the residential character of the building
- D) No more than 50 percent of only one floor of the dwelling shall be devoted to such offices
- E) Not more than 2 persons not members of the resident family may be employed in any such office.

**“HOTEL/MOTEL”** means a place where sleeping accommodations are offered for pay to transients, in 5 or more rooms, and all related rooms, buildings and areas.

**“HUMAN HABITATION”** means the act of occupying a structure as a sleeping place whether intermittently or as a principal residence.

**“JUNKYARD”/“SALVAGE YARD”/“RECYCLING CENTER”** means an open area where waste or scrap materials are bought, sold, exchanged, stored, baled, disassembled or handled for commercial or noncommercial purposes including, but not limited to, scrap iron and other metals, paper, rags, rubber tires and bottles. A junkyard/salvage yard/recycling center includes, but is not limited to, an automobile wrecking or dismantling yard or an area where more than one unlicensed or inoperable motor vehicle is kept.

**“KENNEL”** means the use of land, with related buildings or structures, for the breeding, rearing or boarding of household pets 5 months of age or older.

**“LANDSCAPING”** means the removal or alteration of topsoil.

**“LARGE OUTDOOR COMMERCIAL EVENT”** means an event, regardless of whether it is singular or annual or multiple times per year in which payment is accepted, whether by a fee or by donation, in exchange for a public gathering with entertainment, including, but not limited to: music events, motor vehicle rallies, etc.

**“LOT”** means a parcel of land occupied or designed to provide space necessary for one principal building and its accessory buildings or uses, including the open spaces required by this ordinance and abutting on a public street or other officially approved means of access. A lot may be a parcel designated in a plat or described in a conveyance recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, or any part of a large parcel when such part complies with the requirements of this ordinance as to width and area for the district in which it is located. No

land included in any street, highway or railroad right-of-way shall be included in computing lot area.

**“LOT, CORNER”** means a lot located at the intersection of two streets, any two corners of which have an angle of 120 degrees or less, or if bounded by a curved street in which case the chord within the limits of the lot lines form an angle of 120 degrees or less.

**“LOT LINES”** means the lines bounding a lot as herein defined.

**“LOT WIDTH”** means for the purpose of this ordinance the width of a lot shall be the shortest distance between the sidelines at the setback line.

**“MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR”** means general activities which do not involve structural alterations or structural repairs to the structure. These activities may include: replacement of windows, doors, siding, roof decking/sheathing replacement, within the building envelope, and replacement of decking.

**“MANUFACTURED HOME”** means any structure, HUD certified and labeled under the National Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (U.S.C. Title 42, Chapter 70), that is, or was as originally constructed, designed to be transported by any motor vehicle upon a public highway and designed, equipped and used primarily for sleeping, eating and living quarters, or is intended to be so used; and includes the manufactured home structure, its plumbing, heating, air conditioning and electrical systems, all appliances and all other equipment therein, any additions, attachments, annexes, foundations and appurtenances.

**“MANUFACTURED HOME PARK”** (previously Mobile Home Park) means an area or premise on which is provided the required space for the accommodation of manufactured home, together with necessary accessory buildings, driveways, walks, screening and other required adjuncts.

**“MOBILE HOME”** means any structure, not HUD certified and labeled under the National Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (U.S.C. Title 42, Chapter 70) or manufactured or assembled before June 15, 1976, that is, or was as originally constructed, designed to be transported by any motor vehicle upon a public highway and designed, equipped and used primarily for sleeping, eating and living quarters, or is intended to be so used; and includes the mobile home structure, its plumbing, heating, air conditioning and electrical systems, all appliances and all other equipment therein, any additions, attachments, annexes, foundations, and appurtenances.

**“MOTEL”** see “Hotel/Motel”

**“NONCONFORMING STRUCTURE”** see “Structure, Nonconforming”

**“NONCONFORMING USE”** see “Use, Nonconforming”

**“NONFARM RESIDENCE”** means a single-family or multi-family residence other than a farm residence.

**“NON-METALLIC MINING ACTIVITIES”** means the excavation, mining or removal of minerals, clay, ceramic or refractor minerals, quarrying of sand, gravel, crushed or broken stone, including the extraction and removal of top soil, but not including sod farming. The term shall also include such mineral processing operations as aggregate or ready mix plants,

hot mix asphalt plants, mining services, processing of top soil, washing, refining or processing of non-metallic mineral materials, when onsite or on a contiguous property.

**“OUTLOT”** means a lot remnant or parcel of land within a plat remaining after platting, which is intended for open space use, for which no development is intended other than that which is accessory to the open space use. An Outlot may not be developed for any use or structure that requires a private, onsite wastewater treatment system.

**“PARENT LOT”** means the lot and associated acreage of that lot that existed at the time of the adoption of this ordinance

**“PARKING LOT”** means a lot where automobiles are parked or stored temporarily, but not including the wrecking of automobiles or other vehicles or storage for the purpose of repair or wrecking.

**“PATIO”** See “deck”

**“PERMITTED USE”** see “Use, Permitted”

**“PRIME FARMLAND”** means any of the following:

- A. An area with a class I or class II land capability classification as identified by Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).
- B. Any other land designated as “prime farmland” in the county’s certified farmland preservation plan.

**“RECONSTRUCTION”** means activities that exceed maintenance and repair, structural repair, structural alteration, horizontal expansion or vertical expansion.

**“ROAD”** means a public or private thoroughfare which affords a primary means of access to abutting property, and includes streets and highways.

**“ROADSIDE STAND”** means a structure having a ground area of not more than 300 square feet, not permanently fixed to the ground, readily removable in its entirety, not fully enclosed and to be used solely for the sale of farm products produced on the premise (or adjoining premise). There shall not be more than one such roadside stand in any single premise.

**“SETBACK”** means the minimum horizontal distance between lot lines, the platted center line of the road, from Right-Of-Way line, or the ordinary high water mark measured to the closest point of the structure.

**“SETBACK LINES”** means lines established adjacent to the highways, lakes or streams for the purpose of defining limits within which no building, structure or any part thereof shall be erected or permanently maintained except as shown herein. "Within a setback line" means between the setback line and the highway right-of-way, lake or stream.

**“SHORELAND”** means area landward of the ordinary high water mark within the following distances: 1,000 feet from a lake, pond or flowage; and 300 feet from a river or stream or to the landward side of the floodplain, whichever distance is greater.

**“SIGN”** means any device visible from a public place whose essential purpose and design is to convey either commercial or non-commercial messages by means of graphic presentation of alphabetic or pictorial symbols or representations. Non-commercial flags or any flags displayed from flagpoles or staffs will not be considered to be signs.

**“SIGN, FREESTANDING”** means a sign principally supported by one or more columns, poles, or braces placed in or upon the ground

**“SIGN, OFF PREMISE”** means a sign advertising a business that is not conducted on the property or located in the immediate vicinity of the business.

**“SIGN, ON PREMISE”** means a sign at a business location advertising a business that is conducted on the property and that is located in the immediate vicinity of the business.

"Immediate vicinity" means the sign is within the area bounded by the buildings, driveways and parking areas in which the activity is conducted or within 50 feet of that area.

"Immediate vicinity" does not include any area across a street or road from the area where the business is conducted or any area developed for the purpose of erecting a sign.

**“SIGN STRUCTURE”** means any structure designed for the support of a sign.

**“SIGN, TEMPORARY”** means a sign intended to display either commercial or non-commercial messages of a transitory or temporary nature. Portable signs or any sign not permanently embedded in the ground, not permanently affixed to a building, or attached to a sign structure that is permanently embedded in the ground, are considered temporary signs.

**“STORY”** means the vertical distance between the surface of any floor and the floor next above it, or if there be no floor above it, the space between such floor and the ceiling next above it.

**“STRUCTURAL ALTERATION”** means any change in the exterior supporting members, such as bearing walls, columns, beams or girders, footings and piles.

**“STRUCTURE”** unless otherwise indicated in this ordinance, means anything constructed or erected, temporary or permanent, intended for the protection, shelter, enclosure or support of persons or property at anytime of the year.

**“STRUCTURE, ACCESSORY”** means a detached, subordinate structure which is incidental to and customarily found in connection with the primary use of the property, including but not limited to, detached garages, sheds, barns, gazebos, fences, retaining walls, and pedestrian walkways and stairways to surface water.

**“STRUCTURE, NONCONFORMING”** means a dwelling or other building, structure or accessory building that existed lawfully before the current zoning ordinance was enacted or amended, but that does not conform with one or more of the regulations in the current zoning ordinance.

**“STRUCTURE, PRINCIPAL”** (principal building) means a building that is utilized for the primary use of a lot, including any functional appurtenances, such as decks, patios and balconies, which are attached to, or immediately adjacent to, said building.

**“TOURIST OR TRANSIENT”** means a person who travels to a location away from his or her permanent address for a short period of time for vacation, pleasure, recreation, culture, business or employment.

**“TOURIST ROOMING HOUSE”** means single family dwelling in which sleeping accommodations are offered for pay to a maximum of 2 tourists or transients per bedroom plus 2 at any one time on the property.

**“TRAVEL TRAILER”** means any vehicle, house car, camp car, or any portable or mobile vehicle either self-propelled or propelled by other means which is used or designed to be used for residential living or sleeping purposes as defined in Wisconsin Administrative Code HFS178.

**“UNNECESSARY HARDSHIP”** means for area variances, compliance with the strict letter of the restrictions governing area, setbacks, frontage, height, bulk, or density would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose or would render conformity with such restrictions unnecessarily burdensome. An unnecessary hardship must be based on conditions unique to the property rather than considerations personal to the property owner when reviewing a variance application.

**“USE, CONDITIONAL”** means a use that is permitted as well as listed by ordinance provided certain conditions specified in the ordinance are met or designated by the Board of Adjustment and a permit is issued.

**“USE, NONCONFORMING”** means a building, structure or use of land lawfully existing at the time of enactment of this ordinance, and which does not conform to the regulations of the district or zone in which it is located.

**“USE, PERMITTED”** means a use permitted in a district whereby a building can be constructed, erected, altered or moved and is consistent with the general intent of the district.

**“VARIANCE”** means an action, which authorizes the construction or maintenance of a structure in a manner inconsistent with the dimensional requirements of a zoning ordinance. A variance may only be granted in cases of unnecessary hardship and when the spirit of the ordinance is not violated.

**“VISION CLEARANCE TRIANGLE”** means an unoccupied triangular space at the intersection of highways or streets or railroads. Such vision clearance triangle shall be bounded by the intersecting highway, road or railroad right-of-way lines and a setback line connecting points located on such right-of-way lines by measurement from their intersection as specified in General Provisions Section 10.3.6 of this ordinance.

