

ORDINANCE NO. 6677

AN ORDINANCE OF TAYLOR TOWNSHIP, BLAIR
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING A
FIRE PREVENTION CODE WHICH PRESCRIBES
REGULATIONS GOVERNING CONDITIONS
HAZARDOUS TO LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM FIRE

The Township Supervisors of Taylor Township do enact and
ordain:

ARTICLE I. INTENT AND APPLICATION OF CODE

Section 1: Intent of Code. It is the intent of this code to
prescribe regulations for the safeguarding, to a reasonable degree, of life
and property from the hazards of fire and from conditions hazardous to life
and property in the use or occupancy of buildings or premises.

Section 2: Application of Code. The provisions of this code
shall apply equally to new and existing conditions, provided, however that
existing conditions not in strict compliance with the terms of the code shall
be permitted to continue in those cases in which the exceptions, in the opinion
of the Fire Marshall, do not constitute a distinct hazard to life or property.

ARTICLE II. PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FIRE IN GENERAL

Section 1: Bonfires and Outdoor Rubbish Fires.

(a) Permit Required: No person shall kindle or maintain
any bonfire or rubbish fire, during demolition of buildings or structures, on
the premises or in the immediate vicinity without having obtained a permit or
other proper authorization from the Secretary of the Board of Supervisors of
Taylor Township.

(b) Attendance of Open Fires: Bonfires or rubbish fires
shall be attended by a competent person at all times until such fire is extin-
guished.

Section 2: Accumulations of Waste Materials. Accumulation of waste materials on roofs, courts, yards, vacant lots and open spaces is prohibited. Such areas shall be kept clear at all times of paper, litter or combustible waste or rubbish of any kind. All weeds, grass, vines or other growth, when the same endangers life or property, or is liable to be fired, shall be cut down and removed by the owner or occupant.

Section 3: Maintenance of Chimneys.

(a) Chimneys, flues, and vents or similar devices for conveying hot gasses to the exterior of any building shall be maintained in a manner which does not create a hazardous condition.

(b) Existing masonry chimneys, flues or vents which, upon inspection, are found to be without a flue liner and with open mortar joints which permit smoke or gases to be discharged into the building or structure, or which are cracked and are therefore dangerous, shall be repaired or removed.

(c) Existing chimney and vent connectors of metal which are corroded or improperly supported shall be repaired.

ARTICLE III. ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION OF FIRE MARSHALL, AND ISSUANCE AND SERVING OF ORDERS.

Section 1: Establishment of Fire Marshall and Term of Service: The position of Fire Marshall of Taylor Township is hereby established. The Fire Marshall shall be appointed by the Supervisors of Taylor Township to serve until resignation, death or until removed by the Supervisors of Taylor Township and a successor is appointed. The Fire Marshall shall be responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of this code.

Section 2: Authority to Enter Premises:

(a) The Fire Marshall may, at all reasonable hours, enter any building or premises for the purpose of making any inspection or

investigation which, under the provisions of this code, he may deem necessary to be made.

(b) The Fire Marshall shall be permitted by the owner, lessee, manager, or operator of any building or premise to enter and inspect their buildings or premises at the time and for the purpose stated in this section.

Section 3: Inspection of Buildings and Premises. It shall be the duty of the Fire Marshall to inspect all buildings and premises, except the interiors of privately owned and occupied dwellings, as often as may be necessary for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to endanger the life and property of the citizens of Taylor Township, or any violations of the provisions or intent of this code.

Section 4: Orders to Eliminate Dangerous or Hazardous Conditions. Whenever the Fire Marshall shall find in any building or upon any premises, dangerous or hazardous conditions or materials which would endanger the life or property of any of the citizens of Taylor Township, he shall give orders to have the condition remedied or removed in such manner as required by him.

Section 5: Serving of Orders.

(a) The serving of orders for the correction of violations of this code shall be made upon the owner, occupant, or other persons responsible for the conditions. The orders shall be delivered by certified or registered mail to the last known address of the person responsible for the condition.

(b) If buildings or other premises are owned by one person and occupied by another under lease or otherwise, the orders issued in connection with the enforcing of this code shall apply to the occupant thereof, except where the rules or orders require the making of additions to or changes

in the premises themselves, such as would immediately become a part of the real estate and be the property of the owner and not the occupant, unless it is otherwise agreed to between the owner and the occupant.

Section 6: Investigation of Fires. The Fire Marshall shall investigate the cause, origin and circumstances of all fires occurring in Taylor Township which involves the loss of life or property or injury to persons, or by which property has been substantially damaged. Such investigations shall be begun immediately upon the occurrence of such fire.

Section 7: Fire Records. The Fire Marshall shall keep on file a record of all fires occurring in Taylor Township, which records shall set forth the amount of damage and whether such damage is covered by insurance. These records shall be submitted in one final report, which shall be turned over to the Township Supervisors as soon as possible after December 31st of each year.

ARTICLE IV. PENALTIES

(a) Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this code or who fail to comply therewith, or who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made hereunder, or who shall fail to comply with such an order as affirmed or modified by the Fire Marshall, within the time fixed, shall severally for each and every such violation, be punished by a fine of not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). The imposition of one penalty for any violation shall not be an excuse for the violation to continue, and all such persons shall be required to correct or remedy such violations or defects within a reasonable time; and when not otherwise specified, each Thirty (30) days that prohibited conditions are maintained shall constitute a separate offense.

(b) The application of the above penalty shall not be held to prevent the enforced removal of the hazard or prohibited conditions as otherwise permitted by law.

ARTICLE V. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 1: Validity. The Board of Supervisors of Taylor Township hereby declares that should any section, paragraph, sentence or word of this code or ordinance be declared for any reason to be invalid, it is the intent of the Taylor Township Board of Supervisors that it would have passed all other portions of this code or ordinance independent of the elimination herefrom of any such portion as shall be declared invalid.

Section 2: Liability for Damages. This code shall not be construed to hold the Township of Taylor responsible for any damages to persons or property by reason of the inspection or reinspection authorized herein.

Section 3: Effective Date. The effective date of this Ordinance shall be five days after the ordaining and enactment thereof.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED as an Ordinance of Taylor Township
this 6th day of June, 1977.

TAYLOR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

Wilfred J. Moore
Secretary

Ralph W. Brumbaugh
Elmer S. Keith