

CHAPTER 177 - GENERAL REGULATIONS

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177.01 VISIBILITY AT INTERSECTIONS IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT. On a corner lot in a residential district, nothing shall be erected, placed, planted, or allowed to grow in such a manner as materially to impede vision between a height of two and one-half (2½) and ten (10) feet above the centerline grades of the intersecting streets in the area bounded by the street lines of such corner lots and a line joining points along said street lines twenty-five (25) feet from the point of intersection of [right-of-way lines](#).

177.02 FENCES, WALLS, AND HEDGES. Notwithstanding other provisions of the Zoning Code, fences, walls and hedges may be permitted in any required yard, or along the edge of any yard, provided that:

1. In a residential district, no fence, wall, or hedge in any front yard shall exceed forty-eight (48) inches in height; and no fence, wall or hedge shall exceed forty-eight (48) inches in height, from the front of the principal [dwelling](#), along the street side yard of a corner lot. Except, in the event that a fence in a front yard is an open chain link fence, said open chain link fence shall not exceed forty-eight (48) inches in height.
2. No fence or wall in any rear yard shall exceed six (6) feet in height in a residential district, or ten (10) feet in height in a commercial or industrial district unless otherwise approved by the [Board of Adjustment](#).
3. Facing: The finished surfaces of any fence hereafter erected shall face toward adjacent properties and street frontage. Every fence hereafter erected shall be done in the following manner: posts, supporting rails and other such supporting elements when located shall be on and face the property on which the fence is located.
4. In a residential, commercial or industrial district, over an overland flowage [easement](#), no fence, wall, or hedge shall be constructed unless the fence, wall or hedge is raised at least three (3) inches above the ground.

5. In a residential, commercial or industrial district, no fence shall be constructed within four (4) feet of an [alley right-of-way](#).
6. Construction and Maintenance: All fences shall be constructed in a sound and sturdy manner and shall be maintained in a good state of repair, including the replacement of defective parts, painting, and other acts required for maintenance. The Zoning Administrator after ten (10) days' written notice to the owner of the non-conforming fence, may order the removal of any fence that is not maintained in accordance with the provisions of this Code, and the cost of said removal shall be assessed against the property where said fence is located. An extension of time to bring the fence into maintenance conformance by the property owner may be granted to the property owner by the Zoning Administrator, upon the owner filing a verified statement that the delay is not a result of any act of the owner.
7. All fences shall be constructed and maintained with one or more of the following approved material(s): Chain Link, Vinyl coated chain link, Vinyl coated aluminum, wood metal, or PVC. Fences shall not be constructed utilizing one or more of the following prohibited materials, unless pre-approval is applied for at City Hall by property owner and granted by the City Council at a regularly scheduled City Council meeting: Barbed wire, razor wire, electric fence and any other material not specifically approved under this ordinance. The erection and use of Snow fences shall be prohibited within the City from the time period of April 1 through October 31 of each year.

(Ordinance 05-212)

(Ordinance 15-213)

177.03 STREET FRONTAGE REQUIRED. No lot shall contain any building used in whole or in part for residence purposes unless such lot [abuts](#) for at least forty (40) feet on at least one street, and there shall be not more than one (1) single-family dwelling for such frontage. The Council may also allow, at its own discretion, the construction of a building to be used in whole or in part for residence purposes on a lot which has an exclusive unobstructed private [easement](#) of access at least twenty (20) feet wide to a street, for one (1) single-family dwelling, if the Council determines that such construction is not in conflict with the intent of the Zoning Code.

177.04 ACCESSORY BUILDINGS. No [accessory building](#) shall be erected in any required court or in any yard other than a rear yard. [Accessory buildings](#) shall meet the appropriate bulk regulations for the zoning district listed in [Chapter 178](#). Only one (1) detached garage and one (1) yard shed shall be allowed in a rear yard (this is not to be construed as not allowing [gazebo](#)s, [greenhouses](#), shelters and

