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ARTICLE III - APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

The application for a Flood Hazard Development Permit shall be submitted to the _____ and shall include:

- H. The elevation in relation to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD), or to a locally established datum in Zone A only, of the:
1. base flood at the proposed site of all new or substantially improved structures, which is determined:
 - a. in Zones A1-30, AE, AO, and AH, from data contained in the "Flood Insurance Study - (Town/City) of _____, Maine," as described in Article I; or,
 - b. ~~in Zone A, to be the elevation of the ground at the intersection of the floodplain boundary and a line perpendicular to the shoreline which passes along the ground through the site of the proposed building;:~~
 - (1) from any base flood elevation data from federal, state, or other technical sources (such as FEMA's Quick-2 model, FEMA 265/July 1995), including information obtained pursuant to Article VI.K. and VIII.D.;
 - (2) from the contour elevation extrapolated from a best fit analysis of the floodplain boundary when overlaid onto a USGS Quadrangle Map or other topographic map prepared by a Professional Land Surveyor or registered professional engineer, if the floodplain boundary has a significant correlation to the elevation contour line(s); or, in the absence of all other data,
 - (3) to be the elevation of the ground at the intersection of the floodplain boundary and a line perpendicular to the shoreline which passes along the ground through the site of the proposed building.
- I. ~~A description of an elevation reference point established on the site of all new or substantially improved structures~~ developments for which elevation standards apply as required in Article VI;
- J. ~~Either an Elevation Certificate (FEMA Form 81-31, 03/97, as amended) completed by a Professional Land Surveyor, registered professional engineer or architect; or, for non-residential structures to be floodproofed, a Floodproofing Certificate (FEMA Form 81-65, 05/93, as amended) completed by a registered professional engineer or architect. These Certificates verify that the elevations shown on the application are accurate;~~
- A written certification by a Professional Land Surveyor, registered professional engineer or architect, that the base flood elevation and grade elevations shown on the application are accurate;

K. The following certifications as required in Article VI by a registered professional engineer or architect ~~that~~:

1. a Floodproofing Certificate (FEMA Form 81-65, 08/99, as amended), to verify that the floodproofing methods for any non-residential structures will meet the floodproofing criteria of Article III.H.4.; Article VI.G.; and other applicable standards in Article VI;
2. a Hydraulic Openings Certificate to verify that engineered hydraulic openings in foundation walls will meet the standards of Article VI.L.2.a.;
3. a certified statement that bridges will meet the standards of Article VI.M.;
4. a certified statement that containment walls will meet the standards of Article VI.N.;

ARTICLE IV - APPLICATION FEE AND EXPERT'S FEE

A non-refundable application fee of \$_____ shall be paid to the (Town/City) Clerk and a copy of a receipt for the same shall accompany the application.

An additional fee may be charged if the _____ and/or Board of Appeals needs the assistance of a professional engineer or other expert. The expert's fee shall be paid in full by the applicant within 10 days after the town submits a bill to the applicant. Failure to pay the bill shall constitute a violation of the ordinance and be grounds for the issuance of a stop work order. An expert shall not be hired by the municipality at the expense of an applicant until the applicant has either consented to such hiring in writing or been given an opportunity to be heard on the subject. An applicant who is dissatisfied with a decision ~~of the _____~~ to hire expert assistance may appeal that decision to the Board of Appeals.

ARTICLE V - REVIEW STANDARDS FOR FLOOD HAZARD DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

The _____ shall:

- A. Review all applications for the Flood Hazard Development Permit to assure that proposed developments are reasonably safe from flooding and to determine that all pertinent requirements of Article VI (Development Standards) have been, or will be met;
- B. Utilize, in the review of all Flood Hazard Development Permit applications, ;
 1. the base flood data contained in the "Flood Insurance Study - (Town/City) of _____, Maine," as described in Article I.;
 2. in special flood hazard areas where base flood elevation data are not provided, the _____ shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood

elevation and floodway data from federal, state, or other technical sources, including information obtained pursuant to Article III.H.1.b.; Article VI.K.; and Article VIII.D., in order to administer Article VI of this Ordinance; and,

3. when the community establishes a base flood elevation in a Zone A by methods outlined in Article III.H.1.b., the community shall submit that data to the Maine Floodplain Management Program in the State Planning Office.

F. Issue If the application satisfies the requirements of this Ordinance, approve the issuance of one of the following Flood Hazard Development Permits based on the type of development:

1. Issue A two part Flood Hazard Development Permit for elevated structures. Part I shall authorize the applicant to build a structure to and including the first horizontal floor only above the base flood level. At that time the applicant shall provide the Code Enforcement Officer with a second Elevation Certificate completed by a Professional Land Surveyor, registered professional engineer or architect based on the Part I permit construction, “as built”, for verifying compliance with the elevation requirements of Article VI, paragraphs F, G, or H. Following review of the Elevation Certificate data, which shall take place within 72 hours of receipt of the application, the Code Enforcement Officer shall issue Part II of the Flood Hazard Development Permit. Part II shall authorize the applicant to complete the construction project; or,
2. Issue A Flood Hazard Development Permit for Floodproofing of Non-Residential Structures that are new construction or substantially improved non-residential structures that are not being elevated but that meet the floodproofing standards of Article VI.G.1.a.,b., and c. The application for this permit shall include a Floodproofing Certificate signed by a registered professional engineer or architect; or,
3. Issue A Flood Hazard Development Permit for Minor Development for all development that is not new construction or a substantial improvement, such as repairs, maintenance, renovations, or additions, whose value is less than 50% of the market value of the structure. Minor development also includes, but is not limited to: accessory structures as provided for in Article VI.J., mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation, drilling operations, storage of equipment or materials, deposition or extraction of materials, public or private sewage disposal systems or water supply facilities that do not involve structures; and non-structural projects such as bridges, dams, towers, fencing, pipelines, wharves and piers.