**“WETLANDS”** means those areas where water is at, near or above the land surface long enough to be capable of supporting aquatic or hydrophytic vegetation, and which have soils indicative of wet conditions.

**“YARD”** means an open space on the same lot with a building, unoccupied and unobstructed from the ground upward except as otherwise provided herein.

## **10.3 ARTICLE 3: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

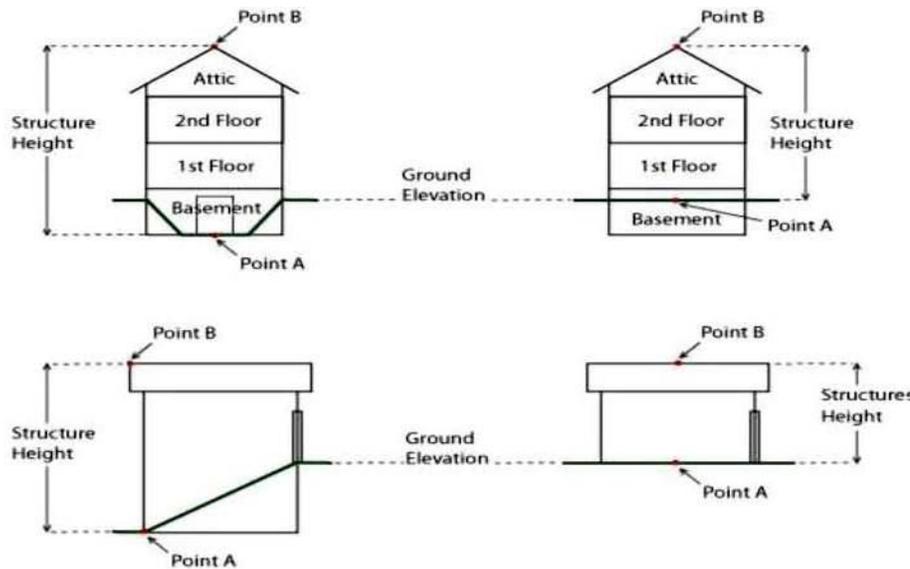
### **10.3.1 General Provisions**

- A) The use and height of buildings hereafter erected, converted, enlarged or structurally altered and the use of any land shall be in compliance with the regulation established herein for the district in which such land or building is located.
- B) No lot area shall be so reduced that the yards and open spaces shall be smaller than is required by this ordinance, nor shall the density of population be increased in any manner except in conformity with the area regulations hereby established for the district in which

a building or premise is located. No part of a yard or other open space provided about any building for the purpose of complying with the provisions of this ordinance shall be included as part of a yard or other open space required for another building.

- C) Every dwelling hereafter erected in Polk County shall provide not less than 400 square feet of floor area for a one-story building for each family dwelling therein, nor less than 700 square feet for a two-story building for each family dwelling therein.
- D) Nothing herein contained shall require any change in the plans, construction, size or designated use of any building or structure or part thereof on which construction has started or a particular use has been commenced, or for the construction of a building or structure or part thereof upon which a bona fide contract has been entered into before the effective date of this ordinance.
- E) There shall be no more than 1 dwelling per lot, unless otherwise indicated in another part of this ordinance.
- F) Structures, including but not limited to, school bus stop shelters, deer stands, dog houses, tree houses and ice-fishing shacks shall not be deemed an accessory structure or use, do not require permits and shall conform to the setbacks and cannot be used for storage.
- G) Any use not specified herein shall be unpermitted and considered a violation of this ordinance.
- H) The height of a structure is the measurement of the vertical line segment starting at the lowest point of any exposed wall and it's intersect with the ground (point "A" in Figure #1) to a line horizontal to the highest point of the a structure (point "B" in Figure #1), unless specified in another part of this ordinance.

Figure #1



### **10.3.2 Nonconforming Uses and nonconforming structures**

- A) If a nonconforming use of building, premise or lot of land is discontinued for a period of 12 months, any future use of the building, premise or lot of land shall conform to the regulations for the district in which it is located.
- B) Legal uses and structures that pre-exist the adoption of this ordinance and do not conform to this ordinance shall be considered as a legal nonconforming uses.
- C) Nonconforming uses shall not be expanded or extended beyond the scope of such use existing at the time of the adoption of this ordinance. In the case in which a landowner proposes to expand or extend a nonconforming use, the landowner must apply for and obtain a change to a zoning district such that the use conforms to current provision of the ordinance.
- D) Expansion of the nonconforming principal structure cannot make it more non-conforming (cannot expand towards what is making the structure non-conforming).
- E) Nonconforming principal structures are allowed to horizontally expand up to 50% of the original footprint of the structure over the life of the structure, unless otherwise indicated in this ordinance.
- F) Nonconforming principal structures are allowed vertical expansion, unless otherwise indicated in this ordinance.
- G) Nonconforming principal structures are allowed maintenance and repair, unless otherwise indicated in this ordinance.
- H) Nonconforming principal structures are allowed structural alterations up to 25% of the linear perimeter of the exterior walls, of each floor, of the nonconforming part of the structure, over the life of the structure, unless otherwise indicated in this ordinance.
- I) Nonconforming accessory structures are only allowed maintenance and repair and no expansion, unless otherwise indicated in this ordinance.
- J) Decks and patios that are attached or immediately adjacent to a nonconforming principal structure may be repaired or replaced, but not expanded vertically or horizontally.
- K) Nonconforming structure may be restored to the size, location, and use, including enlargement only if necessary for the structure to comply with applicable state or federal requirements, that it had immediately before the damage or destruction occurred, without limits on the costs of the repair, reconstruction, renovation, or improvement if all of the following apply:
  - 1) The nonconforming structure was damaged or destroyed on or after
    - a. March 2, 2006, s. 59.69(10m)
  - 2) The damage or destruction was caused by violent wind, vandalism, fire, flood, ice, snow, mold, or infestation.

### 10.3.3 Height and Area Exceptions

The regulations contained herein relating to the height of buildings or structures and the size of yards and other open spaces shall be subject to the following exceptions:

- A) Churches, schools and other public and quasi-public buildings may be erected to a height not exceeding 60 feet or 5 stories.
- B) Chimneys, cooling towers, church steeples or spires, tanks, water towers, television antennas, micro-wave radio relay or broadcasting towers, masts or aerials, necessary mechanical appurtenances, and silos for asphalt and concrete mixing plants are hereby exempted from the height regulations of this ordinance and may be erected in accordance with other regulations or ordinances of Polk County, Wisconsin.

### 10.3.4 Substandard Lots

- A) A legally created lot that met minimum area and minimum average width requirements when created, but does not meet current lot size requirements, may be used as a building site if all of the following apply:
  - 1) The substandard lot was never reconfigured or combined with another lot by plat, survey, or consolidation by the owner into one property tax parcel.
  - 2) The substandard lot has never been developed with one or more of its structures placed partly upon an adjacent lot.
  - 3) The substandard lot is developed to comply with all other ordinance requirements.
  - 4) In the A-4 district the property must be rezoned or a CUP issued according to 91.46(2) prior to construction commencing.

### 10.3.5 Setbacks

#### A) Road Setbacks

The setback distances at any point for the respective classes of highways shall be as follows in Table 1, unless otherwise indicated in this ordinance:

Table 1

Road – Minimum Setback (whichever is greater)	Private Road	Town Road	County Road	State/US Highway
From Platted Centerline	35 ft	63 ft	75 ft	110 ft
From Right-of-Way		30 ft	42 ft	50 ft

#### B) Setback Averaging

There is an exception to the setbacks outlined in Section “A” above (see Figure 2). In order to utilize an established building setback line which sets forth a reduced setback from what is listed in Section “A”, the following must apply:

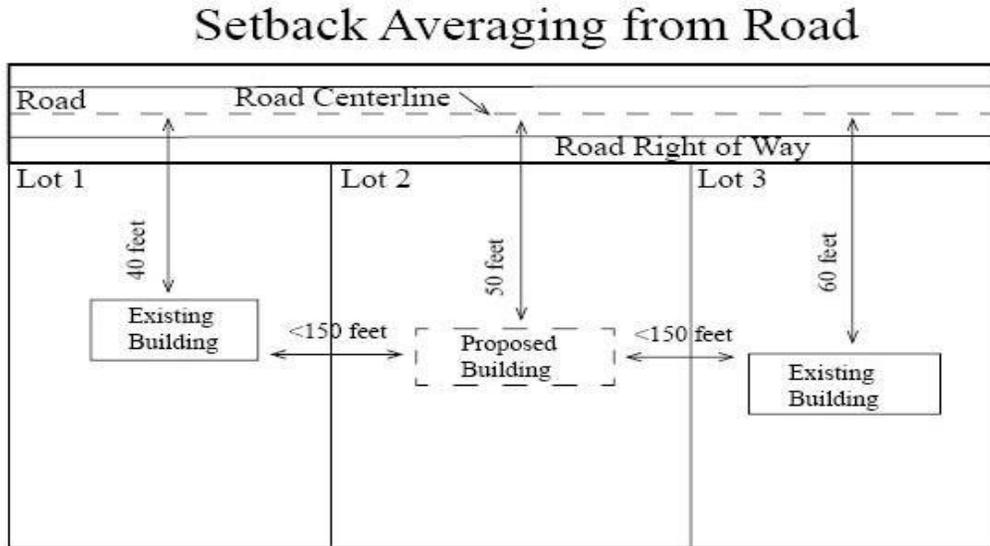
- 1) The reduced setback established building setback line must be in existence prior to the adoption of this ordinance
- 2) There must be two buildings, one on each side adjoining property

- 3) There must not be more than 150 feet between the proposed building and a building being used to establish the reduced setback
- 4) The setback for the proposed or moved building shall not be less than the average of the two buildings on the adjoining properties.

C) Setback Exemptions

- 1) All fences are exempt from side and rear yard setbacks.

