# unapproved 4/13/17 (informational meeting) A LOCAL LAW PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE UNIFORM FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING CODE

Local Law # 3 of 2006. TITLE 19 NYCRR PART 1203

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of North Dansville, in the County of Livingston, as follows:

### **SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT**

This local law provides for the administration and enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (the Uniform Code) and the State Energy Conservation Construction Code (the Energy Code) in this Town. This local law is adopted pursuant to section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law. Except as otherwise provided in the Uniform Code, other state law, or other section of this local law, all buildings, structures, and premises, regardless of use or occupancy, are subject to the provisions this local law.

### **SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS**

In this local law:

"Building Permit" shall mean a permit issued pursuant to section 4 of this local law. The term "Building Permit" shall also include a Building Permit which is renewed, amended or extended pursuant to any provision of this local law.

"Certificate of Occupancy" / "Certificate of Compliance" shall mean a certificate issued pursuant to subdivision (b) of section 7 of this local law.

"Code Enforcement Officer" shall mean the Code Enforcement Officer appointed pursuant to subdivision (b) of section 3 of this local law.

"Code Enforcement Personnel" shall include the Code Enforcement Officer and all Inspectors.

"Compliance Order" shall mean an order issued by the Code Enforcement Officer pursuant to subdivision (a) of section 16 of this local law.

"Energy Code" shall mean the State Energy Conservation Construction Code, as currently in effect and as hereafter amended from time to time.

"Inspector" shall mean an inspector appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of section 4 of this local law.

"Operating Permit" shall mean a permit issued pursuant to section 10 of this local law. The term "Operating Permit" shall also include an Operating Permit which is renewed, amended or extended pursuant to any provision of this local law.

"Permit Holder" shall mean the Person to whom a Building Permit has been issued.

"Person" shall include an individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, business trust, estate, trust, association, or any other legal or commercial entity of any kind or description.

"Stop Work Order" shall mean an order issued pursuant to section 6 of this local law.

"Temporary Certificate" shall mean a certificate issued pursuant to subdivision (d) of section 7 of this local law.

"Town" shall mean the Town of North Dansville.

"Uniform Code" shall mean the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, as currently in effect and as hereafter amended from time to time.

# SECTION 3. CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND INSPECTORS

- (a) The office of Code Enforcement Officer is hereby created. The Code Enforcement Officer shall administer and enforce all the provisions of the Uniform Code, the Energy Code and this local law. The Code Enforcement Officer shall have the following powers and duties:
- (1) to receive, review, and approve or disapprove applications for Building Permits, Certificates of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance, Temporary Certificates and Operating Permits, and the plans, specifications and construction documents submitted with such applications;
- (2) upon approval of such applications, to issue Building Permits, Certificates of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance, Temporary Certificates and Operating Permits, and to include in Building Permits, Certificates of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance Temporary Certificates and Operating Permits such terms and conditions as the Code Enforcement Officer may determine to be appropriate;
- (3) to conduct construction inspections, inspections to be made prior to the issuance of Certificates of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance Temporary Certificates and Operating Permits, fire safety and property maintenance inspections, inspections incidental to the investigation of complaints, and all other inspections required or permitted under any provision of this local law;
  - (4) to issue Stop Work Orders;
  - (5) to review and investigate complaints;
  - (6) to issue orders pursuant to subdivision (a) of section 16 (Violations) of this local law;
  - (7) to maintain records;
  - (8) to collect fees as set by the Town Board for this Town;
  - (9) to pursue administrative enforcement actions and proceedings;

- (10) in consultation with this Town's attorney, to pursue such legal actions and proceedings as may be necessary to enforce the Uniform Code, the Energy Code and this local law, or to abate or correct conditions not in compliance with the Uniform Code, the Energy Code or this local law; and
- (11) to exercise all other powers and fulfill all other duties conferred upon the Code Enforcement Officer by this local law.
- (b) The Code Enforcement Officer shall be appointed by the Town Board. The Code Enforcement Officer shall possess background experience related to building construction or fire prevention and shall, within the time prescribed by law, obtain such basic training, in-service training, advanced in-service training and other training as the State of New York shall require for code enforcement personnel, and the Code Enforcement Officer shall obtain certification from the State Fire Administrator pursuant to the Executive Law and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
- (c) In the event that the Code Enforcement Officer is unable to serve as such for any reason, an individual shall be appointed by the Town Board to serve as Acting Code Enforcement Officer. The Acting Code Enforcement Officer shall, during the term of his or her appointment, exercise all powers and fulfill all duties conferred upon the Code Enforcement Officer by this local law.
- (d) One or more Inspectors may be appointed by the Town Board to act under the supervision and direction of the Code Enforcement Officer and to assist the Code Enforcement Officer in the exercise of the powers and fulfillment of the duties conferred upon the Code Enforcement Officer by this local law. Each Inspector shall, within the time prescribed by law, obtain such basic training, inservice training, advanced in-service training and other training as the State of New York shall require for code enforcement personnel, and each Inspector shall obtain certification from the State Fire Administrator pursuant to the Executive Law and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
- (e) The compensation for the Code Enforcement Officer and Inspectors shall be fixed from time to time by the Board of this Town.