ARTICLE VI - DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

All developments in areas of special flood hazard shall meet the following applicable standards:

K. **Floodways -**

1. In Zones A1-30 and AE riverine areas, encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvement, and other development shall not be permitted ~~in riverine areas, within a regulatory floodway for which a regulatory floodway~~ is designated on the community's "Flood Insurance Rate Map" or "Flood Boundary and Floodway Map," unless a technical evaluation certified by a registered professional engineer is provided demonstrating that such encroachments will not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

L. **Enclosed Areas Below the Lowest Floor** - New construction or substantial improvement of any structure in Zones A1-30, AE, AO, AH, and A that meets the development standards of Article VI, including the elevation requirements of Article VI, paragraphs F, G, or H and is elevated on posts, columns, piers, piles, "stilts," or crawlspaces may be enclosed below the base flood elevation requirements provided all the following criteria are met or exceeded:

1. Enclosed areas are not "basements" as defined in Article XIII;
2. Enclosed areas shall be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood water. Designs for meeting this requirement must either:
 - a. be engineered and certified by a registered professional engineer or architect; or,
 - b. meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:
 - (1) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of the enclosed area;
 - (2) the bottom of all openings shall be below the base flood elevation and no higher than one foot above the lowest grade; and,
 - (3) openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices provided that they permit the entry and exit of flood waters automatically without any external influence or control such as human intervention, including the use of electrical and other non-automatic mechanical means;
3. The enclosed area shall not be used for human habitation; and,
4. The enclosed areas are usable solely for building access, parking of vehicles, or ~~storing of articles and equipment used for maintenance of the building~~ storage.

ARTICLE VII - CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

No land in a special flood hazard area shall be occupied or used and no structure which is

constructed or substantially improved shall be occupied until a Certificate of Compliance is issued by the _____ subject to the following provisions:

- A. For New Construction or Substantial Improvement of any elevated structure the applicant shall submit to the _____, an Elevation Certificate completed by a Professional Land Surveyor, registered professional engineer, or architect, for compliance with Article VI, paragraphs F, G, or H.

ARTICLE VIII - REVIEW OF SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The Planning Board shall, when reviewing subdivisions and other proposed developments that require review under other federal law, state law or local ordinances or regulations and all projects on 5 or more disturbed acres, or in the case of manufactured home parks divided into two or more lots, assure that:

ARTICLE IX - APPEALS AND VARIANCES

The Board of Appeals of the (Town/City) of _____ may, upon written application of an aggrieved party, hear and decide appeals ~~from determinations of the~~ where it is alleged that there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by, or failure to act by, the _____ Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board in the administration of the provisions of this Ordinance.

The Board of Appeals may grant a variance from the requirements of this Ordinance consistent with state law and the following criteria:

- C. Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief, and the Board of Appeals may impose such conditions to a variance as it deems necessary.

- G. Appeal Procedure for Administrative and Variance Appeals
 1. An administrative or variance appeal may be taken to the Board of Appeals by an aggrieved party within thirty days after receipt of a written decision of the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board.
 2. Upon being notified of an appeal, the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board, as appropriate, shall transmit to the Board of Appeals all of the papers constituting the record of the decision appealed from.
 3. The Board of Appeals shall hold a public hearing on the appeal within thirty-five days of its receipt of an appeal request.
 4. The person filing the appeal shall have the burden of proof.
 5. The Board of Appeals shall decide all appeals within thirty-five days after the close of the hearing, and shall issue a written decision on all appeals.

6. The Board of Appeals shall submit to the _____ a report of all variance actions, including justification for the granting of the variance and an authorization for the _____ to issue a Flood Hazard Development Permit, which includes any conditions to be attached to said permit.
7. Any aggrieved party who participated as a party during the proceedings before the Board of Appeals may take an appeal to Superior Court in accordance with State laws within forty-five days from the date of any decision of the Board of Appeals.

ARTICLE XIII - DEFINITIONS

Elevated Building - means a non-basement building

- a. built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-30, AE, A, AO, or AH, to have the top of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns, post, piers, or "stilts;" and
- b. adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to one foot above the magnitude of the base flood.

In the case of Zones A1-30, AE, A, AO, or AH, **Elevated Building** also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with hydraulic openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood waters, as required in Article VI.L.

Elevation Certificate - An official form (FEMA Form 81-31, ~~03/97~~ 08/99, as amended) that:

- a. is used to verify compliance with the floodplain management regulations of the National Flood Insurance Program; and,
- b. is required for purchasing flood insurance.

Lowest Floor - means the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building's lowest floor, provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements described in Article VI.L. of this ordinance.

New Construction - means structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of the initial floodplain management regulations adopted by a community and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

Start of Construction - means the date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement, substantial improvement or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation.

Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, or modification of any construction element, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

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