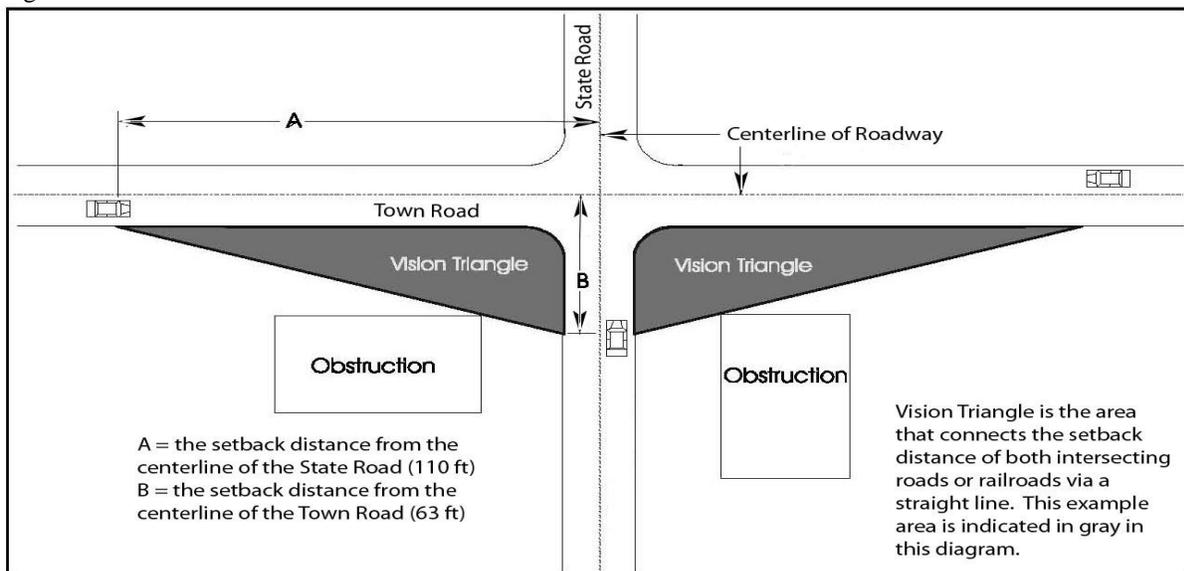
Figure 2



### 10.3.6 Vision Clearance Triangle

Structures, screening vegetation and signs are not allowed in the vision clearance triangle. Figure 3 is a diagram of the vision clearance triangle area as defined in this ordinance.

Figure 3



### **10.3.7 Essential Services**

Essential services are allowable uses in all zoning districts except the Farmland Preservation zoning district, in Section 10.4.7 of this ordinance.

### **10.3.8 Conservation Design Development**

The standards in this section and in the Polk County Land Division Ordinance shall replace the underlying zoning district's standards. Conservation Design Development is prohibited in the Farmland Preservation zoning district.

- A) **PERMITTED USES.** Land within a Conservation Design Development (CDD) may be used for the following purposes:
  - 1) Permitted uses in the residential portion, not the common open space portion, of the Conservation Design Development:
    - a. All Permitted Uses in the underlying zoning district
  - 2) Permitted uses in the Common Open Space portion of the Conservation Design Development shall include:
    - a. All uses permitted in the Natural Resources District, except #7.
    - b. Drainfields for common sewers with associated easements with the subdivision governing authority and maintenance agreements.
    - c. Silent Sport activities, including but not limited to: hiking trails, biking trails, etc.
- B) **CONDITIONAL USES.** The following uses, upon issuance of a Conditional Use Permit as provided in Section 10.6.4, and provided that the use shall not adversely impact the rural character of the development and shall be consistent with the design objectives listed in the Polk County Subdivision Ordinance, may be allowed:
  - 1) Conditional Uses in the residential portion, not the common open space portion of the Conservation Design Development.
    - a. All Conditional Uses in the underlying zoning district
  - 2) Conditional Uses in the Common Open Space portion of the Conservation Design Development.
    - a. Conditional Uses allowed in the Natural Resources District.
    - b. Equestrian boarding and riding facilities available only to development residents. A manure management plan approved by the Polk County Land and Water Resources Department is required.
    - c. Swimming pools available only to development residents.
    - d. Golf Courses
  - 3) Conditional uses will be approved as part of the Conservation Design Development approval process.
- C) **DENSITY STANDARDS.** The total number of dwelling units allowed in a Conservation Design Development is referred to as the Residential Gross Density.
  - 1) **Residential Base Density.** The Residential Base Density, or the base number of allowable dwelling units, is determined by the zoning district in which the property

- resides. Existing dwellings that may or may not be part of a farmstead that will be retained shall be counted toward the base density.
- 2) Residential Gross Density. The Residential Gross Density, or the total number of dwelling units allowed in a Conservation Design Development, is the Residential Base Density plus 25 percent of the number of dwelling units prescribed by the Residential Base Density.
- D) Companion standards for Conservation Design Development can be found in the Polk County Subdivision Ordinance

## **10.4 ARTICLE 4: ZONING DISTRICTS**

### **LIST OF ZONING DISTRICTS**

- Residential (R-1)
- Hamlet (H-1)
- Residential-Agricultural 5 (RA-5)
- Agriculture 10 (A-1)
- Agriculture 20 (A-2)
- Farmland Preservation (A-3)
- Natural Resources (N-1)
- General Business and Commercial (B-1)
- Recreational Business and Commercial (B-2)
- Small Business and Commercial (B-3)
- Industrial (I-1)
- Mining (M-1)

### **OTHER ZONING REGULATIONS**

- Shoreland Overlay
- Floodplain Ordinance
- Lower St. Croix Riverway Ordinance
- Polk County Sanitary Ordinance

#### **10.4.1 Official Zoning Map**

The locations and boundaries of the primary zoning districts established by the Ordinance are set forth on zoning maps which are hereby incorporated by reference as though part of this Ordinance. It shall be the responsibility of the Zoning Administrator to maintain and update the zoning maps and any amendments thereto.

#### **10.4.2 Residential (R-1)**

##### **A) PURPOSE AND INTENT**

The purpose and intent of the Residential (R-1) District is to promote residential uses and other compatible uses associated with residential neighborhoods.

B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

- 2) Single family dwelling, Two family dwellings, including manufactured homes
- 3) Accessory structures, clearly incidental to the residential use of the property.
- 4) Gardening including nurseries for the propagation of plants only
- 5) Municipal parks and playgrounds including swimming pools, golf courses, tennis courts and picnic grounds, provided the parking requirements are met in Section 10.5.2 (Parking)
- 6) Home Business, provided the parking requirements are met in Section 10.5.2 (Parking)
- 7) Conservation Design Development (CDD) according to Section 10.3.8 and the Polk County Subdivision Ordinance.

CHANGES IN USE THAT REQUIRE A LAND USE PERMIT

- 8) Tourist Rooming House provided they meet the following conditions:
  - A) No RVs, campers, tents or other means of overnight stay allowed.
  - B) All sleeping accommodations must be within the dwelling unit.
  - C) All parking must be contained on the property.
  - D) Applicant must obtain all proper licensing.
  - E) Applicant must have 24-hour contact number available to the public.
  - F) Property must remain free from citation and charges for nuisance, disorderly conduct or any other illegal activity, and in compliance with county ordinances, state and local laws.
- 9) Bed and Breakfast
  - A) No RVs, campers, tents or other means of overnight stay allowed.
  - B) All sleeping accommodations must be within the dwelling unit.
  - C) All parking must be contained on the property.
  - D) Applicant must obtain all proper licensing.
  - E) Applicant must have 24-hour contact number available to the public.
  - F) Property must remain free from citation and charges for nuisance, disorderly conduct or any other illegal activity, and in compliance with county ordinances, state and local laws.
- 10) A Bunkhouse with the conditions in Section 10.5.7 at a minimum

C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) Schools
- 2) Churches
- 3) Municipal buildings, except sewage disposal plants, garbage incinerators and buildings for the repair or storage of road building or maintenance equipment.

D) LOT, HEIGHT, YARD, & SETBACKS REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Minimum Lot Size: 1 Acre except in Conservation Development Design; lot dimensions in accordance with the Polk County Subdivision Ordinance

- 2) Maximum Principal Building Height = 35ft
- 3) Maximum Accessory Building Height = 25ft
- 4) Side Yard Setback = 10 ft for principal structures; 5 ft for accessory structures
- 5) Rear Yard Setback = 25 ft for principal structures; 5 ft for accessory structures
- 6) Road setback regulations shall apply to all corner lots

E) OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)

### 10.4.3 Hamlet District (H-1)

A) PURPOSE AND INTENT

The goal of this district is to allow for land uses that mimic a rural, unincorporated village setting and allow for continuance of that settlement pattern. To allow for smaller lots sizes in areas served by community sewer systems. In addition, this district will allow for mixed uses of residential and commercial as was typical of the historical development pattern of rural hamlets.

B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

- 1) All Allowed and Permitted Uses in R-1
- 2) Two-Family Dwelling and Multi-Family Dwelling, including a manufactured home
- 3) All uses in the B-3 District
- 4) Manufactured Home Park with conditions found in Section 10.5.5

CHANGES IN USE THAT REQUIRE A LAND USE PERMIT

- 5) Tourist Rooming Houses with conditions in R-1
- 6) Bed & Breakfasts with conditions in R-1
- 7) A Bunkhouse with the conditions in Section 10.5.7 at a minimum

C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) All Conditional Uses in R-1
- 2) Other similar and compatible use as determined by the Board of Adjustment

D) LOT, HEIGHT, YARD, & SETBACKS REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Minimum lot size = 30,000 sq ft for Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (POWTS); 10,000 sq ft for public sewer; lot dimensions in accordance with the Polk County Subdivision Ordinance
- 2) Maximum Residential Use Principal Building Height = 35ft
- 3) Maximum Commercial Use Principal Building Height = 45ft or 3 stories
- 4) Maximum Accessory Building Height = 25ft for Commercial and Residential Uses
- 5) Side Yard Setback = 10 ft for principal structures; 5 ft for accessory structures
- 6) Rear Yard Setback = 25 ft for principal structures; 5 ft for accessory structures
- 7) Road setback = 5ft from ROW of road

E) OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)
- 2) Off-Street Parking shall be regulated by Section 10.5.2 of this ordinance.

**10.4.4 Residential-Agricultural District 5 (RA-5)**

A) PURPOSE AND INTENT

The R-A District 5 is meant to allow for limited residential development in areas that transition from incorporated areas to rural areas and farmland preservation areas. The target density for this district is 1 residential dwelling per 5 acres of land or 8 dwellings per 40 acres.

B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

- 1) All Allowed and Permitted uses in the R-1 District
- 2) Two-Family Dwelling
- 3) Multi-Family Dwelling, when in compliance with density standards of this district
- 4) Agricultural Uses found in A-1, except fur farming
- 5) Conservation Design Development when done in accordance with density standards, Section 10.3.8 of this ordinance and the Polk County Subdivision Ordinance
- 6) Schools
- 7) Churches
- 8) Cemeteries
- 9) Municipal Buildings
- 10) Manufactured Home Park with conditions found in Section 10.5.5

CHANGES IN USE THAT REQUIRE A LAND USE PERMIT

- 11) Tourist Rooming Houses with conditions in R-1
- 12) Bed & Breakfasts with conditions in R-1
- 13) A Bunkhouse with the conditions in Section 10.5.7 at a minimum
- 14) Contractor Storage Yard, when the design standards of Section 10.5.1 are applied

C) LOT SIZES

- 1) Traditional Development  
1 dwelling unit per 5-acres density standard

Minimum Lot Size = 1 acre except in Conservation Development Design

- 2) Calculations determining the number of residential lots allowed per parent lot.