### **SECTION 4. BUILDING PERMITS.**

- (a) <u>Building Permits Required</u>. Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b) of this section, a Building Permit shall be required for any work which must conform to the Uniform Code and/or the Energy Code, including, but not limited to, the construction, enlargement, alteration, improvement, removal, relocation or demolition of any building or structure or any portion thereof, and the installation of a solid fuel burning heating appliance, chimney or flue in any dwelling unit. No Person shall commence any work for which a Building Permit is required without first having obtained a Building Permit from the Code Enforcement Officer.
- (b) <u>Exemptions</u>. No Building Permit shall be required for work in any of the following categories:
- (1) construction or installation of one story detached structures associated with one- or two-family dwellings or multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) which are used for tool and storage sheds, playhouses or similar uses, provided the gross floor area does not exceed 144 square feet (13.88 square meters);

- (2) installation of swings and other playground equipment associated with a one- or two-family dwelling or multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses);
- (3) installation of swimming pools associated with a one- or two-family dwelling or multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) where such pools are designed for a water depth of less than 24 inches and are installed entirely above ground;
- (4) construction of retaining walls unless such walls support a surcharge or impound Class I, II or IIIA liquids;
- (5) construction of temporary motion picture, television and theater stage sets and scenery;
- (6) installation of window awnings supported by an exterior wall of a one- or two-family dwelling or multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses);
  - (7) installation of partitions or movable cases less than 5'-9" in height;
  - (8) painting, wallpapering, tiling, carpeting, or other similar finish work;
- (9) installation of listed portable electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilation or cooling equipment or appliances;
- (10) replacement of any equipment provided the replacement does not alter the equipment's listing or render it inconsistent with the equipment's original specifications; or
- (11) repairs, provided that such repairs do not involve (i) the removal or cutting away of a loadbearing wall, partition, or portion thereof, or of any structural beam or load bearing component; (ii) the removal or change of any required means of egress, or the rearrangement of parts of a structure in a manner which affects egress; (iii) the enlargement, alteration, replacement or relocation of any building system; or (iv) the removal from service of all or part of a fire protection system for any period of time.
- (c) Exemption not deemed authorization to perform non-compliant work. The exemption from the requirement to obtain a building permit for work in any category set forth in subdivision (b) of this section shall not be deemed an authorization for work to be performed in violation of the Uniform Code or the Energy Code.
- (d) <u>Applications for Building Permits</u>. Applications for a Building Permit shall be made in writing on a form provided by or otherwise acceptable to the Code Enforcement Officer. The application shall be signed by the owner of the property where the work is to be performed or an authorized agent of the owner. The application shall include such information as the Code Enforcement Officer deems sufficient to permit a determination by the Code Enforcement Officer that the intended work complies with all applicable requirements of the Uniform Code and the Energy Code. The application shall include or be accompanied by the following information and documentation:
  - (1) Detailed description of proposed work;
  - (2) Name and address of property owner;

- (3) The tax map number and the street address of the premises where the work is to be performed;
- (4) Estimated cost of proposed work;
- (5) Description of present use or occupancy of the property and the proposed occupancy classification of any affected building or structure;
- (6) where applicable, a statement of special inspections prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Code; and
- (7) Minimum of 2 sets of construction documents (drawings and/or specifications) which (i) define the scope of the proposed work; (ii) are prepared by a New York State registered architect or licensed professional engineer where so required by the Education Law; (iii) indicate with sufficient clarity and detail the nature and extent of the work proposed; (iv) substantiate that the proposed work will comply with the Uniform Code and the Energy Code; and (v) where applicable, include a site plan that shows any existing and proposed buildings and structures on the site, the location of any existing or proposed well or septic system, the location of the intended work, and the distances between the buildings and structures and the lot lines.
- (8) Any additional information that the Code Enforcement Officer shall deem necessary to the proposed project
- (e) <u>Construction documents</u>. Construction documents will not be accepted as part of an application for a Building Permit unless they satisfy the requirements set forth in paragraph (5) of subdivision (d) of this section. Construction documents which are accepted as part of the application for a Building Permit shall be marked as accepted by the Code Enforcement Officer in writing or by stamp. One set of the accepted construction documents shall be retained by the Code Enforcement Officer, and one set of the accepted construction documents shall be returned to the applicant to be kept at the work site so as to be available for use by the Code Enforcement Personnel. However, the return of a set of accepted construction documents to the applicant shall not be construed as authorization to commence work, nor as an indication that a Building Permit will be issued. Work shall not be commenced until and unless a Building Permit is issued.
- (f) <u>Issuance of Building Permits</u>. An application for a Building Permit shall be examined to ascertain whether the proposed work is in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Uniform Code and Energy Code. The Code Enforcement Officer shall issue a Building Permit if the proposed work is in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Uniform Code and Energy Code.
- (g) <u>Building Permits to be displayed</u>. Building permits shall be visibly displayed at the work site and shall remain visible until the authorized work has been completed.
- (h) Work to be in accordance with construction documents. All work shall be performed in accordance with the construction documents which were submitted with and accepted as part of the application for the Building Permit. The Building Permit shall contain such a directive. The Permit Holder shall immediately notify the Code Enforcement Officer of any change occurring

during the course of the work. The Building Permit shall contain such a directive. If the Code Enforcement Officer determines that such change warrants a new or amended Building Permit, such change shall not be made until and unless a new or amended Building Permit reflecting such change is issued.

- (i) <u>Time limits</u>. Building Permits shall become invalid unless the authorized work is commenced within 6 months following the date of issuance. Building Permits shall expire <u>12</u> months after the date of issuance. A Building Permit which has become invalid or which has expired pursuant to this subdivision may be renewed upon application by the Permit Holder, payment of the applicable fee, and approval of the application by the Code Enforcement Officer.
- (j) Revocation or suspension of Building Permits. If the Code Enforcement Officer determines that a Building Permit was issued in error because of incorrect, inaccurate or incomplete information, or that the work for which a Building Permit was issued violates the Uniform Code or the Energy Code, the Code Enforcement Officer shall revoke the Building Permit or suspend the Building Permit until such time as the Permit Holder demonstrates that (1) all work then completed is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Uniform Code and the Energy Code and (2) all work then proposed to be performed shall be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Uniform Code and the Energy Code.
- (k) <u>Fee</u>. The fee specified in or determined in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 16 (Fees) of this local law must be paid at the time of submission of an application for a Building Permit, for an amended Building Permit, or for renewal of a Building Permit.