“children’s playhouses,” as long as the total aggregate building area does not exceed 30% of the rear yard). In A-1, R-1, R-2, R-4 Zoned Districts and for One & Two family dwelling lots in an R-3 and R-5 Zoning District, accessory garages shall be no larger than 1,000 square feet and yard sheds shall not be larger than 160 square feet. [Accessory buildings](#) shall be distant at least three (3) feet from [alley](#) lines, and/or lot lines of [adjoining lots](#). However, in no case shall any eave or overhang extend closer than twelve (12) inches to a rear or side yard line and no [accessory structure\(s\)](#), except those permitted pursuant to the provisions of [Ordinance Section 177.02 \(fences\)](#), shall be permitted to be constructed, placed, located or built in and/or on any flowage [easement](#). [Accessory buildings](#) may be built in utility [easements](#); however, the property owner will be responsible for any additional costs incurred by a utility company in working around, removing, relocating, [altering](#) or dealing in any way with an [accessory building](#) placed in a utility [easement](#). [Accessory buildings](#) must be erected separately from and six (6) feet distant (into rear yard) from the principal structure except in R-4 districts where [accessory building](#) shall be no closer than four (4) feet to the principal structure providing they meet all applicable fire and building codes as adopted. Any building so connected to the principal building shall be considered a part of the principal building and must meet the space requirements thereof. This regulation shall not be interpreted to prohibit the construction of a minimum two hundred forty (240) square foot, detached garage on a rear yard. No [accessory building](#) shall be constructed upon a lot until the construction of the principal building has been actually commenced, and no [accessory building](#) shall be used unless the principal building on the lot is being used. [Accessory buildings](#) exceeding 160 square feet in area shall be constructed of materials that are the same or similar to the principal building. [Accessory buildings](#) may be connected to the principal building by a breezeway with setbacks for the principal structure. An addition may be made to an existing principal structure which extends past the front of an existing legally established detached [accessory structure](#), provided no connection or attachment is made between the existing detached structure and the addition, unless setbacks can be met as required for a principal structure.

177.05 CORNER LOTS; SIDE YARDS. For corner lots platted after the effective date of the Zoning Code, the street side yard shall be equal in width to the setback regulations of the lots to the rear having frontage on the intersecting street.

177.06 BUILDING LINES ON APPROVED PLATS. Whenever the plat of a land subdivision approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission and on record in the office of the County Recorder shows a building line along any frontage for the purpose of creating a front yard or side street yard line, the building line thus shown shall apply along such frontage in place of any other yard line required in

the Zoning Code unless specific yard requirements in the Zoning Code require a greater setback.

177.07 EXCEPTIONS, MODIFICATIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS.

1. Structures Permitted Above Height Limit. No permit will be issued for any structure above height limits, except as specifically approved by the [Board of Adjustment](#).
2. Double Frontage Lots. Buildings on through lots and extending through from street to street shall provide the required front yard on both streets.
3. Rear and Side Yards Adjacent to [Alleys](#) - How Computed. In computing the depth of a rear yard or the width of a side yard where the rear or side yard opens on an [alley](#), one-half (½) of the [alley](#) width may be included as a portion of the rear or side yard as the case may be.
4. Other Exceptions to Yard Requirements. Every part of a required yard shall be open to the sky unobstructed with any building or structure, except for a permitted [accessory building](#) in a rear yard, and except for ordinary projections not to exceed twenty-four (24) inches, including roof overhang.
5. Billboards. No permit will be issued for any billboards except as specifically approved by the Council.
6. Front Yard Exceptions. In areas where some lots are developed with a front yard that is less than the minimum required for the district by this Zoning Code or where some lots have been developed with a front yard greater than required by the Zoning Code, the following rule shall apply. Any new building or addition in front thereof shall not be closer to the street [right-of-way](#) than the average of the front yard of the first building on each side within a distance of two hundred (200) feet measured from building to building, except as follows:
 - A. Buildings located entirely on the rear half of a lot shall not be counted.
 - B. No residential [dwelling](#) shall be required to have a front yard greater than fifty (50) feet.
 - C. If no building exists on one side of a lot within two hundred (200) feet of the lot in question, the minimum front yard shall be the same as the building on the other side.

- D. Zoning of Annexed Areas. Any land annexed to the City after the effective date of the Zoning Code shall be zoned A-1 Agricultural until the Planning and Zoning Commission and Council shall have studied the area and adopted a final zoning plan for the area. Said final zoning plan shall be adopted within six (6) months of the date of annexation.
- 7. Single-family, Semi-attached. Single-family, semi-attached dwellings are permitted only under the following terms and conditions:
 - A. A “single-family, semi-attached dwelling is a building designed for or occupied by one (1) family only and which is erected on a separate lot and is joined to another such residence on one (1) side only by a wall located on the lot line and has yards on the remaining sides.
 - B. Must have an “R-2” or “R-3” zoning.
 - C. Each unit must have its own water service, sewer service, and secondary storm sewer service.
 - D. The joining wall must be a party wall and must be a fire wall having a one-hour rating.
 - E. Covenants must be submitted which address all legal implications associated with shared walls.
 - 8. Public Parkland Setback Requirements. All structures located on properties designated for public parkland are not subject to setback requirements except as listed below:
 - A. No structure shall be constructed so as to impede visibility at intersections as described in Section 177.01.