In the Residential-Agricultural District (RA-5), a maximum of 8 lots will be allowed per 40 acres, which includes any original principal structure or dwelling, except for lots created using the Conservation Development Design provision. To calculate the number of lots available for development in this district, divide the gross site area of the contiguous lands held in single ownership as of the date of adoption of this ordinance by 5. This is the total number of residential lots or dwelling units that will be allowed on the lands from the effective date of this chapter forward. Table 2 below indicates the number of residential lots that can be created based on the number of

acres owned at the time of the adoption of this ordinance. Round up if any fractional amount is equal to ½ or greater. Example Calculations:

- 32 acre lot = allowed 6 residential lots (32/5 = 6.4 which rounds down to 6)
- 19 acres = 4 residential lots (19/5 = 3.8 which rounds up to 4)

Table 2

<b>Calculation of Residential Parcels Allowed</b>	
Size of Base Tract of Land	Total Number of Dwelling Lots Allowed
Less than 7.5 acres	1
7.5 to less than 12.5 acres	2
12.5 to less than 17.5 acres	3
17.5 to less than 22.5 acres	4
22.5 to less than 27.5 acres	5
27.5 to less than 32.5 acres	6
32.5 to less than 37.5	7
37.5 to less than 40 acres	8

**D) HEIGHT, YARD, & SETBACKS REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Maximum Principal Building Height = 35ft
- 2) Maximum Accessory Building Height = 25ft
- 3) Side Yard Setback = 10 ft for principal structures; 5 ft for accessory structures
- 4) Rear Yard Setback = 25 ft for principal structures; 5 ft for accessory structures
- 5) Road setback regulations shall apply to all corner lots

**E) OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)

**10.4.5 Agricultural 10 District (A-1)**

**A) PURPOSE AND INTENT**

The Agricultural 10 District (A-1) is meant to allow for the continuation of agriculture and agricultural production with limited residential development. This district will have a density of principal structures not to exceed 4 per 40 acres.

**B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES**

- 1) Agricultural Uses, including any of the following:
  - a. Crop or forage production

- b. Keeping livestock
  - c. Beekeeping
  - d. Nursery, sod, or Christmas tree production
  - e. Floriculture
  - f. Aquaculture
  - g. Fur farming
  - h. Forest management
  - i. Enrolling land in a federal agricultural commodity payment program or a federal or state agricultural land conservation payment program
  - j. Accessory structure that is an integral part of, or is incidental to, an agricultural use
  - k. Roadside Stand
  - l. Personal Stable
- 2) A single-family and two-family dwelling, when in compliance with the density standards of this district
  - 3) Accessory buildings incidental to the residential use of the property
  - 4) Home Business
  - 5) Conservation Design Development when done in accordance with density standards, Section 10.3.8 of this ordinance, and the Polk County Subdivision Ordinance
  - 6) Schools
  - 7) Churches
  - 8) Cemeteries
  - 9) Undeveloped natural resource and open space areas.
  - 10) One additional farm residence, which shall be sited so that it may be separated from the original farm parcel on which it is located in compliance with the Polk County Subdivision Ordinance.
  - 11) Contractor Storage Yard

#### CHANGES IN USE THAT REQUIRE A LAND USE PERMIT

- 11) Tourist Rooming Houses with conditions in R-1
- 12) Bed & Breakfasts with conditions in R-1
- 13) A Bunkhouse with the conditions in Section 10.5.7 at a minimum

#### C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) Agriculturally-related businesses, such as, but not limited to:
  - a. Feed Mills
  - b. Commercial Stables
  - c. Implement Dealers
  - d. Agricultural Cooperatives
  - e. Veterinarians
  - f. Wineries
  - g. Composting Sites
  - h. Other similar and compatible agriculturally-related businesses
- 2) Kennels when at least 300 ft from property lines
- 3) Animal Shelters when at least 300ft from property lines
- 4) Junkyards/salvage yards

- 5) Airports/Airstrips
- 6) Large, Outdoor Commercial Events

D) LOT RESTRICTIONS

- 1) Target density standard for the Agricultural 10 District is 4 residential lots per 40 acres
- 2) Minimum lot size = 1 acre, except in Conservation Development Design
- 3) Calculations for determining the number of lots allowed per parent lot

In the Agricultural District (A-1), a maximum of 4 non-farm dwellings will be allowed per 40 acres, which includes any original principal structure or dwelling, except for lots created using the Conservation Development Design provision. To calculate the number of lots available for development in this district, divide the gross site area of the contiguous lands held in single ownership as of the date of adoption of this ordinance by 10. This is the total number of residential lots or dwelling units that will be allowed on the lands from the effective date of this chapter forward. Round up if any fractional amount is equal to ½ or greater (See Table 3). Example Calculations:

- 32 acre lot = allowed 3 residential lots (32/10 = 3.2 which rounds down to 3)
- 16 acres = 2 residential lots (16/10 = 1.6 which rounds up to 2)

Table 3

<b>Calculation of Residential Lots Allowed in A-10</b>	
Size of Base Tract of Land	Total Number of Lots Allowed
Up to 15 acres	1
15 acres or greater, but less than 25 acres	2
25 acres or greater, but less than 35 acres	3

E) HEIGHT, YARD, & SETBACKS REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Maximum Principal Building Height = 35ft
- 2) Maximum Accessory Building Height = 25ft
- 3) Farm buildings are exempt from these height restrictions
- 4) Side Yard Setback = 25 ft for all structures
- 5) Rear Yard Setback = 25 ft for all structures
- 6) Road setback regulations shall apply to all corner lots

F) OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)

## 10.4.6 Agricultural 20 District (A-2)

### A) PURPOSE AND INTENT

The Agricultural 20 District (A-2) is meant to allow for the continuation of agriculture and agricultural production with limited residential development. This district will have a density of principal structures not to exceed 2 per 40 acres.

### B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

- 1) All Allowed and Permitted Uses in the A-1 District

### C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) All Conditional Uses in A-1

### D) LOT RESTRICTIONS

- 1) Density standard for the Agricultural 20 District is a maximum of 2 lots/principal structures per 40 acres
- 2) Minimum lot size = 1 acre except in Conservation Development Design
- 3) Calculations for determining the number of lots allowed per parent lot.

In the Agricultural District (A-2), a maximum of 2 lots/principal structures will be allowed per 40 acres, which includes any original principal structure or dwelling, except for lots created using the Conservation Development Design provision. To calculate the number of lots available for development in this district, divide the gross site area of the contiguous lands held in single ownership as of the date of adoption of this ordinance by 20. This is the total number of new residential lots or dwelling units that will be allowed on the lands from the effective date of this chapter forward. Round up if any fractional amount is equal to ½ or greater (see Table 4). Example Calculations:

- 32 acre lot = allowed 2 residential lots ( $32/20 = 1.6$  which rounds up to 2)

Table 4

<b>Calculation of Residential Lots Allowed in A-20</b>	
Size of Base Tract (initial lot at time or ordinance adoption) of Land	Number of Dwelling Lots Allowed
Less than 30 acres	1
30 acres or greater	2

### E) HEIGHT, YARD, & SETBACKS REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Maximum Principal Building Height = 35ft
- 2) Maximum Accessory Building Height = 25ft

- 3) Farm buildings are exempt from these height restrictions
- 4) Side Yard Setback = 25 ft for all structures
- 5) Rear Yard Setback = 25 ft for all structures
- 6) Road setback regulations shall apply to all corner lots

F) OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)

**10.4.7 Farmland Preservation District (A-3)**

A) PURPOSE

The intent of this district is to maintain highly productive agricultural lands in food and fiber production by effectively limiting encroachment of non-agricultural development and minimizing land use conflicts among incompatible uses.

B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

- 1) Agricultural Uses, meaning any of the following activities conducted for the purpose of producing an income or livelihood:
  - a. Crop or forage production
  - b. Keeping livestock
  - c. Beekeeping
  - d. Nursery, sod, or Christmas tree production
  - e. Floriculture
  - f. Aquaculture
  - g. Fur farming
  - h. Forest management
  - i. Enrolling land in a federal agricultural commodity payment program or a federal or state agricultural land conservation payment program
  - j. Any other use that the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, by rule, identifies as an agricultural use
- 2) A farm residence including a manufactured home
- 3) Accessory buildings incidental to the residential use of the property
- 4) Accessory structure that is an integral part of, or is incidental to, an agricultural use
- 5) Home Business that meet 91.01(1)
- 6) Undeveloped natural resource and open space areas.
- 7) Transportation, utility, communication, or other use that is required under state or federal law to be located in a specific place or that is authorized to be located in a specific place under a state or federal law that preempts the requirement of a special use permit for that use.
- 8) Other uses identified by Wisconsin Department of Agriculture rule.

**CHANGES IN USE THAT REQUIRE A LAND USE PERMIT**

- 9) Tourist Rooming Houses with conditions in R-1
- 10) Bed & Breakfasts with conditions in R-1
- 11) A Bunkhouse with the conditions in Section 10.5.7 at a minimum

12) Contractor Storage Yard with conditions in RA-5

C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) Agriculturally-related businesses, such as:
  - a. Feed Mills
  - b. Commercial Stables
  - c. Implement Dealers
  - d. Agricultural Cooperatives
  - e. Veterinarians
  - f. Wineries
  - g. Composting Sites
  
- 2) Creation of a nonfarm residence or conversion of a farm residence to a nonfarm residence through a change in occupancy, subject to the following requirements.
  - a. The ratio of nonfarm residential acreage to farm acreage on the base farm tract on which the residence is or will be located will not be greater than 1:20 after the residence is constructed or converted to a nonfarm residence.
  - b. There will not be more than four dwelling units in nonfarm residences, nor more than five dwelling units in residences of any kind, on the base farm tract after the residence is constructed or converted to a nonfarm residence.
  - c. The location and size of the proposed nonfarm residential lot, and, for a new nonfarm residence, the location of the nonfarm residence on that nonfarm residential lot, will not do any of the following:
    1. Convert prime farmland from agricultural use or convert land previously used as crop land, other than a woodlot, from agricultural use if on the farm there is a reasonable alternative location or size for a nonfarm residential lot or a nonfarm residence.
    2. Significantly impair or limit the current or future agricultural use of other protected farmland.
  