### **SECTION 5. CONSTRUCTION INSPECTIONS.**

- (a) Work to remain accessible and exposed. Work shall remain accessible and exposed until inspected and accepted by the Code Enforcement Officer or by an Inspector authorized by the Code Enforcement Officer. The Permit Holder shall notify the Code Enforcement Officer when any element of work described in subdivision (b) of this section is ready for inspection.
- (b) <u>Elements of work to be inspected</u>. The following elements of the construction process shall be inspected made, where applicable:
  - (1) work site prior to the issuance of a Building Permit;
    (2) footing and foundation;
    (3) preparation for concrete slab;
    (4) framing;
    (5) building systems, including underground and rough-in;
  - (6) fire resistant construction;
  - (7) fire resistant penetrations;

- (8) solid fuel burning heating appliances, chimneys, flues or gas vents;
- (9) Energy Code compliance; and
- (10) a final inspection after all work authorized by the Building Permit has been completed.
- (c) <u>Inspection results</u>. After inspection, the work or a portion thereof shall be noted as satisfactory as completed, or the Permit Holder shall be notified as to where the work fails to comply with the Uniform Code or Energy Code. Work not in compliance with any applicable provision of the Uniform Code or Energy Code shall remain exposed until such work shall have been brought into compliance with all applicable provisions of the Uniform Code and the Energy Code, reinspected, and found satisfactory as completed.
- (d) <u>Fee</u>. The fee specified in or determined in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 16 (Fees) of this local law must be paid prior to or at the time of each inspection performed pursuant to this section.

### SECTION 6. STOP WORK ORDERS.

- (a) <u>Authority to issue</u>. The Code Enforcement Officer is authorized to issue Stop Work Orders pursuant to this section. The Code Enforcement Officer shall issue a Stop Work Order to halt:
- (1) any work that is determined by the Code Enforcement Officer to be contrary to any applicable provision of the Uniform Code or Energy Code, without regard to whether such work is or is not work for which a Building Permit is required, and without regard to whether a Building Permit has or has not been issued for such work, or
- (2) any work that is being conducted in a dangerous or unsafe manner in the opinion of the Code Enforcement Officer, without regard to whether such work is or is not work for which a Building Permit is required, and without regard to whether a Building Permit has or has not been issued for such work, or
- (3) any work for which a Building Permit is required which is being performed without the required Building Permit, or under a Building Permit that has become invalid, has expired, or has been suspended or revoked.
- (b) <u>Content of Stop Work Orders</u>. Stop Work Orders shall (1) be in writing, (2) be dated and signed by the Code Enforcement Officer, (3) state the reason or reasons for issuance, and (4) if applicable, state the conditions which must be satisfied before work will be permitted to resume.
- (c) <u>Service of Stop Work Orders</u>. The Code Enforcement Officer shall cause the Stop Work Order, or a copy thereof, to be served on the owner of the affected property (and, if the owner is not the Permit Holder, on the Permit Holder) personally or by [registered mail / certified mail]. The Code Enforcement Officer shall be permitted, but not required, to cause the Stop Work Order, or a copy thereof, to be served on any builder, architect, tenant, contractor, subcontractor, construction superintendent, or their agents, or any other Person taking part or assisting in work affected by the Stop Work Order, personally or by [registered mail / certified mail]; provided, however, that failure to serve any Person mentioned in this sentence shall not affect the efficacy of the Stop Work Order.

- (d) <u>Effect of Stop Work Order</u>. Upon the issuance of a Stop Work Order, the owner of the affected property, the Permit Holder and any other Person performing, taking part in or assisting in the work shall immediately cease all work which is the subject of the Stop Work Order.
- (e) Remedy not exclusive. The issuance of a Stop Work Order shall not be the exclusive remedy available to address any event described in subdivision (a) of this section, and the authority to issue a Stop Work Order shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for or limitation of, the right and authority to pursue any other remedy or impose any other penalty under section 15 (Violations) of this local law or under any other applicable local law or State law. Any such other remedy or penalty may be pursued at any time, whether prior to, at the time of, or after the issuance of a Stop Work Order.

### SECTION 7. CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY / CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE

- (a) <u>Certificates of Occupancy/Certificates of Compliance required</u>. A <u>Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance</u> shall be required for any work which is the subject of a Building Permit and for all structures, buildings, or portions thereof, which are converted from one use or occupancy classification or subclassification to another. Permission to use or occupy a building or structure, or portion thereof, for which a Building Permit was previously issued shall be granted only by issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance
- (b) <u>Issuance of Certificates of Occupancy/Certificates of Compliance</u>. The Code Enforcement Officer shall issue a Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance if the work which was the subject of the Building Permit was completed in accordance with all applicable provisions of the Uniform Code and Energy Code and, if applicable, that the structure, building or portion thereof that was converted from one use or occupancy classification or subclassification to another complies with all applicable provisions of the Uniform Code and Energy Code. The Code Enforcement Officer or an Inspector authorized by the Code Enforcement Officer shall inspect the building, structure or work prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance. In addition, where applicable, the following documents, prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Code by such person or persons as may be designated by or otherwise acceptable to the Code Enforcement Officer, at the expense of the applicant for the Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance, shall be provided to the Code Enforcement Officer prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance:
  - (1) a written statement of structural observations and/or a final report of special inspections, and
  - (2) flood hazard certifications.
- (c) <u>Contents of Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance</u>. A Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance shall contain the following information:
  - (1) the Building Permit number, if any;
  - (2) the date of issuance of the Building Permit, if any;
  - (3) the name, address and tax map number of the property;