(Ordinance No. 231016-223)

177.08 OFF-STREET LOADING SPACES REQUIRED. In a “C” or “M” District, in connection with every building or part thereof hereafter erected having a gross floor area of ten thousand (10,000) square feet or more, which is to be occupied by manufacturing, storage, warehouse, goods display, retail store, wholesale store, market, [hotel](#), hospital, mortuary, laundry, dry cleaning or other uses similarly requiring the receipt or distribution by vehicles of material or merchandise, there shall be provided and maintained on the same lot with such building at least one (1) off-street loading space plus one (1) additional loading space for each twenty thousand (20,000) square feet or major fraction thereof of gross floor area so used in excess of ten thousand (10,000) square feet.

1. Each loading space shall be not less than ten (10) feet in width, twenty-five (25) feet in length.
2. Such space may occupy all or any part of any required yard or court space.

177.09 OFF-STREET PARKING AREA REQUIRED. In all districts, in connection with every industrial, business, institutional, recreational, or any other use, there shall be provided, at the time any building or structure is erected or is enlarged or increased in capacity, off-street parking spaces for automobiles in accordance with the following requirements:

1. Automobile sales and service garages: one (1) space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
2. Business and professional offices: one (1) space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
3. Bowling alleys: five (5) spaces for each alley plus one (1) space per 300 square feet of gross floor area used for purposes other than alley space.
4. Schools:
 - A. One (1) space for each eight (8) seats in a principal auditorium.
 - B. When no auditorium is involved, one (1) space for every two (2) employees.
5. Convenience stores: one (1) space per 150 square feet of gross floor area.
6. Dance halls, assembly halls: one (1) space for each 200 square feet of floor area used for dancing or assembly.
7. Dwellings:
 - A. Single-family dwelling - two (2) parking spaces accessible to the street;
 - B. Duplex family dwelling - four (4) parking spaces accessible to the street;
 - C. Multi-family dwelling - for each one (1) bedroom unit - 1½ parking spaces; for each two (2) bedroom unit, or larger - 2 parking spaces.
8. Funeral homes, mortuaries: one (1) parking space for each five (5) seats in the principal auditorium.

9. [Hotels](#) and [motels](#): one (1) space for each room to be rented plus additional space (in accordance with other sections of this chapter) for restaurant or other facilities.
10. Medical or dental clinic: five (5) spaces for each staff doctor or dentist.
11. Restaurants, bars, or night clubs:
 - A. One (1) space per fifty (50) square feet of gross floor area devoted to patron use within property. In addition, one (1) parking space must be provided for each person regularly employed or intended to be regularly employed on the premises during the maximum working shift.
 - B. All food and beverage service drive-thrus shall provide a minimum of eleven (11) vehicle queuing spaces per drive-thru, 5 of which must be located ahead of the ordering station if separate from the pick-up window. All other drive-thru and pick-up windows shall have a minimum of 4 vehicle queuing spaces. Queuing spaces shall be a minimum of 12 feet wide and 20 feet long and must be located within any driveway or parking lot drive aisle and cannot block any designated parking spaces.
12. Hospitals: two (2) spaces per bed or one (1) space per 150 square feet of gross floor area, whichever is greater.
13. Nursing care institutions: three (3) spaces for every five (5) beds. Multi-family units developed or sponsored by a public or nonprofit agency for limited income families or the elderly require only one (1) space per unit.
14. Movie theaters: one (1) space for every four (4) seats.
15. Social, fraternal clubs, lodges and similar uses: one (1) space per 300 square feet of gross floor area.
16. Churches: one (1) space for every 80 square feet of worship area plus one (1) space for every two (2) employees with sufficient space for safe and convenient loading and unloading.
17. Banks: one (1) space per 200 square feet of area within main building plus reservoir land capacity equal to five (5) spaces per window (10 spaces if window serves two stations).
18. Wholesale: one (1) space per 400 square feet of gross floor area.
19. [Retail sales](#) and rental of goods, merchandise and equipment:

- A. No storage or display of goods outside fully enclosed building: one (1) space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
 - B. Low volume traffic with no storage or display of goods outside fully enclosed building: one (1) space per 400 square feet of gross floor area.
 - C. Storage and display of goods outside fully enclosed building allowed:
 - (1) High volume traffic generation: one (1) space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
 - (2) Low volume traffic generation: one (1) space per 400 square feet of gross floor area.
- 20. Manufacturing plants, testing laboratories, bottling plants: one (1) space for each 1.5 plant employees plus one (1) space for each managerial person plus one (1) visitor parking space for each ten (10) managerial personnel or one (1) space for each 500 square feet of gross floor area used for manufacturing, whichever is greater.
 - 21. Warehousing: one (1) space per employee.
 - 22. Sports arenas and auditoriums other than in schools: one (1) space for each six (6) seats.
 - 23. Car wash: one (1) space per employee plus one (1) space for manager plus space equaling five times the vehicle capacity of the wash.
 - 24. Dry cleaner or Laundromat: one (1) space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
 - 25. Nursery schools or day care centers: 1space/2employees + 1 space/5children
 - 26. Commercial greenhouse operation: one (1) space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
 - 27. Fitness center: one (1) space per 200 square feet of gross floor area.
 - 28. If a building contains two or more differing uses, the parking requirement shall be determined by the addition of the parking requirements for each use.

In case of any building, structure or premises the use of which is not specifically mentioned herein, requirements for a use which is so mentioned and to which said use is similar shall apply. In cases not specifically covered, the City Administrator is authorized to determine the parking requirements using a similar use as a guide.

177.10 DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PARKING AND OUTDOOR STORAGE AREAS. All proposed off-street parking, including commercial parking lots and automobile, trailer or other vehicular sales lots, in conjunction with any multi-family residential, commercial, industrial, public or semi-public land use, and outdoor storage areas, whether such use is existing or proposed, shall meet all of the required development standards set forth in this section:

1. No part of any parking space shall be closer than ten (10) to any established street [right-of-way](#) or [alley](#) line
2. Any off-street [parking area](#), including any commercial parking lot, shall be surfaced with an asphaltic or portland cement binder pavement.
3. Any lighting used to illuminate any off-street [parking area](#) including any commercial parking lots, shall be so arranged as to reflect the light away from adjoining premises in any “R” District.
4. Off-street [parking area](#) may be established in any “R” District that immediately joins a “C” or “M” District, or is directly across an [alley](#) from a “C” or “M” District, provided such parking shall be accessory to and for use of one or more business or industrial establishments located in the adjoining “C” or “M” District; provided, however, that such transitional use shall not extend more than one hundred (100) feet from the boundary of the less restricted [zone](#).
5. Where the Zoning Code and regulations specify parking space, that space size shall be determined in accordance with the layout criteria and the table of standard dimensions. Handicapped stalls shall be provided as required by the [Code of Iowa](#). The spaces shall be delineated to define their boundaries exclusive of driveway and access drive areas, except for one and two family dwelling units, and shall be shown as part of the parking lot plan on the site plan drawing.
6. Where a [parking area](#) does not [abut](#) a public or private [alley](#) or [easement](#) of access, there shall be provided a permanently surfaced drive, not less than eight (8) feet in width in case of a [dwelling](#) and not less than sixteen (16) feet in width in all other cases, leading to the loading or unloading spaces and parking or storage areas required under the provisions of this chapter in such manner as to secure the most appropriate development of the property in question; provided, however, such [easement](#) of access or access

drive shall not be located in any residence district, except where serving a permitted use in a residence district.