- 3) Creation of a nonfarm residential cluster that covers more than one nonfarm residence if all of the following apply:
  - a. The lots on which the nonfarm residences would be located are contiguous.
  - b. Each nonfarm residence constructed in the nonfarm residential cluster must satisfy the requirements of Conditional Use #2 above
  
- 4) Governmental, institutional, religious, nonprofit community uses, transportation, communication, pipeline, electric transmission, utility, or drainage uses, if all of the following apply:
  - a. The use and its location in the farmland preservation zoning district are consistent with the purposes of the farmland preservation zoning district.
  - b. The use and its location in the farmland preservation zoning district are reasonable and appropriate, considering alternative locations, or are specifically approved under state or federal law.

- c. The use is reasonably designed to minimize conversion of land at and around the site of the use, from agricultural use or open space use.
- d. The use does not substantially impair or limit the current or future agricultural use of surrounding lots of land that are zoned for or legally restricted to agricultural use.
- e. Construction damage to land remaining in agricultural use is minimized and repaired, to the extent feasible.

D) LOT REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Density standard for the Farmland Preservation District is as described under Conditional Uses #2 and #3.

E) HEIGHT, YARD, & SETBACKS REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Maximum Principal Building Height = 35ft
- 2) Maximum Accessory Building Height = 25ft
- 3) Farm buildings are exempt from these height restrictions
- 4) Side Yard Setback = 25 ft for all structures
- 5) Rear Yard Setback = 25 ft for all structures
- 6) Road setback regulations shall apply to all corner lots

F) OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)

G) REZONING LAND OUT OF A FARMLAND PRESERVATION ZONING DISTRICT.

- 1) Except as provided in sub. (2) below, Polk County may not rezone land out of the farmland preservation zoning district unless the Polk County finds all of the following in writing, after public hearing, as part of the official record of the rezoning:
  - a. The rezoned land is better suited for a use not allowed in the farmland preservation zoning district.
  - b. The rezoning is consistent with any applicable comprehensive plan.
  - c. The rezoning is substantially consistent with the Polk County Farmland Preservation Plan, which is in effect at the time of the rezoning.
  - d. The rezoning will not substantially impair or limit current or future agricultural use of other protected farmland.
- 2) Subsection (1) does not apply to any of the following:
  - a. A rezoning that is affirmatively certified by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection under ch. 91, Wis. Stats.
  - b. A rezoning that makes the farmland preservation zoning ordinance map more consistent with the county farmland preservation plan map, certified under ch. 91, Wis. Stats., which is in effect at the time of the rezoning.
- 3) By March 1 of each year Polk County shall provide to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection a report of the number of acres that Polk

County has rezoned out of the farmland preservation zoning district under sub. (1) During the previous year and a map that clearly shows the location of those acres.

#### **10.4.8 Natural Resources District (N-1)**

##### **A) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES**

To protect and preserve the natural character of certain lands for their values to wildlife, water conservation, flood control, forestry and other public purposes in the Natural Resources District, no building or premises shall be used and no building shall hereafter be erected, moved or structurally altered, unless otherwise provided in this ordinance except for one or more of the following uses:

- 1) Grazing
- 2) The harvesting of wild crops such as wild hay, ferns, moss, berries, fruit trees and seeds
- 3) Hunting, fishing, trapping
- 4) Nonresidential buildings and structures used solely in conjunction with the raising of wildlife and fish and the practice of forestry, including buildings and structures used by public or semi-public agencies or groups for research in or the rehabilitation of natural resources
- 5) Sustainable logging, pulping and other forest crop harvesting
- 6) Public or private parks
- 7) Temporary residential uses by permit such as hunting cabins or travel trailers with conditions listed in Section 10.5.6

##### **B) CONDITIONAL USES**

- 1) Licensed game farms

##### **C) LOT, HEIGHT & YARD REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Minimum Lot Size = 1 acre
- 2) Maximum Principal Building Height = 35 feet
- 3) Maximum Accessory Building Height = 25 feet
- 4) Side Yard setback = 25 ft
- 5) Rear Yard setback = 25 ft

##### **D) OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)
- 2) Off-Street Parking shall be regulated by Section 10.5.2 of this ordinance.

#### **10.4.9 General business/Commercial (B-1)**

##### **A) PURPOSE AND INTENT**

To provide a district for business and commercial enterprises that limits incompatible land uses.

## B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

In the General Commercial District no building or premises shall be used and no building shall hereafter be erected, moved or structurally altered, unless otherwise provided in this Ordinance, except for one or more of the following uses:

Commercial buildings and uses including, but not limited to:

- 1) Appliances Sales and Service
- 2) Antique stores
- 3) Art Galleries
- 4) Auto Sales and Service
- 5) Banks, Credit Unions or other financial institutions
- 6) Barber Shop, Beauty Shop
- 7) Bars/taverns
- 8) Bowling Alleys
- 9) Business & Professional offices or clinics
- 10) Car Washes
- 11) Clothing stores
- 12) Community Center
- 13) Coffee Shop
- 14) Convenience stores
- 15) Day Care Center
- 16) Drug Store or Pharmacy
- 17) Essential Services
- 18) Farm implement - repair & sales
- 19) Feed Mill
- 20) Florist
- 21) Firework Stands
- 22) Fruit and Vegetable Market, Grocery, Meat and Fish Market or other food products store
- 23) Funeral Homes
- 24) Furniture, Office Equipment stores
- 25) Gas stations
- 26) Gyms and exercise facilities
- 27) Hardware and Paint Store
- 28) Indoor Storage Facilities
- 29) Internet Cafe
- 30) Jewelry Store
- 31) Landscaping Sales
- 32) Laundromat
- 33) Liquor Store
- 34) Lumber Yard
- 35) Manufacture or storage in connection with any of the above uses, when clearly incidental to the conduct of the retail business on the premises.
- 36) Marine Sales and service
- 37) Motels/Hotels
- 38) Museums
- 39) Music and musical instrument sales and service
- 40) Pet shop
- 41) Radio, Televisions, and other electronics sales & service
- 42) Real Estate Offices
- 43) Restaurant, Drive-In Food Service, Supper Club, and Catering
- 44) Sporting Goods and Accessories
- 45) Small engine repair
- 46) Truck Stop
- 47) Theater
- 48) Veterinarians
- 49) Video Sales and Rental
- 50) There may be one single-family dwelling unit on the premises, either attached or detached in connection with any of the above uses.

## C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) Airport
- 2) Hospital
- 3) Breweries, Brew-Pubs, Wineries
- 4) Outdoor Storage facilities
- 5) Other similar and compatible use as determined by the Board of Adjustment

D) LOT, HEIGHT, YARD REQUIREMENTS, & SETBACKS

- 1) Minimum Lot Size: 1 Acre w/ Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System, ½ acre with public sewer
- 2) Maximum Structures Lot Coverage = 40%
- 3) Minimum Landscaped Area = 10%
- 4) Maximum Commercial Building Height: 3 stories or 45ft
- 5) Maximum Residential Use Structure Height = 2 stories and 35ft
- 6) Maximum Accessory Structure Height = 25ft
- 7) Commercial Principal Building Rear/Side Minimum Setbacks: 10ft
- 8) Accessory Structures Rear/Side Yard Minimum Setback = 5 ft
- 9) Residential Principal Structure Side Yard Setback = 10 ft
- 10) Residential Principal Structure Rear Yard Setback = 25 ft

E) OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)
- 2) Off-Street Parking shall be regulated by Section 10.5.2 of this ordinance.

**10.4.10 Recreational Business and Commercial (B-2)**

A) PURPOSE AND INTENT

To allow for recreationally-based businesses to exist in appropriate locations in the county.

B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

In the Recreational Business and Commercial District no building or premises shall be used and no building shall hereafter be erected, moved or structurally altered, unless otherwise provided in this Ordinance, except for one or more of the following uses:

- 1) Sporting Goods
- 2) Recreational Sales and Service
- 3) Restaurants and Taverns
- 4) Resorts
- 5) Marinas, including sales and service
- 6) Bait Shops
- 7) Miniature Golf
- 8) Recreational Camps
- 9) Campgrounds with conditions in Section 10.5.8
- 10) Manufactured Home Park with conditions in Section 10.5.5
- 11) There may be one single-family dwelling unit on the premises, either attached or detached in connection with any of the above uses.

C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) Ski Resorts
- 2) Paint Ball
- 3) Go-Cart Tracks
- 4) Archery Range

- 5) Gun Range
- 6) Sportsmen's Clubs
- 7) Stock Car, ATV, and Dirt Bike raceways and courses
- 8) Other similar and compatible use as determined by the Board of Adjustment

D) LOT, HEIGHT, YARD REQUIREMENTS, & SETBACKS

- 1) Minimum Lot Size: 1 Acre
- 2) Maximum Building Lot Coverage: 40%
- 3) Minimum Landscaped Area: 10%
- 4) Maximum Principal Building Height: 2 stories and 35ft
- 5) Maximum Accessory Structure Height: 25ft
- 6) Principal Building Rear/Side Minimum Setbacks: 25ft

E) OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)
- 2) Off-Street Parking shall be regulated by Section 10.5.2 of this ordinance.
- 3) Provisions of Section 10.5.1 (Design Standards) apply

**10.4.11 Small Business/Commercial District (B-3)**

A) PURPOSE AND INTENT

To allow for commercial development while allowing for more control over building size, location and aesthetics.

B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

In the Small Business/Commercial District no building or premises shall be used and no building shall hereafter be erected, moved or structurally altered, unless otherwise provided in this Ordinance, except for one or more of the following uses:

- 1) All Uses Allowed and Permitted in B-1 with a building footprint up to 20,000 sq ft

C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) All Conditional Uses in the B-1 district
- 2) Commercial buildings and uses with a building footprint over 20,000 sq ft

D) LOT, HEIGHT, YARD REQUIREMENTS, & SETBACKS

- 1) Minimum Lot Size: 1 Acre
- 2) Maximum Building Lot Coverage: 40%
- 3) Minimum Landscaped Area: 10%
- 4) Maximum Building Height: 2 stories and 35ft
- 5) Maximum Accessory Structure Height: 25ft
- 6) Principal Building Rear/Side Minimum Setbacks: 25ft

E) OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)
- 2) Off-Street Parking shall be regulated by Section 10.5.2 of this ordinance.
- 3) Provisions of Section 10.5.1 (Design Standards) apply

**10.4.12 Industrial (I-1)**

A) PURPOSE

To provide locations within the county for industrial uses to occur and prevent land use conflicts with inappropriate uses.

B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

- 1) Light and general manufacturing including, but not limited to:
  - a. Metal, glass, plastic and wood assembly, fabrication and manufacturing
  - b. Electronics assembly, fabrication and manufacturing
  - c. Clothing
  - d. Bottling facilities
- 2) General warehousing and storage directly connected with the permitted uses under this section and provided they are not a nuisance
- 3) There may be one single-family dwelling unit and an associated residential accessory building on the premises, either attached or detached in connection with any of the above uses.