- (4) if the Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance is not applicable to an entire structure, a description of that portion of the structure for which the Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance is issued;
- (5) the use and occupancy classification of the structure;
- (6) the type of construction of the structure;
- (7) the assembly occupant load of the structure, if any;
- (8) if an automatic sprinkler system is provided, a notation as to whether the sprinkler system is required;
- (9) any special conditions imposed in connection with the issuance of the Building Permit; and
- (10) the signature of the Code Enforcement Officer issuing the Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance and the date of issuance.
- (d) <u>Temporary Certificate</u>. The Code Enforcement Officer shall be permitted to issue a Temporary Certificate allowing the temporary occupancy of a building or structure, or a portion thereof, prior to completion of the work which is the subject of a Building Permit. However, in no event shall the Code Enforcement Officer issue a Temporary Certificate unless the Code Enforcement Officer determines (1) that the building or structure, or the portion thereof covered by the Temporary Certificate, may be occupied safely, (2) that any fire- and smoke-detecting or fire protection equipment which has been installed is operational, and (3) that all required means of egress from the building or structure have been provided. The Code Enforcement Officer may include in a Temporary Certificate such terms and conditions as he or she deems necessary or appropriate to ensure safety or to further the purposes and intent of the Uniform Code. A Temporary Certificate shall be effective for a period of time, not to exceed 3 months, which shall be determined by the Code Enforcement Officer and specified in the Temporary Certificate. During the specified period of effectiveness of the Temporary Certificate, the Permit Holder shall undertake to bring the building or structure into full compliance with all applicable provisions of the Uniform Code and the Energy Code.
- (e) <u>Revocation or suspension of certificates</u>. If the Code Enforcement Officer determines that a Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance or a Temporary Certificate was issued in error because of incorrect, inaccurate or incomplete information, and if the relevant deficiencies are not corrected to the satisfaction of the Code Enforcement Officer within such period of time as shall be specified by the Code Enforcement Officer, the Code Enforcement Officer shall revoke or suspend such certificate.
- (f) <u>Fee</u>. The fee specified in or determined in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 16 (Fees) of this local law must be paid at the time of submission of an application for a Certificate of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance or for Temporary Certificate.

### SECTION 8. NOTIFICATION REGARDING FIRE OR EXPLOSION.

The chief of any fire department providing fire fighting services for a property within this Town shall promptly notify the Code Enforcement Officer of any fire or explosion involving any structural damage, fuel burning appliance, chimney or gas vent.

# SECTION 9. UNSAFE BUILDING AND STRUCTURES

Unsafe structures and equipment in this Town shall be identified and addressed in accordance with the following procedures.

# Chapter 1. Purpose

Unsafe buildings pose a threat to life and property in the Town of North Dansville. Buildings and structures may become unsafe by reason of damage by fire, the elements, age or general deterioration. Vacant buildings not properly secured at doorways and windows also serve as an attractive nuisance for young children who may be injured therein, as well as a point of congregation by vagrants and transients. A dilapidated building may also serve as a place of rodent infestation, thereby creating a health menace to the community. Debris, rubble or parts of buildings left on the ground and not removed constitute a dangerous, unhealthy and unsightly condition. It is the purpose of this chapter to provide for the safety, health, protection and general welfare of persons and property in the Town of North Dansville by requiring such unsafe buildings be repaired or demolished or removed.

# **Chapter 2.** Definitions

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**Building** - Any building, structure or portion thereof used for residential, business, industrial, recreational or other purpose.

**Building Inspector** - The building inspector of the Town of North Dansville and his/her duly appointed assistants or deputies or such other person appointed by the Town Board to enforce the provisions of this chapter, such as the Code Enforcement Officer.

**Portion of Building** - Any debris, rubble, or other parts of buildings which remain on the ground or on the premises after demolition, reconstruction, fire or other casualty.

**Unsafe Building or Structure** – Any building or structure or portion thereof which:

- A. Has interior walls or other vertical structural members which list, lean or buckle to such an extent that a plumb line passing through the center of gravity falls outside of the middle one-third (1/3) of its base.
- B. Exclusive of the foundation, shows thirty three percent (33%) or more of damage to or deterioration of the supporting member or members or fifty percent (50%) damage to or deterioration of the non-supporting enclosing or outside walls or covering.
- C. Has improperly distributed loads upon the floors or roofs or in which the same are overloaded or have insufficient strength to be reasonably safe for the purpose used.
- D. Has been damaged by fire, wind or other causes so as to have become dangerous to life, safety, morals or the general health and welfare of the occupants or the people of the Town of North Dansville.

- E. Has become or are so dilapidated, decayed, unsafe, unsanitary or which so utterly fails to provide the amenities essential to decent living that it is unfit for human habitation or are likely to cause sickness or disease, so as to work injury to the health, morals, safety or general welfare of those living therein.
- F. Has light, air and sanitation facilities which are inadequate to protect the health, morals, safety or general welfare of human beings who live or may live therein.
- G. Has inadequate facilities for egress in case of fire or panic or insufficient stairways, elevators, fire escapes or other means of communication.
- H. Has parts thereof which are so attached that they may fall and injure members of the public or property.
- I. Because of its condition, is unsafe, unsanitary or dangerous to the health, morals, safety or general welfare of the people of the Town of North Dansville.
- J. Is open at the doorways or windows or walls, making it accessible to and an object of attraction to minors under eighteen (18) years of age, as well as to vagrants and other trespassers.
- K. Is or may become a place of rodent infestation.
- L. Consists of debris, rubble or parts of buildings left on the ground after demolition, reconstruction, fire or other casualty.

# Chapter 3. Maintenance of Buildings and Structures; Prohibition

- **A.** It shall be unlawful for any owner, tenant or occupant of any building or structure or portion of any building or structure in the Town of North Dansville to maintain such building or structure or portion of such buildings or structures in any condition or manner which shall be unsafe as defined in Section 2 of this chapter.
- B. Any owner, occupant or person in custody of real property located within the Town of North Dansville who allows or permits a building to continue as a dangerous building after due notice as provided in Section 5 below shall be guilty of a violation of this local law and shall be punished as provided in Section 11 below.

# **Chapter 4.** Investigation and Report

When, in the opinion of the Building Inspector, any building or structure located in the Town of North Dansville shall be deemed to be dangerous or unsafe to the public as defined in Section 2, the Building Inspector shall make a formal inspection thereof and report in writing to the Town Board his/her findings and recommendations in regard to the building's or structure's removal or repair.

