

ORDINANCE #2011-01 OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

AMENDING CHAPTER 38 "BUILDING CONSTRUCTION," SECTIONS 38-1 AND 38-5, OF THE DURHAM TOWN CODE, TO CODIFY THE TOWN'S SUPPORT FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY BUILDING STANDARDS BY ESTABLISHING AS A BUILDING CONSTRUCTION ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARD THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ENERGY COUNCIL CODE FOR CLIMATE ZONE 6

WHEREAS, the Durham Town Council placed the New Hampshire Climate Change Resolution on the March 13, 2007 town ballot; and

WHEREAS, the voters of the Town of Durham adopted the New Hampshire Climate Change Resolution by a margin of 1447 for and 254 against; and

WHEREAS, the New Hampshire Climate Change Resolution contained the following paragraph:

"In addition, the Town of Durham encourages New Hampshire citizens to work for emission reductions within their communities, and we ask our Town Council to consider the appointment of a voluntary energy committee to recommend local steps to save energy and reduce emissions."; and

WHEREAS, the Durham Town Council, the governing body of the Town of Durham, New Hampshire, on April 23, 2007 adopted Resolution #2007-14 creating an advisory committee called the Energy Committee Steering Committee, now known as the Energy Committee; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire's adoption of the 2009 edition of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) on April 1, 2010 classified Strafford County as Climate Zone 5, along with Massachusetts to the south; and

WHEREAS, similar-latitude counties in Vermont and Maine are classified as Climate Zone 6; and

WHEREAS, prior to April 1, 2010 Strafford County had been classified as Climate Zone 6; and

WHEREAS, construction design significantly influences a structure's consumption of heating oil and electricity throughout its life; and

WHEREAS, Climate Zone 6 construction design standards are more energy-efficient than Climate Zone 5, with minimal upfront cost; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 38, Section 38-1. "Purpose" does not currently provide for standards relative to energy conservation or energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 38, Section 38-5. "Conformity to building codes required" references an outdated set of codes, i.e., 1990 Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA) codes; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Committee has considered the benefit to the Town of requiring that the current printed edition of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) be used for all energy code construction in the Town of Durham based on all Climate Zone 6 design criteria and advises the Durham Council to do so;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Durham Town Council, the governing body of the Town of Durham, New Hampshire hereby adopts Ordinance #2011-02 and does hereby amend Chapter 38 "Building Construction," Section 38-1 and Section 38-5 of the Durham Town Code by codifying the town's support for energy efficiency building standards by establishing as a building construction energy efficiency standard the current International Energy Conservation Code for climate zone 6.

Wording to be omitted is annotated with ~~strikeout~~ type. New wording is annotated with underscoring.

38-1. Purpose

The purpose of these regulations is to provide for the public safety, health and welfare through the establishment and enforcement of standards of construction for structural strength, adequate means of egress, sanitary equipment, light and ventilation, energy efficiency and fire safety and in general to secure safety to life and property from all hazards incidental to the design, erection, repair, removal, demolition or use and occupancy of buildings, structures or premises.

38-5. Conformity to building codes required.

All construction in the Town of Durham shall conform to the current Life Safety Codes, National Electrical Codes and applicable state laws and NFPA & ICC adopted codes, ~~to 1990 Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA)~~ codes and to current applicable town ordinances and construction requirements. The current printed edition of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) shall be used for all energy code construction in the Town of Durham based on all Climate Zone 6 design criteria.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Durham, New Hampshire this 24th day of January, 2011 by Seven (7) affirmative votes, Zero (0) negative votes, and Zero (0) abstentions.

Diana Carroll, Chair
Durham Town Council

ATTEST:

Lorrie Pitt, Town Clerk