7. Interior [parking area](#) landscaping shall be installed in accordance with [Section 182.04, Landscape Requirements](#).
8. Parking spaces required shall be provided with bumper guards, raised curbing or equivalent, also lines marking stalls.
9. Common drives between adjacent landowners shall be encouraged and may be required by the City Engineer in lieu of individual drives. Where such common drive is provided and joint access [easements](#) to [parking areas](#) are provided, required parking spaces on each lot as regulated by [Section 177.09](#) may be reduced in number by up to five percent (5%).
10. Maintenance of parking lots:
 - A. All [parking areas](#) shall be paved and maintained in a dust-free condition at all times.
 - B. If nonconforming (rock, gravel, grass, etc.), the parking lot must be kept in a dust-free condition. (Nonconforming uses of land, see [Section 176.03 of this Code of Ordinances](#).)
11. Maintenance of outdoor storage areas:
 - A. Other than as provided for in 11.b, all outdoor storage areas shall be surfaced with asphaltic or portland cement binder pavement, permanent impervious surface or other material reviewed and approved by the Public Works Director or his/her designee.
 - B. Industrial special uses with outdoor storage as an accessory use, up to 20% of the designated outdoor storage area may be gravel, loose rock surface and/or milled asphalt upon review and recommendation by the Planning and Zoning Commission and approval of the City Council. The surface must be kept in a dust-free condition. All driving lanes must be surfaced with asphaltic or portland cement binder pavement, permanent impervious surface.
 - C. All outdoor storage areas must be properly screened in accordance with Section 179.02.5.

177.11 TV DISH ANTENNAS. Any parabolic, spiracle, or other shaped structure used for, or intended to be used for, reception of satellite transmissions, shall meet all of the required development standards set forth in this section:

1. Prior to issuing a building permit, the following must be on file with the City Building Inspection Department:
 - A. General placement diagram
 - B. Manufacturer's specifications
 - C. Wind stress information.
2. No portion of an antenna array shall extend beyond the property lines or into any front yard area, with the exception that any building mounted dish antennae, twenty-four (24) inches in diameter or less, may be located on any side of a structure.
3. A maximum dish antenna height of twenty (20) feet for freestanding dish antennae.
4. To support dish antenna exceeding twenty-four (24) inches in diameter, a three to seven square foot concrete base must be provided.
5. Dish antennas shall be erected or maintained to the rear of the main building, except in those instances when the subject property is a cul-de-sac or corner lot where the side yard is larger than the rear yard in which case a permit may be requested for a side yard antenna location.
6. Dish antennas shall not be located in any required setback area.
7. Dish antennas exceeding twenty-four (24) inches in diameter shall not be permitted on the roof unless engineering is provided for structural or wind load.
8. Every antenna must be adequately grounded per manufacturer's recommendation.
9. The dish antenna including any guy wires, anchors, supporting structures, and accessory equipment shall be located and designed so as to minimize the visual impact on surrounding properties and from public streets.
10. The dish antenna shall be removed upon the termination or revocation of the permit. The permit shall terminate on the sale or transfer of ownership of the property by the applicant.
11. All dish antennas shall be maintained in good condition and in accordance with all requirements of this section.
12. All dish antennas shall be subject to periodic re-inspection. No additions, changes, or modifications shall be made to an antenna,

unless the addition, change or modification is in conformity with the Building Code.

13. The applicant shall present documentation of the possession of any required license by any Federal, State, or local agency.
14. The owner of such a structure shall assume complete liability in case of personal or property damage.
15. Failure to abide by and faithfully comply with this section or with any and all conditions that may be attached to the granting of any building permit shall constitute grounds for the revocation of the permit by the City.
16. A [conditional use permit](#) must be issued for any dish antenna exceeding six (6) feet in diameter, prior to issuance of a building permit by the City Building Inspection Department.

177.12 FREESTANDING COMMUNICATION TOWERS. Any freestanding communication tower located in any district shall meet all of the required development standards set forth in this section:

1. Prior to issuing a building permit, the following must be on file with the City Building Inspection Department:
 - A. General placement diagram
 - B. Manufacturer's specifications
 - C. Wind stress information.
2. Maximum tower height to be 70 feet from tip to ground level with an additional 25 feet for mast and antenna. Antenna and mast on the tower must conform to sound engineering practices. Guy wires are to be installed per manufacturer's recommendations on applicable models, with a minimum quantity of three (3) guy wires.
3. Guy wire supports and anchors are to be located one foot inside property boundaries or utility [easement](#), and of design to conform to current methods recommended by manufacturer's specifications or other applicable requirements.
4. The tower is to be mounted on a concrete pad twice the cross-sectional area of the largest section. A minimum of four square feet is required and three feet deep. If the tower is to be installed in concrete, a gravel or sand sub-layer is to be under the pad with the tower resting in this for drainage. Where the tower goes through the concrete, a sealing substance (e.g., tar) is to be applied. If the manufacturer's recommendations are more strenuous, they are to be followed.