# **Chapter 5.** Order to Repair; Hearing to be Scheduled.

The Town Board shall thereupon consider said report, and, if it finds that such building or structure is dangerous and unsafe to the public, it shall, by resolution, order its repair if the same can be safely repaired, and if not, its removal and demolition, and shall further order that a hearing shall be held before the Town Board at a time and place therein specified and on a least five (5) days notice to the owner of the building or structure or persons having an interest therein to determine whether said order to repair or remove shall be affirmed or modified or vacated and, in the event of modification or affirmance, to assess all costs and expenses incurred by the Town in the repair or removal of such building or structure against the land on which said building or structure is located.

# Chapter 6. Trespass Prohibited.

In addition to serving the notice as provide in Section 5 above, the Town Board may, if it determines that the purposes of this local law will be further effectuated, order that no person other than the owner or his agent shall enter upon the property and shall post on such property signs indicating no trespassing. When such a determination is made, notice of such fact shall be included in the notice referred to in Section 5 above. Anyone found trespassing in violation of this section shall be liable for a fine not to exceed One Hundred Fifty (\$150.00) for each offense.

# **Chapter 7.** Contents of Notice.

The notice shall contain the following statements:

- A. The name of the owner or person in possession as appears from the tax and deed records.
- B. A brief description of the premises and its location.
- C. A description of the building or structure which is unsafe or dangerous and a statement of the particulars in which it is unsafe or dangerous.
- D. An order requiring the same to be made safe and secure or removed.
- E. That the securing or removal of said building or structure shall commence within a specified number of days of the service of the notice and shall be completed within a specified number of days thereafter.
- F. The time and place of the hearing to be held before the Town Board, at which hearing the owner or occupant shall have the right to contest the order and findings of the Town Board.
- G. That in the event such owner, occupant or other person having an interest in said premises shall fail to contest such order and fail to comply with the same, the Town Board will order the repair or removal of such building by the Town, and that the Town will assess all costs and expenses incurred in such repair or removal against the land on which such building or structure is located.
- H. That in any case where a building which is required to be made safe and secure under this chapter is made safe by the boarding up thereof, the material for such boarding shall be painted, as near as practicable, the same color as the building.
- I. The failure to commence the necessary repairs, improvements or demolition within the time specified in the notice will constitute a violation of the law subjecting the violators to a fine not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for each week of such violation.

# **Chapter 8.** Service and Filing of Notice.

- A. A copy of said notice shall be personally served upon the owner or one of the owners, executors, legal representatives, agents, lessees or other person having a vested interest in the premises as shown on the Town tax records or in the records in the Livingston County Clerk's Office.
- B. If no such person can be reasonably found for personal service, then a copy of said notice shall be mailed to such person by registered mail addressed to his last known address as shown on said records and by personally serving a copy of said notice upon any adult person residing in or occupying said premises or by securely affixing a copy of said notice upon building or structure.
- C. A copy of said notice may be filed with the Livingston County Clerk's Office, which notice shall be filed in the same manner as a notice of pendency pursuant to Article 65 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules and shall have the same effect as a notice of pendency as therein provided. A notice so

filed shall be effective for a period of one (1) year from the date of filing. It may be vacated upon an order of a Judge or Justice of a court of record or upon the written consent of the Town Attorney or Attorney for the Town. The Livingston County Clerk shall mark such notice and any record or docket thereof as cancelled of record upon the presentation and filing of such consent or of a certified copy of such order.

### Chapter 9. Hearing.

The Town Board shall conduct the public hearing at the time and place specified in the notice to repair or demolish. It may adjourn the hearing from time to time until all interested parties are heard and until the hearing is completed. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Town Board shall determine by resolution to revoke the order to repair or remove, modify said order or continue and affirm said order to direct the owner or other persons to complete the work within the time specified in the order or such other time as shall be determined by the Town Board.

# **Chapter 10.** Failure to Comply

In the event of the refusal, failure or neglect of the owner or person so notified to comply with said order of the Town Board within the time specified in said order and after the public hearing, the Town Board shall provide that such building or structure be made safe and secure or removed and demolished by Town employees or by independent contractors. Except in emergency cases as herein provided, any contract for repair or demolishing and removal of a building or structure in excess of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) shall be awarded through competitive bidding.

# Chapter 11. Alternate Procedure upon Refusal, Failure or Neglect of Owner or Person Notified to Comply.

In the event of the neglect or refusal of the person so served with the said notice to comply with the same, a survey of the premises shall be made by and inspector or architect to be named by the Town Board of said Town and an inspector or architect appointed by the person notified as above. In the event of the refusal or neglect of the person so notified to appoint such an inspector or architect, two such inspectors or architects shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees and the two inspectors or architects shall make the survey and report. The notice shall further provide that in the event the building or other structure is reported dangerous or unsafe under such survey, an application shall be made at a special term of the Supreme Court, Livingston County, for an order determining the building or other structure to be a public nuisance and directing that it shall be repaired and secured or taken down and removed. Surveyors appointed by the Town Board shall be compensated by the Town.

Posting of the Survey Report. A signed copy of the report of the surveyors shall be posted on the building.

# **Chapter 12. Penalties**

Except as provided in Section 6 above, any person found guilty of violating this local law shall be liable for a fine not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for each violation. Each week such violation shall continue shall constitute a separate violation.

# **Chapter 13.** Assessment of Expenses

All expenses incurred by the Town in connection with the proceedings to repair and secure or demolish and remove the unsafe building, including the costs of notice and the cost of actually removing such building, and attorney's fees, shall be assessed against the land on which such building is located and shall be levied and collected in the same manner as provided for the levy and collection of real property taxes.

