

ORDINANCE RECORD

REDFIELD DIRECT E2401275KV

ORDINANCE NO. 1542

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2.04, ARTICLE 6 (SECTIONS 6.01 THROUGH 6.05), SECTION 7.15 AND ARTICLE 8 (SECTIONS 8.01 THROUGH 8.04) OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 848 (ZONING ORDINANCE), AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED; TO REPEAL SECTION 2.04, ARTICLE 6(SECTIONS 6.01 THROUGH 6.05), SECTION 7.15 AND ARTICLE 8 (SECTIONS 8.01 THROUGH 8.04) OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 848, AS PREVIOUSLY ENACTED AND AMENDED; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; AND TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION AND THE EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VISTA, SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA:

Amendment of Article 6 (Sections 6.01 through 6.05). Article 6 (Sections 6.01 through 6.05) of the Zoning Ordinance Update adopted by Ordinance No. 848, as previously amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE 6: CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS

Section 6.01 General Provisions. The City Council may, by conditional use permit after a Public Hearing and referral to and recommendation from the Planning Commission, authorize and permit conditional uses as designated in the district use regulations. Approval shall be based on findings that the location and characteristics of the use will not be detrimental to the health, safety, morals, and general welfare of the area.

Allowable uses may be permitted, enlarged, or altered upon application for a conditional use permit in accordance with the rules and procedures of this ordinance. The Council may grant or deny a conditional use permit in accordance with the intent and purpose of this ordinance. In granting a conditional use permit, the Council will authorize the issuance of a conditional use permit and shall prescribe and impose appropriate conditions, safeguards, and a specified time limit for the performance of the conditional use permit.

Section 6.02 Application for Conditional Use Permits. A request for a conditional use permit or modification of a conditional use permit may be initiated by a property owner or his or her authorized agent by filing an application with the City upon forms prescribed for the purpose. The application shall be accompanied by a drawing or site plan and other such plans and data showing the dimensions, arrangements, descriptions data, and other materials constituting a record essential to an understanding of the proposed use and proposed modifications in relation to the provisions set forth herein. A plan as to the operation and maintenance of the proposed use shall also be submitted. The application shall be accompanied with a non-refundable fee.

Section 6.03 Public Hearing. Before issuance of any conditional use permit, the Council will consider the application for the conditional use permit together with the recommendations of the Planning Commission at a public hearing after prior notice of the time, place, and purpose of the hearing has been given by publication in a legal paper of general circulation in the City of La Vista, one time at least ten (10) days prior to such hearing.

Section 6.04 Decisions. A majority vote of the Council shall be necessary to grant a conditional use permit. No order of the Council granting a conditional use permit, which has not been acted upon by the applicant, meaning that the use has been commenced or construction has been initiated, shall be valid for a period longer than twelve (12) months from the date of such order. Unless the following is completed:

- 6.04.01 City staff has granted an additional twelve (12) month administrative extension provided:
- 6.04.01.01 The character (including uses, parking conditions, traffic, and others) of the area in which the use(s) were approved has not changed significantly,
- 6.04.01.02 The applicant has made some effort to follow through with said permit or there were circumstances that slowed the applicants' progress.
- 6.04.01.03 If the administrative extension of the fourth twelve (12) month period has lapsed without establishment of said conditionally permitted use; or, if staff deems the character of the area has changed within the latest extension period, the applicant shall be required to reapply to both the Planning Commission and City Council for further approval(s).

ORDINANCE RECORD

Section 6.05 Standards. No conditional use permit shall be granted unless that Planning Commission or City Council has found:

- 6.05.01 That the establishment, maintenance, or operation of the conditional use will not be detrimental to or endanger the public health, safety, moral, comfort, or general welfare of the community.
- 6.05.02 That the conditional use will not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of other property in the immediate vicinity for the purpose already permitted, nor substantially diminish and impair property values within the neighborhood.
- 6.05.03 That the establishment of the conditional use will not impede the normal and orderly development of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the district.
- 6.05.04 That adequate utilities, access roads, drainage, and/or necessary facilities have been or are being provided.
- 6.05.05 That adequate measures have been or will be taken to provide ingress and egress so designed as to minimize traffic congestion in the public streets.
- 6.05.06 The use shall not include noise which is objectionable due to volume, frequency, or beat unless muffled or otherwise controlled.
- 6.05.07 The use shall not involve any pollution of the air by fly-ash, dust, vapors or other substance which is harmful to health, animals, vegetation or other property or which can cause soiling, discomfort, or irritation.
- 6.05.08 The use shall not involve any malodorous gas or matter which is discernible on any adjoining lot or property.
- 6.05.09 The use shall not involve any direct or reflected glare which is visible from any adjoining property or from any public street, road, or highway.
- 6.05.10 The use shall not involve any activity substantially increasing the movement of traffic on public streets unless procedures are instituted to limit traffic hazards and congestion.
- 6.05.11 The use shall not involve any activity substantially increasing the burden on any public utilities or facilities.