C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) Acid, ammonia, bleach, chlorine or soap manufacture
- 2) Ammunition or explosives manufacture or storage
- 3) Asphalt, coal, coal tar or coke manufacture; asphalt and hot mix asphalt plants
- 4) Cement or lime manufacture; cement or concrete mixing plants
- 5) Bone distillations, fat rendering or any other form of dead animal reduction
- 6) Fertilizer manufacture
- 7) Forge plant
- 8) Gelatin or glue manufacture
- 9) Inflammable gasses or liquids, refining or manufacture of; overground tank farms
- 10) Utility-scale energy generation
- 11) Salvaging and Recycling Facilities
- 12) Solid waste disposal operations, sanitary landfill sites
- 13) Slaughterhouse, stockyard
- 14) Smelting or foundry operations
- 15) Any similar or compatible industrial enterprise subject to the approval of the Board of Adjustment

D) LOT SIZES, DIMENSIONS, AND SETBACKS

- 1) Minimum Lot Size = 1 acre
- 2) Maximum Industrial Use Building Height = 50 feet

- 3) Maximum Residential Use Principal Building Height = 35 feet
- 4) Maximum Residential Use Accessory Building Height = 25 feet
- 5) Side Yard Setbacks for Residential Uses = R-1 side yard setbacks apply
- 6) Side Yard Setbacks for lots adjacent to residentially zoned lots = 25 ft
- 7) Side Yard Setbacks for Industrial Uses = 0 ft; except:
  - a. If buildings on abutting lots are not constructed with a common wall or with walls contiguous to one another, then a side yard of not less than 10 feet shall be provided.
- 8) Rear Yard Setback = 25 feet; except:
  - a. No rear yard setback shall be required when abutting a railroad R.O.W.
  - b. Any such rear yard which abuts a boundary of a Residential Zoning District shall be not less than 50 feet in depth; provided that no stock pile, waste or salvage pile, equipment storage yard or other accumulation of material or equipment in the open shall be stored or placed in such rear yard.

E) OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)
- 2) Off-Street Parking shall be regulated by Section 10.5.2 of this ordinance.
- 3) Provisions of Section 10.5.1 (Design Standards) apply

**10.4.13 Mining District (M-1)**

A) PURPOSE

To allow for mining activities to take place in Polk County in appropriate areas that reduce incompatible land uses and land use conflicts

B) ALLOWED AND PERMITTED USES

- 1) All Allowed and Permitted Uses in the Section 10.4.5 (A-1 District)
- 2) Pre-existing non-metallic mining activities. Preexisting non-metallic mining activities are those operations involving the excavation, removal and/or processing of materials which operations are classified as unreclaimed acres by Polk County's Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Ordinance or had expansions of the mine outlined in the original plans that were submitted for the mine.
- 3) Limited, short-term non-metallic mining activities. Limited short-term non-metallic mining activities are those operations which:
  - a. Do not satisfy the definitions and standards for preexisting non-metallic mining activities, and;
  - b. Will be commenced and completed within a one year period from the date of the permit, and;
  - c. Will be limited to not more than one acre in area open at one time. *Note: If the original mine was approved with conditions attached, those conditions continue to be in effect even if the mine is placed in this district*

C) CONDITIONAL USES

- 1) Non-metallic mining activities that do not meet the definition outlined in 10.4.13(B)(2) and 10.4.13(B)(3) above.
- 2) Applications for conditional use permits to conduct mining and/or processing activities shall include all information required by the county approved application form.
  - a. Reapplication to the Board of Adjustment for renewal shall be required with alterations to operational plans or noncompliance with the standards of the district.
  - b. Requests for additional information prior to a decision being made on the conditional use permit may be made by the Board of Adjustment. Upon determination by the Board that additional information is required, on behalf of the Board, the Board may employ independent technical experts to review materials submitted by the applicant.

**D) LOTS SIZES, DIMENSIONS AND SETBACKS**

- 1) Minimum Lot Size = 5 acres
- 2) Minimum Right of Way Setback = 200 ft
- 3) Minimum Property Line Setback = 100 ft
  - a. Overburden, berms, and topsoil piles are allowed to be within the setback area, however at no time shall stockpiles of the targeted material, active extraction activities or processing equipment be within the setback area.
- 4) Setback and Height restrictions for A-1 District uses: see height regulations in Section 10.4.5 (A-1 District)
- 5) Maximum Height for Mining related Structures = 50 ft

**E) OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Road setbacks shall be governed pursuant to the provisions of Section 10.3.5 (Setbacks)
- 2) Off-Street Parking shall be regulated by Section 10.5.2 of this ordinance.
- 3) Provisions of Section 10.5.1 (Design Standards) apply

**10.5 ARTICLE 5: ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS**

**10.5.1 Design Standards**

The intent of the design standards in this section includes, but is not limited to: providing aesthetic controls on development, minimize conflicts between uses, minimize effects of outdoor lighting, while maintaining functional use, safety and security of properties.

**A) LIGHTING STANDARDS**

Applicability: Lighting Standards shall be required in the following zoning districts: B-2, B-3, Industrial, and Mining. Design Standards may also be required as part of a conditional use permit, site plan, or other County approval of a development.

- 1) All lighting must be fully shielded in a manner that light rays emitted by the fixture, either directly from the lamp or indirectly from the fixture, are projected below a

horizontal plane running through the lowest point on the fixture where the light is emitted.

- 2) Lighting must be directed away from adjacent properties to prevent light from trespassing or spilling on to those properties.
- 3) There shall be no flashing, revolving or intermittent lighting, which could be considered a nuisance or distraction to vehicular traffic.
- 4) There shall be no search lights, laser source lights, or any similar high-intensity light, except in emergencies by police and fire personnel or at their direction.
- 5) Outdoor athletic fields, courts, tracks, ski resorts, and airports are exempt from these lighting requirements, but may have restrictions on hours of operation.
- 6) Temporary lighting, which does not conform to the provisions of this section, may be allowed for a total period of no longer than 30 days within a year without a permit.

#### B) VEGETATION AND SCREENING STANDARDS

Applicability: Vegetation and Screening Standards shall be required in the following zoning districts: B-2, B-3, Industrial, and Mining. Design Standards may also be required as part of a conditional use permit, site plan, or other County approval of a development.

The following areas or features may be required to be effectively screened by fencing, landscaping, or berms from view from public roadways, and adjacent residentially zoned properties:

- 1) Exterior structures related to heating systems, cooling or air conditioning systems;
- 2) Refuse, garbage, dumpsters and recyclable material collection points;
- 3) Outdoor storage areas;
- 4) Loading docks;
- 5) Any other site area or facility as required for the specific land use by the County approval authority, if reasonably related to the protection of neighboring properties or the public from distracting, unappealing, or offensive views of on-site activities.

#### OPTIONS FOR SCREENING:

The following are options for providing required screening where applicable:

- 1) Rows of trees: Trees and other screening shrubs shall be planted in such a manner and of such spacing that the vegetation covers up to 6 feet tall with 75% opacity upon installation. No species on the State of Wisconsin's invasive species list may be used. The lot owner shall maintain such planting and any dead trees/shrubs that are part of the approved screening plan shall be replaced within one year. Alternate species or planting plan may be substituted if prior approval is received from the Zoning Administrator.
- 2) Existing vegetation: The maintenance of existing native vegetation that, from off the property during full foliage conditions, provides the appearance of a solid wall of vegetation. The final determination as to acceptability of the existing vegetative screen shall be by the Zoning Administrator.
- 3) Fencing: The construction of a minimum 6-foot high solid fence with at least 90% opacity. The finished fence side of the fence must be facing outward.

- 4) Earthen berm: The construction of an earthen berm to the minimum height of 6 feet which is to be seeded and/or landscaped with shrubs or trees and maintained by the owner.
- 5) Distance Requirements: Purposely planted trees or shrubs, as measured from its center, shall be a minimum of 5 feet off a driveway or public street right-of-way or easement.
- 6) Vision Clearance Triangle: All screening and landscaping must be kept out of the vision clearance triangle

C) LANDSCAPING STANDARDS (GENERAL YARD LANDSCAPING).

Applicability: The requirements of this subsection shall apply to new commercial land development projects and all additions, expansions, or site modifications to such uses to the extent practical in the B-2 and B-3 districts where required.

- 1) Existing Vegetation:  
To the greatest extent possible, each development shall retain existing trees outside of proposed building and parking areas.
- 2) Landscaping Coverage:  
The lot shall be landscaped with an effective combination of living trees, groundcover, and shrubbery as indicated by a percentage in the districts above. Landscaping shall be emphasized in street yards, adjacent to residentially zoned lots, within and adjacent to parking lots, and near principal building foundations. Landscaped area can be utilized as part of the stormwater management area of the site.
- 3) Distance Requirements:  
Purposely planted trees or shrubs, as measured from its center, shall be a minimum of 5 feet of a driveway or public street right-of-way or easement.
- 4) Vision Clearance Triangle:  
All screening and landscaping must be kept out of the vision clearance triangle
- 5) Installation and Maintenance:  
All proposed and approved landscaping shall be installed according to accepted planting procedures with quality plant materials. The lot owner shall maintain such plantings and all dead plantings shall be replaced.

## 10.5.2 Parking

A) OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) One off-street parking space shall be 220 square feet of area, exclusive of adequate ingress and egress driveways to connect with a public thoroughfare. A single stall in any garage may replace any single required parking space.
- 2) No parking spaces required under this ordinance may be used for any other purpose; provided, however, that open spaces required by this ordinance for setback and side yards may be used for such parking spaces or approaches thereto except that on corner lots there shall be no parking in the vision clearance triangle.
- 3) All parking spaces shall be graded and drained so as to prevent the accumulation of surface water.

- 4) All parking spaces in the Commercial or Industrial Districts and residential parking lots in the Residential and Agricultural District containing 3 or more parking spaces shall be provided with a dust-free surface.
- 5) Parking lots containing 5 or more parking spaces which are located in the Residential District or adjacent to residential lots, shall be screened along with the side or sides of such lots which abut the lot lines of residential lots by a solid wall, fence, evergreen planting or equivalent plantings or equally effective means built or maintained at a minimum height of 4 feet. If parking lots so located are lighted, the lights shall be so shielded as to prevent undesirable glare or illumination of adjoining residential property.