# **Chapter 14.** Emergency Situations

Where it reasonably appears that there is present a clear and imminent danger to the life, safety or health of any person or property unless an unsafe building or structure is immediately repaired and secured or demolished, the Town Board may, by resolution, authorize the Building Inspector to immediately cause the repair or demolition of such unsafe building or structure. The expense of such repair or demolition shall be charged against the land on which it is located and shall be assessed, levied and collected as provided in Section 10 hereof.

# **Chapter 15.** Special Proceeding for Costs.

The Town Board may commence a special proceeding pursuant to Section 78b of the General Municipal Law to collect the costs of demolition, including reasonable and necessary legal expenses.

# Chapter 16. Separability.

Each separate provision of this local law shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein, and if any provisions shall be deemed or declared invalid, all other provisions hereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

### Chapter 17. Effective Date.

This local law shall take effect upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State.

### **SECTION 10. OPERATING PERMITS.**

- (a) <u>Operation Permits required</u>. Operating Permits shall be required for conducting the activities or using the categories of buildings listed below:
  - (1) manufacturing, storing or handling hazardous materials in quantities exceeding those listed in Tables 2703.1.1(1), 2703.1.1(2), 2703.1.1(3) or 2703.1.1(4) in the publication entitled "Fire Code of New York State" and incorporated by reference in 19 NYCRR section 1225.1;
  - (2) hazardous processes and activities, including but not limited to, commercial and industrial operations which produce combustible dust as a byproduct, fruit and crop ripening, and waste handling;
  - (3) use of pyrotechnic devices in assembly occupancies;

- (4) buildings containing one or more areas of public assembly with an occupant load of 100 persons or more; and
- (5) buildings whose use or occupancy classification may pose a substantial potential hazard to public safety, as determined by resolution adopted by the Board of this Town.

Any person who proposes to undertake any activity or to operate any type of building listed in this subdivision (a) shall be required to obtain an Operating Permit prior to commencing such activity or operation.

- (b) <u>Applications for Operating Permits</u>. An application for an Operating Permit shall be in writing on a form provided by or otherwise acceptable to the Code Enforcement Officer. Such application shall include such information as the Code Enforcement Officer deems sufficient to permit a determination by the Code Enforcement Officer that quantities, materials, and activities conform to the requirements of the Uniform Code. If the Code Enforcement Officer determines that tests or reports are necessary to verify conformance, such tests or reports shall be performed or provided by such person or persons as may be designated by or otherwise acceptable to the Code Enforcement Officer, at the expense of the applicant.
- (c) <u>Inspections</u>. The Code Enforcement Officer or an Inspector authorized by the Code Enforcement Officer shall inspect the subject premises prior to the issuance of an Operating Permit.
- (d) <u>Multiple Activities</u>. In any circumstance in which more than one activity listed in subdivision (a) of this section is to be conducted at a location, the Code Enforcement Officer may require a separate Operating Permit for each such activity, or the Code Enforcement Officer may, in his or her discretion, issue a single Operating Permit to apply to all such activities.
- (e) <u>Duration of Operating Permits</u>. Operating permits shall be issued for such period of time, not to exceed one year in the case of any Operating Permit issued for an area of public assembly and not to exceed three years in any other case, as shall be determined by the Code Enforcement Officer to be consistent with local conditions. The effective period of each Operating Permit shall be specified in the Operating Permit. An Operating Permit may be reissued or renewed upon application to the Code Enforcement Officer, payment of the applicable fee, and approval of such application by the Code Enforcement Officer.
- (f) <u>Revocation or suspension of Operating Permits</u>. If the Code Enforcement Officer determines that any activity or building for which an Operating Permit was issued does not comply with any applicable provision of the Uniform Code, such Operating Permit shall be revoked or suspended.
- (g) <u>Fee</u>. The fee specified in or determined in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 16 (Fees) of this local law must be paid at the time submission of an application for an Operating Permit, for an amended Operating Permit, or for reissue or renewal of an Operating Permit.

# SECTION 11. FIRE SAFETY AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS

(a) <u>Inspections required</u>. Fire safety and property maintenance inspections of buildings and structures shall be performed by the Code Enforcement Officer or an Inspector designated by the Code Enforcement Officer at the following intervals:

- (1) Fire safety and property maintenance inspections of buildings or structures which contain an area of public assembly shall be performed at least once every twelve (12) months.
- (2) Fire safety and property maintenance inspections of buildings or structures being occupied as dormitories shall be performed at least once every twelve (12) months.
- (3) Fire safety and property maintenance inspections of all multiple dwellings not included in paragraphs (1) or (2) of this subdivision, and all non-residential buildings, structures, uses and occupancies not included in paragraphs (1) or (2) of this subdivision, shall be performed at least once every thirty-six (36) months
- (b) <u>Inspections permitted</u>. In addition to the inspections required by subdivision (a) of this section, a fire safety and property maintenance inspection of any building, structure, use, or occupancy, or of any dwelling unit, may also be performed by the Code Enforcement Officer or an Inspector designated by the Code Enforcement Officer at any time upon:
- (1) the request of the owner of the property to be inspected or an authorized agent of such owner;
- (2) receipt by the Code Enforcement Officer of a written statement alleging that conditions or activities failing to comply with the Uniform Code or Energy Code exist; or
- (3) receipt by the Code Enforcement Officer of any other information, reasonably believed by the Code Enforcement Officer to be reliable, giving rise to reasonable cause to believe that conditions or activities failing to comply with the Uniform Code or Energy Code exist;

provided, however, that nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as permitting an inspection under any circumstances under which a court order or warrant permitting such inspection is required, unless such court order or warrant shall have been obtained.