5. An anti-climbing apparatus is to be installed to prevent unauthorized ascension on all communication towers except All Band Vertical Antennas.
6. Tower to be the height plus five feet angular distance from base to overhead lines or permanent neighboring domicile. Exception: Towers with guy wires that are rated for collapsible distance, the collapsible distance plus five feet may be used.
7. If the tower is located near a recreation area, shelter buildings will be considered as permanent domiciles.
8. Each location is permitted one tower over 20 feet, with a limit of two additional communication towers 20 feet or less.
9. All towers shall be erected or maintained to the rear of the main building, except in those instances when the subject property is a cul-de-sac or corner lot where the side yard is larger than the rear yard in which case a permit may be requested for a side yard tower location.
10. The tower is to be grounded per manufacturer's recommendation.
11. The transmission lines must meet municipal requirements on installation.
12. If property dimensions permit taller towers, an exception can be obtained from the [Board of Adjustment](#) on the overall dimensions, if applicable clearances are still met.
13. The freestanding communication tower including any guy wires, anchors, supporting structures, and accessory equipment shall be located and designed so as to minimize the visual impact on surrounding properties and from public streets.
14. The freestanding communication tower shall be removed upon the termination or revocation of the permit. The permit shall terminate on the sale or transfer of ownership of the property by the applicant.
15. All freestanding communication tower shall be maintained in good condition and in accordance with all requirements of this section.
16. All freestanding communication tower shall be subject to periodic re-inspection. No additions, changes, or modifications shall be made to an antenna, unless the addition, change or modification is in conformity with the Building Code.
17. The applicant shall present documentation of the possession of any required license by any Federal, State, or local agency.

18. The owner of such a structure shall assume complete liability in case of personal or property damage.
19. Failure to abide by and faithfully comply with this section or with any and all conditions that may be attached to the granting of any building permit shall constitute grounds for the revocation of the permit by the City.

177.13 BUILDING SUPPORTED COMMUNICATION TOWERS. Any building supported communication tower located in any district shall meet all of the required development standards set forth in this section:

1. Prior to issuing a building permit, the following must be on file with the City Building Inspection Department:
 - A. General placement diagram
 - B. Manufacturer's specifications
 - C. Wind stress information.
2. Towers and antenna may not be more than 30 feet above the utmost point of building contact with an additional 25 feet for multiple antenna connections.
3. The tower is to be strapped at least every five feet to said building or per manufacturer's instructions. The tripod type is to be attached via connection to the building's main structures.
4. An anti-climbing apparatus is to be installed to prevent unauthorized ascension on all communication towers except All Band Vertical Antennas.
5. The tower is to be grounded per manufacturer's recommendations.
6. There is to be an angular clearance of communication tower height from tip to top building support plus 15 feet to any neighboring domicile, overhead lines, or buildings and shelter buildings located on recreational facilities.
7. Only two radio communication support towers per residential location, with only one located per building side. They may not be located in the front yard.
8. Transmission lines must meet municipal requirements on installation.
9. The building supported communication tower including any guy wires, anchors, supporting structures, and accessory equipment shall be located and designed so as to minimize the visual impact on surrounding properties and from public streets.

10. The building supported communication tower shall be removed upon the termination or revocation of the permit. The permit shall terminate on the sale or transfer of ownership of the property by the applicant.
11. All building supported communication tower shall be maintained in good condition and in accordance with all requirements of this section.
12. All building supported communication tower shall be subject to periodic re-inspection. No additions, changes, or modifications shall be made to an antenna, unless the addition, change or modification is in conformity with the Building Code.
13. The applicant shall present documentation of the possession of any required license by any Federal, State, or local agency.
14. The owner of such a structure shall assume complete liability in case of personal or property damage.
15. Failure to abide by and faithfully comply with this section or with any and all conditions that may be attached to the granting of any building permit shall constitute grounds for the revocation of the permit by the City.

177.14 WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS (WECS). Any “Wind (Generator) Energy Conversion System (WECS)” or device that converts wind power to another form of energy, such as electricity or heat, including wind chargers, wind turbines, and windmills shall meet all of the required development standards set forth in this section:

1. Prior to issuing a building permit, the following must be on file with the City Building Inspection Department:
 - A. General placement diagram;
 - B. Manufacturer’s specifications;
 - C. Certification by a registered, qualified engineer that the foundation, tower, and mechanical system comply with appropriate building codes;
 - D. Proof of personal injury and property damage insurance, insuring the applicant and the City against all claims or causes of action made against either or both applicant and City for damages to persons or property arising out of the construction, operation and maintenance of WECS.
2. A maximum height of 45 feet is allowed for WECS.