Amendment of Section 7.15. Section 7.15 of the Zoning Ordinance Update adopted by Ordinance No. 848, as previously amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 7.15 Solar Energy Conversion Systems

Solar Energy Conversion Systems (SECS) are permitted in all zoning districts as an accessory use to any lawfully permitted principal use on the same lot upon issuance of the proper permit and upon compliance with all requirements of this section and as elsewhere specified in this Ordinance. Building-integrated solar energy systems, as defined in this Ordinance, are not considered an accessory use and are not subject to the requirements of this Section.

7.15.01 Height and Lot Requirements: Solar Energy Conversion Systems (SECS) shall conform to the required height and lot requirements provide herein:

- 7.15.01.01 Building-Mounted SECS that are attached to a building on a lot shall comply with the height, front, side, rear yard, and max. building coverage requirements of the building to which they are attached, except as otherwise allowed in Section 7.15.01.04.
- 7.15.01.02 For a Building-Mounted SECS installed on a sloped roof that faces the front yard of a lot, the system must be installed at the same angle as the roof on which it is installed with a maximum distance, measured perpendicular to the roof, of eighteen (18) inches between the roof and highest edge or surface of the system.
- 7.15.01.03 For a Building-Mounted SECS installed on a sloped roof, the highest point of the system shall not exceed the highest point of the roof to which it is attached.
- 7.15.01.04 For a Building-Mounted SECS installed on a flat roof, the highest point of the system shall be permitted to extend up to six (6) feet above the roof to which it is attached, and the system shall not extend horizontally past the roof line.
- 7.15.01.05 Ground-Mounted SECS may be located only in the required rear yard as Permitted Accessory Uses. Ground-Mounted SECS may be located outside of the rear yard, but behind the front building line, with an approved Conditional Use Permit.

ORDINANCE RECORD

7.15.01.06 Ground-Mounted SECS shall conform to the height and lot requirements for Accessory Buildings in the zoning district in which the system is to be constructed, except that the system may not exceed 12-feet in height.

7.15.01.06 Ground-Mounted SECS shall only be permitted in the following districts, subject to the requirements in this Ordinance: TA, R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, I-1, I-2, and R-M.

7.15.02 Structural Requirements: The physical structure and connections to existing structures shall conform to the applicable City of La Vista Building Codes.

7.15.03 Permit Requirements: Before any construction or installation on any SECS system shall commence, a permit issued by the Building Department of the City of La Vista shall be obtained to document compliance with this Ordinance.

7.15.03.01 A permit fee shall be required, and the amount shall be established in the Master Fee Schedule.

7.15.03.02 The application for a permit shall be accompanied by a plot plan drawn to scale showing property lines, existing structures on the lot, proposed solar panel location with respect to property lines, and dimensions of the proposed solar panel.

7.15.04 Inspection, Safety, Abandonment, and Removal: The Chief Building Official and Fire Marshall reserve the right to inspect a SECS for building or fire code compliance and safety. If upon inspection the Chief Building Official or Fire Marshall determine that a fire code or building code violation exists, that the system has been abandoned, or that the system otherwise poses a safety hazard to persons or property, the Chief Building Official or Fire Marshall may order the owner to repair or remove the system within a reasonable time. Such an order shall be in writing, shall offer the option to repair, shall specify the code violation or safety hazard found and shall notify the owner of his or her right to appeal such determination. If the owner fails to repair or remove a SECS as ordered, and any appeal rights have been exhausted, an employee or independent contractor with the City of La Vista may enter the property, remove the system and charge the owner for all costs and expenses of removal, including reasonable attorney's fees or pursue other legal action to have the system removed at the owner's expense. In addition to any other available remedies, any unpaid costs resulting from the City of La Vista's removal of a vacated abandoned or de-commissioned SECS shall constitute a lien upon the property against which the costs were charged. Legal counsel of the City of La Vista shall institute appropriate action for the recovery of such cost, plus attorney's fees. A SECS shall be deemed abandoned or defective by the City of La Vista if it is out of use for a period of 12 months or more, at which time the property owner shall have six months to return the system back to service, or complete decommissioning of the SECS. Decommissioning includes the removal of the SECS, all associated equipment, footings and foundation system, and wiring. Upon removal, such property shall be returned to the same conditions that existed before the installation of the system.

