

ARTICLE 4

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE

FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE

Regular Phase

PART 1. STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION, FINDINGS OF FACT, PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES.

SECTION 144.01. STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION.

The Legislature of the State of North Carolina has in Part 6, Article 21 of Chapter 143; Parts 3, 5, and 8 of Article 19 of Chapter 160A; and Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the N. C. General Statutes, delegated the responsibility to local governmental units to adopt regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry. Therefore, the Town Council of Sparta, North Carolina does ordain as follows:

SECTION 144.02. FINDINGS OF FACT.

- (1) The flood hazard areas of Sparta are subject to periodic inundation which results in loss of life, property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures of flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety and general welfare.
- (2) These flood losses are caused by the cumulative effect of obstructions in flood plains causing increases in flood heights and velocities, and by the occupancy in flood hazard areas by uses vulnerable to floods or hazardous to other lands which are inadequately elevated, flood-proofed, or otherwise unprotected from flood damages.

SECTION 144.03. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.

It is the purpose of this ordinance to promote the public health, safety and general welfare and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed to:

- (1) restrict or prohibit uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural flood plains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accomodation of flood waters;

- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damage; and,
- (5) prevent or regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands.

#### SECTION 144.04. OBJECTIVES.

The objectives of this ordinance are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone and sewer lines, streets and bridges located in flood plains;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of flood prone areas in such a manner as to minimize flood blight areas; and,
- (7) to insure that potential home buyers are notified that property is in a flood area.

#### PART 2. DEFINITIONS.

Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this ordinance shall be interpreted so as to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this ordinance its most reasonable application.

"Appeal" means a request from a review of the local administrator's interpretation of any provision of this ordinance.

"Addition (to an existing building)" means any walled and roofed expansion to the perimeter of a building in which the addition is connected by a common load-bearing wall other than a fire wall. Any walled and roofed addition which is connected by a fire wall or is separated by independent perimeter load-bearing walls is new construction.