3. The minimum setback from the nearest property line to the base of the WECS shall be no less than the height of the proposed WECS from ground level to its uppermost element.
4. Wind energy conversion systems shall be erected or maintained to the rear of the main building, except in those instances where the subject property is a cul-de-sac or corner lot where the side yard is larger than the rear yard in which case a permit may be requested for a side yard WECS location.
5. WECS shall not be located in any required setback area.
6. The minimum distance between the ground and any protruding blades utilized on a WECS shall be fifteen (15) feet, as measured at the lowest point of the arc of the blades. The minimum distance shall be increased as necessary to provide for vehicle clearance in locations where over-sized vehicles might travel.
7. Climbing access to the WECS tower shall be limited by means of a fence six (6) feet in height around the tower base with a locking portal or by limiting tower climbing apparatus to no less than twelve (12) feet from the ground.
8. Cables, ropes, or wires used to secure the WECS shall be appropriately marked to prevent accidental bodily harm.
9. Warning signs shall be posted where clearly visible to warn of electrical and other hazards associated with the WECS.
10. The WECS operation shall not cause interference to the radio and television reception on adjoining property.
11. Excessive or annoying noise will not be produced during operation of the WECS.
12. All WECS shall be designed with an automatic overspeed control to render the system inoperable when winds are blowing in excess of the speeds for which the machine was designed.
13. All WECS shall have a manually operable method to render the system inoperable in the event of structural or mechanical failure of any part of the system including the automatic overspeed control.
14. If connected to a utility system, the WECS shall meet the "tie-in" requirements of the Iowa Public Utilities Commission.
15. The wind energy conversion system including any guy wires, anchors, supporting structures, and accessory equipment shall be located and designed so as to minimize the visual impact on surrounding properties and from public streets.

16. The wind energy conversion system shall be removed upon the termination or revocation of the permit. The permit shall terminate on the sale or transfer of ownership of the property by the applicant.
17. All wind energy conversion system shall be maintained in good condition and in accordance with all requirements of this section.
18. All wind energy conversion system shall be subject to periodic re-inspection. No additions, changes, or modifications shall be made to an antenna, unless the addition, change or modification is in conformity with the Building Code.
19. The applicant shall present documentation of the possession of any required license by any Federal, State, or local agency.
20. The owner of such a structure shall assume complete liability in case of personal or property damage.
21. Failure to abide by and faithfully comply with this section or with any and all conditions that may be attached to the granting of any building permit shall constitute grounds for the revocation of the permit by the City.

177.15 HOME OCCUPATIONS. “Home occupation” means any activity carried out for gain by a resident, conducted in the resident’s dwelling unit. Those requirements are as follows:

1. The home occupation complies with the lot size, bulk regulations and parking requirements of the zoning district in which the home occupation is located.
2. Home occupations shall meet the following requirements:
 - A. No persons other than a member of the immediate family occupying such [dwelling](#) shall be employed.
 - B. The home occupation shall be conducted only within the enclosed living area of the dwelling unit provided that not more than one-fourth of the area of one floor shall be used for such purposes.
 - C. In no way shall the appearance of the structure be [altered](#) or the occupations within the residence be conducted in a manner which would cause the premises to differ from its residential character either by the use of colors, materials, construction, lighting, signs or the emission of sounds, noise or vibrations.

3. In addition to the requirements of the zoning district in which it is located, all home occupations shall comply with the following restrictions:
 - A. No stock in trade shall be displayed or sold on the premises.
 - B. There shall be no outdoor storage of equipment or materials used in the home occupation.
 - C. No more than one vehicle shall be used in the conduct of the home occupation.
 - D. Any need for parking generated by the conduct of such home occupation shall be met off the street and other than in a required front yard.
 - E. There shall be no use of utilities or community facilities beyond that normal to the use of the property for residential purposes.
 - F. No home occupation shall be permitted which is noxious, offensive or hazardous by reason of vehicular traffic, generation or emission of noise, vibration, smoke, dust or other particulate matter, odorous matter, heat, humidity, glare, refuse, radiation or other objectionable emissions.