**B) PARKING SPACES REQUIRED**

- 1) Multiple family dwelling shall provide one off-street parking space for each family for which the accommodations are provided in the building plus one.
- 2) Except as detailed elsewhere in this section, retail or local business places, professional offices and home businesses shall provide at least one off-street parking space for each 300 square feet of sales floor area.
- 3) Theaters, churches, auditoriums, lodges or fraternity halls and similar places of public assemblage shall provide at least one parking space for each 7 seats.
- 4) Motels, hotels, and dormitories shall provide at least one parking space for each guest room.
- 5) Restaurants, taverns and similar places for eating and refreshments shall provide at least one parking space for each 50 square feet of floor space devoted to the use of patrons.
- 6) Funeral homes and mortuaries shall provide at least one parking space for each 50 square feet of floor space devoted to parlors.
- 7) Bowling alleys shall provide at least 5 parking spaces for each alley.
- 8) Garages and service stations shall provide adequate off-street parking space to prevent the parking of vehicles waiting to be serviced or repaired on the public street or highway.
- 9) Industrial uses shall provide at least one parking space for each employee on the premises at any one time, plus at least one additional space for each vehicle operated in connection with such use for which parking on the premises is required.

**10.5.3 Signs**

**A) GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 1) Any sign hereafter erected shall conform to the provisions of this ordinance and the provisions of any other ordinance or regulation of the county.
- 2) No sign other than an official traffic sign or similar sign shall be erected within the right-of-way lines of any street, road, highway, or public way unless specifically authorized by other ordinances or regulations of the county or by specific authorization of the zoning administrator.
- 3) Signs projecting over public walkways may do so subject to a minimum clearance height of ten (10) feet from grade level to the bottom of the sign.
- 4) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 10.5.3(D), no sign or structure shall be erected at the intersection of any road in such a manner as to obstruct the free and

- clear vision of a driver of any motor vehicle, nor at any location where by its position, shape or color it may interfere with or obstruct the view of or be confused with any authorized traffic sign, signal or device.
- 5) If a commercially or industrially zoned premises contains more than one property usage, the sign area(s) for each unique usage will be computed separately.
  - 6) Every sign permitted by this ordinance must be kept in good condition and repair. When any sign becomes insecure, in danger of falling, or is otherwise deemed unsafe by the Zoning Administrator, or if any sign shall be unlawfully installed, or erected, in violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance or State Laws, the owner thereof and/or the person or firm using the sign shall, upon written notice of the Zoning Administrator forthwith in the case of immediate danger and in any case within not more than ten (10) days, remove or repair said sign. If the order is not complied with, the Zoning Administrator may remove or cause such sign to be removed at the expense of the owner and/or the user of the sign.
  - 7) Any sign legally existing at the time of passage of this ordinance that does not conform to the provisions of this ordinance, shall be considered a protected non-conforming use and may continue in such status until such time as it is either abandoned or removed by its owner. Maintenance of the sign for purposes of changing the sign message shall not be considered an alteration requiring conformance with the ordinance.
  - 8) A double faced sign shall only be allowed with the two faces displayed back to back or with an interior angle of no greater than 30 degrees. Such sign will be considered one sign structure. Each face of a double faced sign shall be considered a separate sign for purposes of display area size restrictions.
  - 9) Temporary signs, unless otherwise regulated by specific provisions of this ordinance related to size, use, and district in which placed, shall be subject to the following regulations:
    - a. No temporary sign shall be permitted to be displayed for a period in excess of ninety (90) days in any one period of three hundred sixty-five (365) days, unless a longer span of display time is approved by the Zoning Administrator.
    - b. The size and spacing of any temporary sign shall conform to requirements of Sections 10.5.3(D)(1) and 10.5.3(D)(2)
    - c. Subdivision development signs: The Zoning Administrator may issue a special permit for a temporary sign in any district in connection with the marketing of lots or structures within a subdivision provided the sign is located entirely on the property being developed, and must apply to all applicable building setback requirements specified in this Ordinance. The signs must not exceed 96 square feet. One sign is allowed for each major road adjacent to the subdivision. Such permits may be issued for a period of one year and may be reviewed for additional periods of up to one year upon written application at least thirty (30) days prior to its expiration.
  - 10) All signs are prohibited from all zoning districts in Polk County unless specifically authorized to be located in the district in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.

## B) SIGN PLACEMENT

- 1) On premise signs are allowed in any district subject to space and size requirements as provided for in Section 10.5.3(D)(2) of this Ordinance.
- 2) Off premise signs are only allowed in Commercial and Industrial Districts and subject to space and size requirements as provided for in Section 10.5.3(D)(1) of this Ordinance.
- 3) Other Districts:
  - a. Natural Resources District and Farmland Preservation District- Signs are allowed by Conditional Use Permits only and must conform to setbacks and all other standards.
- 4) Signs not requiring a permit as described in Section 10.5.3(E)(4) are permitted in any district.

**C. PROHIBITED SIGNS**

- 1) Lighting shall be sufficiently shielded to prevent stray light from becoming a nuisance to neighboring property, or to the enjoyment of a body of water.
- 2) No sign shall contain, include, nor be composed of any conspicuous animated or moving parts.
- 3) No sign shall be painted upon or attached to trucks or other vehicles, or parts thereof, and parked on a lot for purposes of visual display. Vehicles operating in the normal course of business (other than used solely for the display of signs) are exempt from this provision.
- 4) Electronic, internally illuminated signs greater than 40 square feet

**D. SIGN DIMENSIONS AND SPACING**

- 1) Off Premise Signs (Table 7):

Table 7

<b>Class of Highway</b>	<b>Spacing Between Sign Structures on Same Side of Road</b>	<b>Spacing from Public Road Intersection*</b>	<b>Area/Size of Signs (per direction)</b>	<b>Height Limit</b>
Town Road	1000 feet	300 feet*	64 square feet	30 feet
County Road	1000 feet	300 feet*	96 square feet	30 feet
State and US Highway	1000 feet	300 feet*	240 square feet	30 feet
Interstate Highway	1000 feet	300 feet*	As State Permitted	30 feet

\*As measured from intersection of road rights-of-way

- 2) On Premise Signs (Table 8):

Table 8

<b>Zoning District</b>	<b>Total Number of Signs</b>	<b>Maximum Sign Area</b>	<b>Height Limit</b>
R-1 Residential RA-5	1	32 square feet	10 ft
All Commercial Industrial Hamlet A-1 and A-2	1 Freestanding Sign Plus No limit on other signs	Maximum 96 square feet with a total of 288 sq ft	35 feet
Natural Resources Farmland Preservation	By Conditional Use Permit	96 square feet	30 feet

**E. SIGN PERMITS**

- 1) A permit must be obtained from the Zoning Administrator for the erection of all signs or sign structures, except for those noted in Section 10.5.3(E)(4)
- 2) Before any permit is granted for the erection of a sign or sign structure requiring such permit, plans and specification shall be filed with the Zoning Administrator showing the dimensions and materials to be used. The permit application shall be accompanied by the written consent of the owner or lessee of the premises on which the sign is to be erected.
- 3) No sign or sign structure shall be enlarged or relocated except in conformity to the provisions herein, nor until a proper permit, if required has been secured. The changing of copy, display and/or graphic matter, or the content of any sign shall not be deemed an alteration.
- 4) Signs not requiring a permit:
  - a. Vehicular signs on trucks, trailers buses or other vehicles while operating in the normal course of business, which is not in the display of signs.
  - b. Interior window signs in commercial or industrial districts which are visible from a public right of way.
  - c. On premise temporary advertising banners provided the banners do not exceed 32 square feet and displayed for no more than 30 consecutive days.
  - d. Any size sign that meets the criteria for a temporary sign in Section 10.5.3(A)(9).
  - e. A single faced sign equal to or less than 16 square feet in size.

**10.5.4 Manufactured Homes and Mobile homes**

The following conditions shall apply for all manufactured homes:

- A) The area beneath a manufactured or mobile home must be completely enclosed with a skirting material of a quality and strength which assures the durability of said skirting material and which does not distract from the general aesthetic quality of the manufactured or mobile home and the surrounding area.

- B) All manufactured and mobile homes which are abandoned, burned or otherwise destroyed or substantially damaged must be removed from the lot or site on which they are located within one year after abandonment, burning, destruction or substantial damage occurred.
- C) Cannot be used for storage

### **10.5.5 Manufactured Home Parks**

The following conditions shall apply for all manufactured home parks:

- A) The minimum lot size for manufactured home parks shall be 5 acres
- B) The maximum number of manufactured homes shall be 8 per acre
- C) The minimum dimensions of a manufactured home site shall be 50 feet wide by 100 feet long
- D) In addition to the setback requirements set forth in the General Provisions section (Section 10.3) of this ordinance, there shall be a minimum setback of 40 feet from all other lot lines
- E) Each manufactured home site shall be separated from any other manufactured home site by a yard of at least 15 feet.
- F) All drives, parking areas and walkways shall be hard surfaced or graveled, maintained in good condition, have natural drainage, and the driveways shall be lighted at night.
- G) There shall be two hard-surfaced automobile parking spaces provided for each manufactured home site
- H) Screening requirement of Section 10.5.1 apply

### **10.5.6 Travel Trailers**

Travel Trailers are considered Camping Units for the purposes of this ordinance.

#### **A) STORAGE OF TRAVEL TRAILERS:**

- 1) The subject lot must have a dwelling or principal structure in order to store one travel trailer on that property;

#### **B) NON-STORAGE USE OF TRAVEL TRAILERS:**

- 1) The zoning district must allow a single family residence on that lot as an allowable use;
- 2) The subject lot has no existing principal structure;
- 3) A travel trailer is allowed to be used on a lot 14 out of every 60 days without a permit.
- 4) An annual, seasonal permit may be obtained from the zoning office which would allow for the utilization of the travel trailer on the subject property from May 15<sup>th</sup> through September 15<sup>th</sup> annually. In order to obtain the above seasonal permit, the following requirements apply:
  - a. Must have an approved sanitary system installed by a Wisconsin licensed plumber (privies are not an allowed system)
  - b. Must meet all setbacks on property for an accessory structure
  - c. Must be removed once season is over;

- C) A temporary permit may be issued if the property owner has installed a state approved septic system and well and the Zoning Administrator has issued a permit to begin

constructing a dwelling within one year. Must meet all setbacks on property for an accessory structure.