- (c) <u>OFPC Inspections</u>. Nothing in this section or in any other provision of this local law shall supersede, limit or impair the powers, duties and responsibilities of the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control ("OFPC") and the New York State Fire Administrator under Executive Law section 156-e and Education Law section 807-b. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary:
- (1) the Code Enforcement Officer shall not perform fire safety and property maintenance inspections of a building or structure which contains an area of public assembly if OFPC performs fire safety and property maintenance inspections of such building or structure at least once every twelve (12) months;
- (2) the Code Enforcement Officer shall not perform fire safety and property maintenance inspections of a building or structure occupied as a dormitory if OFPC performs fire safety and property maintenance inspections of such building or structure at least once every twelve (12) months;
- (3) the Code Enforcement Officer shall not perform fire safety and property maintenance inspections of a multiple dwelling not included in paragraphs (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) of this section if OFPC performs fire safety and property maintenance inspections of such multiple dwelling at intervals not exceeding the interval specified in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of this section; and

- (4) the Code Enforcement Officer shall not perform fire safety and property maintenance inspections of a non-residential building, structure, use or occupancy not included in paragraphs (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) of this section if OFPC performs fire safety and property maintenance inspections of such non-residential building, structure, use or occupancy at intervals not exceeding the interval specified in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of this section.
- (d) <u>Fee</u>. The fee specified in or determined in accordance with the provisions set forth in section 17 (Fees) of this local law must be paid prior to or at the time each inspection performed pursuant to this section. This subdivision shall not apply to inspections performed by OFPC.

# SECTION 12. PROPERTY SALE AND RENTAL PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

- (a) <u>Inspections required</u>. No owner of property, including but not limited to landlords and rooming house owners, shall permit his property to be occupied by another, unless and until the dwelling unit and all areas and utilities associated therewith are in good repair, clean, sanitary, in habitable condition, in full compliance with the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, and all other local laws, codes and ordinances of the Town Of North Dansville as certified in advance of such occupancy through a Certificate of Compliance to be issued by the Code Enforcement Officer of the Town of North Dansville, Livingston County, New York.
- (b) <u>Notification</u>. Each owner of rental property, and each owner of a rooming house, in the Town Of North Dansville, is hereby required to immediately notify the Code Enforcement Office when any rental dwelling unit is or is to be vacated by a tenant or boarder. In no event can said dwelling unit be rented to a new or different tenant(s) until a Certificate of Compliance has been issued by the Code Enforcement Officer.
- (c) Owner's Representative. Owners and/or landlords of property who do not reside or are employed within the Town of North Dansville or Town of North Dansville or an immediately adjacent municipality, shall designate and make available, a local contact person to act in their steed. The contact information shall be kept current and on file with the Code Enforcement Office.
- (d) Occupancy-Sale. Upon the sale of real property, or any other transfer of real property, other than referred to in paragraph 12B above, the transferee shall not occupy any portion of the premises until there is first obtained a Certificate of Compliance, which certificate may be issued within thirty (30) days prior to said occupancy.
- (e) <u>Occupancy-Rental</u>. When a Certificate of Compliance is required hereunder, no person, whether a purchaser, renter, boarder or other new occupant shall occupy the premises until such Certificate of Compliance has been obtained.
- (f) <u>Temporary Certificate</u>. If only minor violations are found that do not affect the safety of structure or inhabitants thereof, the Code Enforcement Officer may issue a Temporary Certificate of Rental/Sale Compliance which shall expire ten (10) days after issuance. This temporary certificate cannot be extended or reissued thereafter for the same violations. If the violations have not been cured before the temporary certificate expires, all occupancy of the premises must immediately cease.
- (g) <u>Fees.</u> The fees to be paid for the initial Certificate of Rental/Sale Compliance shall be determined, and may be re-determined periodically, by resolution of the Town of North Dansville Board. Subsequent re-inspections of the same violation shall carry a penalty of One Hundred Dollars

(\$100.00) for the first re-inspection and Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for each concurrent reinspection thereafter until such time as the violation is corrected or abated.

### **SECTION 13. COMPLAINTS**

The Code Enforcement Officer shall review and investigate complaints which allege or assert the existence of conditions or activities that fail to comply with the Uniform Code, the Energy Code, this local law, or any other local law or regulation adopted for administration and enforcement of the Uniform Code or the Energy Code. The process for responding to a complaint shall include such of the following steps as the Code Enforcement Officer may deem to be appropriate:

- (a) performing an inspection of the conditions and/or activities alleged to be in violation, and documenting the results of such inspection;
- (b) if a violation is found to exist, providing the owner of the affected property and any other Person who may be responsible for the violation with notice of the violation and opportunity to abate, correct or cure the violation, or otherwise proceeding in the manner described in section 16 (Violations) of this local law;
  - (c) if appropriate, issuing a Stop Work Order;
- (d) if a violation which was found to exist is abated or corrected, performing an inspection to ensure that the violation has been abated or corrected, preparing a final written report reflecting such abatement or correction, and filing such report with the complaint.

### SECTION 14. RECORD KEEPING.

- (a) The Code Enforcement Officer shall keep permanent official records of all transactions and activities conducted by all Code Enforcement Personnel, including records of:
  - (1) all applications received, reviewed and approved or denied;
  - (2) all plans, specifications and construction documents approved;
  - (3) all Building Permits, Certificates of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance Temporary Certificates, Stop Work Orders, and Operating Permits issued;
  - (4) all inspections and tests performed;
  - (5) all statements and reports issued;
  - (6) all complaints received;
  - (7) all investigations conducted;
  - (8) all other features and activities specified in or contemplated by sections 4 through 13, inclusive, of this local law, including; and
  - (9) all fees charged and collected.

(b) All such records shall be public records open for public inspection during normal business hours. All plans and records pertaining to buildings or structures, or appurtenances thereto, shall be retained for at least the minimum time period so required by State law and regulation.

### **SECTION 15. PROGRAM REVIEW AND REPORTING**

- (a) The Code Enforcement Officer shall monthly submit to Board of this Town a written report and summary of all business conducted by the Code Enforcement Officer and the Inspectors, including a report and summary of all transactions and activities described in section 14 (Record Keeping) of this local law and a report and summary of all appeals or litigation pending or concluded.
- (b) The Code Enforcement Officer shall annually submit to the Secretary of State, on behalf of this Town, on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State, a report of the activities of this Town, relative to administration and enforcement of the Uniform Code.
- (c) The Code Enforcement Officer shall, upon request of the New York State Department of State, provide to the New York State Department of State, from the records and related materials this Town is required to maintain, excerpts, summaries, tabulations, statistics and other information and accounts of the activities of this Town in connection with administration and enforcement of the Uniform Code.