7.15.05 Preexisting SECS: Section 7.15 of this Ordinance applies to Solar Energy Conversion Systems (SECS) installed and constructed after December 17, 2019. Any upgrade, modification or structural change that materially alters the size or placement of an existing SECS system shall comply with the provisions of this Ordinance.

7.15.06 Signage and/or Graphic Content: No signage or graphic content may be displayed on the solar PV system except the manufacturer's badge, safety information and equipment specification information. Said information shall be depicted within an area no more than thirty-six (36) square inches in size.

7.15.07 Screening and Visibility: Placement of SECS shall be prioritized in such a way that will minimize or negate any solar glare onto nearby properties and roadways. SECS are subject to the following:

7.15.07.01 All SECS using a reflector to enhance solar production must minimize glare from the reflector that affects adjacent or nearby properties. Measures to minimize nuisance glare include selective placement of the system, screening on the north and south sides of the SECS, modifying the orientation of the system, reducing use of the solar reflector system, or other remedies that limit glare.

ORDINANCE RECORD

REDFIELD DIRECT E2401275KV

Ordinance No. 1542

7.15.07.02 All SECS appurtenances, including, but not limited to, plumbing, water tanks and support equipment, shall be of a color that is complementary to the site location, and shall be screened to the extent reasonably feasible without compromising the effectiveness of the solar collectors. SECS shall comply with any applicable Design Guidelines of the appropriate district.

7.15.07.03 Building-mounted systems mounted on a flat roof shall successfully utilize one of the following solutions to screen the system:

- An architecturally compatible parapet hides the angled system from public view;
- The system is placed far enough toward the rear of such building so that the system will not be visible from person-perspective view from public areas; or
- If the system is visible, it is mounted at an angle of no more than 5 degrees from the roof surface, and the support structures match the colors of the building.

For the purposes of this subsection 7.15.07.03 of the La Vista Zoning Ordinance, "public view" and "view from the public areas" shall mean visible to the unaided eye from adjacent public right-of-way, or such location as determined by the Community Development Director based upon the site considerations and achieving applicable design guidelines in effect for the property.

Amendment of Article 8 (Sections 8.01 through 8.04). Article 8 (Sections 8.01 through 8.04) of the Zoning Ordinance Update adopted by Ordinance No. 848, as previously amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE 8: BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT. The board of adjustment shall be appointed and serve, and such board, the City and their respective officials, officers, employees and agents, and each of them, shall have and carry out such powers and duties as from time to time specified or authorized by applicable provisions of Nebraska Statutes or the La Vista Municipal Code, including without limitation Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 19-901 through 19-914 and La Vista Municipal Code section 32.03.

Repeal of Section 2.04, Article 6 (Sections 6.01 through 6.05), Section 7.15, and Article 8 (Sections 8.01 through 8.04) of the Zoning Ordinance Update Adopted by Ordinance No. 848, as Previously Enacted and Amended. Section 2.04, Article 6 (Sections 6.01 through 6.05), Section 7.15, and Article 8 (Sections 8.01 through 8.04) of the Zoning Ordinance Update adopted by Ordinance No. 848 as previously enacted and amended are hereby repealed.

Severability Clause. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Mayor and City Council of the City of La Vista hereby declare that it would have passed this ordinance and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Publication and Effective Date. This ordinance shall be published in a legal newspaper in or of general circulation within the city, or book, pamphlet or electronic form and take effect as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 4TH DAY OF MARCH 2025.

ATTEST:


Rachel D. Carl, CMC
City Clerk

CITY OF LA VISTA

Douglas Kindig, Mayor