### **10.5.7 Bunkhouses**

A single (one per lot) bunkhouse will be permitted only in districts which permit it by land use permit and the following conditions apply:

- A) The bunkhouse shall not exceed 50% of the square footage of the accessory structure with a maximum of 400 square-foot floor area. The 50% square footage limitations will not apply when loft or attic truss type area is being used; however, the area shall not exceed 400 square feet. Stand-alone bunkhouses cannot exceed 400 sq ft of floor area in total.
- B) All of the setback requirements for an accessory structure are met.
- C) Leasing, rental or use as a residence is strictly prohibited.
- D) Sanitary systems must be sized for the total number of bedrooms on the lot after the bunkhouse is built. No affidavits allowed for undersized systems
- E) Holding tanks are only allowed for the purposes of these regulations if absolutely no other system will work on the property (i.e. a mound system or conventional system). A soil test is required to prove the necessity of a holding tank.
- F) A separate sanitary system for a bunkhouse is prohibited
- G) The bunkhouse shall be built to Uniform Dwelling Code compliance. A copy of the completed and passed final inspection of the bunkhouse by the Town's Building Inspector is due to the zoning office within 2 years of obtaining the land use permit, as proof that this condition has been satisfied.
- H) Plumbing, if installed, conforms to the Polk County Sanitary Code.
- I) Height of the structure is limited to 25 feet
- J) Maximum of 1 bathroom allowed per bunkhouse
- K) Cannot be split from original property
- L) Cooking facilities are prohibited
- M) Cannot be built on an outlot
- N) Cannot be the first building on a lot
- O) An affidavit is recorded in the Register of Deeds outlining use restrictions.
- P) Boathouses cannot become bunkhouses
- Q) Only allowed in zoning districts where single-family residential uses are allowed
- R) Must meet minimum lot size requirements at time of lot creation
- S) Bunkhouses created on riparian lots shall be required to install and maintain mitigation as described in the Polk County Shoreland Protection Zoning Ordinance. For the purposes of this ordinance, changing the use of a structure to a bunkhouse counts as the same additional square footage of impervious surface (in shoreland areas) as a vertical expansion.
- T) Use of accessory structures in a manner consistent with the definition of bunkhouse prior to enactment of this ordinance is prohibited by this ordinance and such use is not a nonconforming use as defined in Wisconsin Statute section 59.69(10)(ab) and (am) and Section 10.3.2 of this ordinance. Accordingly, any and all accessory structures that are to be used as bunkhouses must comply with the above conditions regardless of prior existing use.

### **10.5.8 Campgrounds**

- A) The minimum size of the campground shall be 5 acres.
- B) The maximum number of sites shall be 20 per acre.
- C) Minimum dimensions of a site shall be 25 feet by 40 feet.
- D) Each site is separated from other camping units by a yard not less than 10 feet wide.
- E) There shall be 1½ automobile parking spaces for each site.
- F) There shall be a minimum setback of 40 feet from all other exterior lot lines.
- G) Applicant must obtain all proper licensing.
- H) The screening standards of Section 10.5.1 of this ordinance must be met.

## **10.6 ARTICLE 6: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURAL REGULATIONS**

### **10.6.1 Zoning Administrator**

The Zoning Department staff shall have the following duties and powers

- A) Advise applicants on the provisions of this ordinance and assist them in preparing permit applications and appeal forms.
- B) Issue permits and inspect properties for compliance with this ordinance.
- C) Keep records of all permits issued, inspections made, work approved and other official actions.
- D) Must have permission to access any premises between 8:00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. for the purpose of performing duties set forth in this ordinance.
- E) Submit copies of variances, Conditional Uses and decisions on appeals for map or text interpretation and map or text amendments within 10 days after they are granted or denied to the Department of Natural Resources.
- F) Report all violations of this ordinance to the Department Head and the Governing Committee.

### **10.6.2 Land Use Permits**

The following applies to the issuance and revocation of permits:

#### **A) WHEN REQUIRED**

Except where another section of this ordinance specifically exempts certain types of activities, development from this requirement, a land use permit shall be obtained from the Zoning Administrator before any said activity or development, reconstruction, structural alteration, structural repair, is initiated, including, but not limited to, building or structure, or any change to a structure.

#### **B) APPLICATION**

An application for a land use permit shall be made to the Zoning Administrator upon forms furnished by the County and shall include, for the purpose of proper enforcement of these regulations, the following data:

- 1) Name and address of applicant and property owner.

- 2) Legal description of the property and type of proposed use.
- 3) A sketch of the dimensions of the lot and location of existing buildings and distance of proposed buildings from the lot lines, centerline of abutting highways and the ordinary high water mark at the day of the sketch.
- 4) Whether or not a private water or septic system is to be installed.

C) EXPIRATION

Land Use Permits for land use changes shall expire twelve months from their date of issuance where no action has been taken to accomplish such changes or two (2) years after issuance.

**10.6.3 Revocation**

Where the conditions of a land use permit, Conditional Use Permit or a variance is violated, the same are deemed revoked.

**10.6.4 Board of Adjustment**

The County Administrator shall appoint a Board of Adjustment under Chapter 59.69, Wisconsin Statutes, consisting of 5 members, with no less than 1 of the members being a riparian landowner, and the County Board shall adopt such rules for the conduct of the business of the Board of Adjustment as required by Section 59.69(3), Wisconsin Statutes.

A) POWERS AND DUTIES

The Board of Adjustment shall have the following powers and duties:

- 1) Shall adopt rules as it deems necessary and may exercise all of the powers conferred on such boards by Section 59.69 Wisconsin Statutes. Supplemental information is available in the Polk County Board of Adjustment Procedural Ordinance.

2) **ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS**

Hear and decide appeals where it is alleged there is an error in any order, requirements, decision or determination made by an administrative official in the enforcement or administration of this ordinance.

- a. Appeals to the Board of Adjustment may be taken by any person aggrieved or by an officer, department, board or bureau of the county affected by any decision of the Zoning Administrator or other administrative officer.
- b. Appeals shall be taken within a feasible time, as provided by the rules of the Board of Adjustment.

3) **VARIANCES**

Authorize upon application, in specific cases, such variances from the terms of the ordinance as shall not be contrary to the public interest, where owing to special conditions, a literal enforcement of the ordinance will result in unnecessarily burdensome.

- a. In the issuance of a variance, the spirit of the ordinance shall be observed and substantial justice done. No variance shall have the effect of granting or increasing any use of property, which is prohibited in that zoning district by this ordinance.

b. Variances do not expire but remain with the property.

4) **CONDITIONAL USES**

Hear requests for conditional uses as listed in this ordinance. The following shall apply to Conditional Use Permits:

- a. Standards Applicable to All Conditional Uses. The Board of Adjustment shall evaluate the effect of the proposed use upon the following criteria, including but not limited to:
  - 1. The maintenance of safe and healthful conditions.
  - 2. Creation or increase of smoke, dust, noxious and toxic gases and odors, noise or vibrations from heavy equipment.
  - 3. The prevention and control of water pollution including sedimentation.
  - 4. Existing topographic and drainage features and vegetative cover on the site.
  - 5. The location of the site with respect to floodplains and floodways of rivers and streams.
  - 6. The erosion potential of the site based upon degree and direction of slope, soil type, and vegetative cover.
  - 7. The location of the site with respect to existing and future access roads.
  - 8. Heavy vehicular traffic and increased traffic
  - 9. The need of the proposed use
  - 10. Its compatibility with uses on adjacent land.
  - 11. The amount of septic waste to be generated and the adequacy of the proposed disposal system.
  - 12. Location of uses that:
    - i. Within an area ,are not inherently a source of pollution, shall be preferred over uses that are or may be a pollution source; and
    - ii. Within an area, tend to minimize the possibility of pollution shall be preferred over use locations tending to increase that possibility.
- b. Conditions Attached to Conditional Use Permit. Upon consideration of the factors listed above, the Board of Adjustment shall attach such conditions, in addition to those required elsewhere in this Ordinance as are necessary to further the purposes of this Ordinance. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to: type of land cover; increased setbacks; landscaping and planting screens; period of operation; operational control; sureties; bonding; deed restrictions; location of piers, docks, parking and signs; and type of construction.
- c. Conditional Uses do not expire but remain with the property and all conditions remain in effect.

**B) APPLICATION/REVIEW PROCESS/PROCEDURE**

- 1) **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING.** Before acting upon an application the Board of Adjustment shall hold a public hearing within a reasonable time. Notice of such public hearing, specifying the time, place, and matters to come before the Board of Adjustment, shall be given as a Class 2 notice under Chapter 985, Wisconsin Statutes, and notice shall be mailed to the appropriate district office of the Department of

Natural Resources, when applicable, at least 10 days prior to the hearing as well as all property owners within 300 feet of the site under consideration.

- 2) PUBLIC HEARING. At the public hearing, any party may appear in person or by agent or by attorney. The Board of Adjustment may require the applicant to furnish, in addition to the information required for a Conditional Use Permit, the following information:
  - a. A plan of the area showing contours, soil types, ordinary high water marks, groundwater conditions, bedrock, slope and vegetative cover.
  - b. Location of buildings, parking areas, traffic access, driveways, walkways, piers, open space and landscaping.
  - c. Plans of buildings, sewage disposal facilities, water supply systems and arrangements of operations.
  - d. Specifications for areas of proposed filling, grading, lagooning or dredging.
  - e. Other pertinent information necessary to determine if the proposed use meets the requirements of this ordinance.
- 3) RECORDING. An appropriate record shall be made of any decision made by the Board of Adjustment
  - a. A decision regarding the application appeal shall be made as soon as practical and a copy shall be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources when applicable within 10 days after the decision is issued.
  - b. The Board of Adjustment shall state in writing the grounds for their decision and shall state the specific facts which are the basis of the Board determination.
  - c. All decisions may be reviewed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

### **10.6.5 Fees**

The governing committee may, by motion, adopt fees for the following:

- A) Land Use Permits.
- B) Public Hearings.
- C) Conditional Use Permits.
- D) Appeals to the Board of Adjustment
- E) Variances
- F) Other, as necessary

### **10.6.6 Enforcement and Penalties**

Any development, any building or structure constructed, moved or structurally altered, or any use established after the effective date of this Ordinance contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance, by any person, firm, association, corporation (including building contractors or their agents) shall be deemed a violation.

- A) As authorized by Wis. Stat. CHAPTER 66, the Zoning Administrator or the County Zoning Agency shall issue citations for any violations of this Ordinance. Any person, firm, association, or corporation who violates or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than two-hundred (\$200.00) dollars nor more than one-thousand (\$1000.00) dollars per offense, together with the taxable costs of action. Each day of continued violation shall constitute a

separate offense. Every violation of this Ordinance is a public nuisance and the creation thereof may be enjoined and the maintenance there may be abated by action at suit of the county, the state, or any citizen thereof pursuant to Section 87.30(2), Wisconsin Statutes. The County also retains the summons and complaint avenue for forfeitures and remedial action as provided by Wis. Stat. Section 59.69(11).

- B) There shall be a penalty fee of five-hundred (\$500.00) dollars added to the regular fee in those cases where building is commenced without first obtaining a land use permit, providing the structure is in conformance with the provisions of this Ordinance.
- C) The Zoning Department may issue an on-site stop work order, as appropriate, whenever it determines that a violation of this Ordinance or the building permit is taking place.