### **SECTION 16: VIOLATIONS**

- (a) <u>Compliance Orders</u>. The Code Enforcement Officer is authorized to order in writing the remedying of any condition or activity found to exist in, on or about any building, structure, or premises in violation of the Uniform Code, the Energy Code, or this local law. Upon finding that any such condition or activity exists, the Code Enforcement Officer shall issue a Compliance Order. The Compliance Order shall (1) be in writing; (2) be dated and signed by the Code Enforcement Officer; (3) specify the condition or activity that violates the Uniform Code, the Energy Code, or this local law; (4) specify the provision or provisions of the Uniform Code, the Energy Code, or this local law which is/are violated by the specified condition or activity; (5) specify the period of time which the Code Enforcement Officer deems to be reasonably necessary for achieving compliance; (6) direct that compliance be achieved within the specified period of time; and (7) state that an action or proceeding to compel compliance may be instituted if compliance is not achieved within the specified period of time. The Code Enforcement Officer shall cause the Compliance Order, or a copy thereof, to be served on the owner of the affected property personally or by registered mail / certified mail. The Code Enforcement Officer shall be permitted, but not required, to cause the Compliance Order, or a copy thereof, to be served on any builder, architect, tenant, contractor, owner, subcontractor, construction superintendent, or their agents, or any other Person taking part or assisting in work being performed at the affected property personally or by registered mail / certified mail; provided, however, that failure to serve any Person mentioned in this sentence shall not affect the efficacy of the Compliance Order.
- (b) <u>Appearance Tickets</u>. The Code Enforcement Officer and each Inspector are authorized to issue appearance tickets for any violation of the Uniform Code.
- (c) <u>Civil Penalties</u>. In addition to those penalties proscribed by State law, any Person who violates any provision of the Uniform Code, the Energy Code or this local law, or any term or condition of any Building Permit, Certificate of Occupancy / Certificate of Compliance, Certificate of Sale/Rental Compliance, Temporary Certificate, Stop Work Order, Operating Permit or other notice or

order issued by the Code Enforcement Officer pursuant to any provision of this local law, shall be liable to a civil penalty of not more than \$250 for each day or part thereof during which such violation continues. The civil penalties provided by this subdivision shall be recoverable in an action instituted in the name of this Town.

- (d) <u>Injunctive Relief</u>. An action or proceeding may be instituted in the name of this Town, in a court of competent jurisdiction, to prevent, restrain, enjoin, correct, or abate any violation of, or to enforce, any provision of the Uniform Code, the Energy Code, this local law, or any term or condition of any Building Permit, Certificate of Occupancy / Certificate of Compliance, Certificate of Sale/Rental Compliance, Temporary Certificate, Stop Work Order, Operating Permit, Compliance Order, or other notice or order issued by the Code Enforcement Officer pursuant to any provision of this local law. In particular, but not by way of limitation, where the construction or use of a building or structure is in violation of any provision of the Uniform Code, the Energy Code, this local law, or any Stop Work Order, Compliance Order or other order obtained under the Uniform Code, the Energy Code or this local law, an action or proceeding may be commenced in the name of this Town, in the Supreme Court or in any other court having the requisite jurisdiction, to obtain an order directing the removal of the building or structure or an abatement of the condition in violation of such provisions. No action or proceeding described in this subdivision shall be commenced without the appropriate authorization from the Board of this Town.
- (e) Remedies Not Exclusive. No remedy or penalty specified in this section shall be the exclusive remedy or remedy available to address any violation described in this section, and each remedy or penalty specified in this section shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for or limitation of, the other remedies or penalties specified in this section, in section 6 (Stop Work Orders) of this local law, in any other section of this local law, or in any other applicable law. Any remedy or penalty specified in this section may be pursued at any time, whether prior to, simultaneously with, or after the pursuit of any other remedy or penalty specified in this section, in section 6 (Stop Work Orders) of this local law, in any other section of this local law, or in any other applicable law. In particular, but not by way of limitation, each remedy and penalty specified in this section shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for or limitation of, the penalties specified in subdivision (2) of section 381 of the Executive Law, and any remedy or penalty specified in this section may be pursued at any time, whether prior to, simultaneously with, or after the pursuit of any penalty specified in subdivision (2) of section 381 of the Executive Law.
- (f) <u>Legal Fees</u>. In addition to all other remedies allowed, each person who violates any portion of this law shall owe to the Town of North Dansville all legal fees, court costs and disbursements incurred by the Town to enforce this law and cure each said violation.

### **SECTION 17: FEES**

A fee schedule shall be established by resolution of the Town Board of this Town. Such fee schedule may thereafter be amended from time to time by like resolution. The fees set forth in, or determined in accordance with, such fee schedule or amended fee schedule shall be charged and collected for the submission of applications, the issuance of Building Permits, amended Building Permits, renewed Building Permits, Certificates of Occupancy/Certificate of Compliance, Temporary Certificates, Operating Permits, fire safety and property maintenance inspections, and other actions of the Code Enforcement Officer described in or contemplated by this local law.

# **SECTION 18. INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENTS**

The Town Board of this Town may, by resolution, authorize the Supervisor of this Town to enter into an agreement, in the name of this Town, with other governments to carry out the terms of this local law, provided that such agreement does not violate any provision of the Uniform Code, the Energy Code, Part 1203 of Title 19 of the NYCRR, or any other applicable law.

# **SECTION 19. PARTIAL INVALIDITY**

If any section of this local law shall be held unconstitutional, invalid, or ineffective, in whole or in part, such determination shall not be deemed to affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law.

# **SECTION 20. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.