

Exterior Property Maintenance

Resolution of Painesville Township

ADOPTED – 06.18.2024
HOME RULE RESOLUTION #2024-0001

**PAINESVILLE TOWNSHIP,
LAKE COUNTY, OHIO**

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CHAPTER 1 - ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 101 - GENERAL

- 101.1 Title.** These regulations shall be known as the *Exterior Property Maintenance Resolution of Painesville Township, Lake County*, hereinafter referred to as "this resolution".
- 101.2 Scope.** The provisions of this resolution shall apply to all existing residential and nonresidential structures and all existing premises and constitute minimum requirements and standards for premises, structures, equipment and facilities within the unincorporated area of Painesville Township, Lake County, Ohio; the responsibility of owners, operators and occupants; and for administration, enforcement and penalties. This resolution is promulgated under Painesville Township's Limited Home Rule authority under Chapter 505 of Ohio Revised Code.
- 101.3 Intent.** This resolution shall be construed to secure its expressed intent, which is to ensure public health, safety, and welfare insofar as they are affected by the continued occupancy and maintenance of structures and premises. Existing structures and premises that do not comply with these provisions shall be altered or repaired to provide a minimum level of health and safety as required herein. Repairs, alterations, additions to and changes of occupancy in existing buildings shall comply with all applicable Codes and Standards.
- 101.4 Severability.** If a section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this resolution is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution.

SECTION 102 - APPLICABILITY

- 102.1 General.** The provisions of this resolution shall apply to all matters affecting or relating to structures and premises, as set forth in **Section 101**. Where, in a specific case, different sections of this resolution specify different requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.
- 102.2 Maintenance.** Equipment, systems, devices, and safeguards required by this resolution or an amendment to this resolution or a previous regulation or code under which the structure or premises was constructed, altered, or repaired shall be maintained in good working order. No owner, operator or occupant shall cause any service, facility, equipment, or utility which is required under this section to be removed from or shut off from or discontinued for any occupied dwelling, except for such temporary interruption as necessary while repairs or alterations are in progress. The requirements of this resolution are not intended to provide the basis for removal or abrogation of fire protection or safety systems and devices in existing structures. Except as otherwise specified herein, the owner or the owner's designated agent shall be responsible for the maintenance of buildings, structures and premises.
- 102.3 Application of Other Codes.** Repairs, additions or alterations to a structure, or changes of occupancy, shall be done in accordance with the procedures and provisions of all applicable Codes, Resolutions, and Standards. Nothing in this resolution shall be construed to cancel, modify, or set aside any provision of any existing Codes.
- 102.4 Existing Remedies.** The provisions in this resolution shall not be construed to abolish or impair existing remedies of Painesville Township or its officers or agencies relating to the removal or demolition of any structure which is dangerous, insecure, unsafe, or unsanitary
- 102.5 Workmanship.** Repairs, maintenance work, alterations or installations which are caused directly or indirectly by the enforcement of this resolution shall be executed and installed in a workmanlike manner and installed substantially in accordance with the manufacturer's

installation instructions. All work shall comply with Lake County Building Regulations and Ohio Building Codes.

- 102.6 Referenced Codes and Standards.** The codes and standards referenced in this resolution shall be considered part of the requirements of this resolution to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where differences occur between provisions of this resolution and the referenced standards, the provisions of this resolution to the extent permitted by law, shall apply.

SECTION 103 - PROPERTY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION

- 103.1 General.** The Painesville Township Planning and Zoning Department or its successor shall be responsible for the enforcement and application of this resolution. The Director of Planning and Zoning or respective successor if the department name is changed shall be the official in- charge.
- 103.2 Inspectors.** The Painesville Township Board of Trustees shall appoint inspectors in such numbers as it deems necessary to perform the duties required by this resolution. These inspectors shall report to the Director of Planning and Zoning.

SECTION 104 - DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE CODE OFFICIAL

- 104.1 General.** The Director of Planning and Zoning and the inspectors assigned to the Planning and Zoning Department shall enforce the provisions of this resolution.
- 104.2 Interpretation Authority.** The Director of Planning and Zoning shall have authority to interpret and implement the provisions of this resolution; to secure the intent thereof; and to designate requirements applicable because of local climatic or other conditions.
- 104.3 Inspections.** The Director of Planning and Zoning and/or inspectors assigned to the Planning and Zoning Department shall make all the required inspections or shall accept reports of inspection by approved agencies or individuals. All reports of such inspections by agencies outside of the Painesville Township Planning and Zoning Department shall be in writing. The Director of Planning and Zoning is authorized to engage experts as deemed necessary to report upon unusual technical issues that arise, subject to the approval of the Painesville Township Administrator.
- 104.4 Notices and orders.** The Director of Planning and Zoning and inspectors assigned to the Planning and Zoning Department shall issue all necessary notices or orders to ensure compliance with this resolution.
- 104.5 Department Records.** The Director of Planning and Zoning shall keep official records of all business and activities of the Department of Planning and Zoning which relate to this resolution. Such records shall be retained in the official records in such manner and for so long as is required by Painesville Township's retention policy.

SECTION 105 - NOTICE OF VIOLATION

- 105.1 Civil Offense.** It shall be a civil offense for a person, firm, or corporation to be in conflict with or in violation of any of the provisions of this resolution.
- 105.2 Notice of Violation.** The Director of Planning and Zoning and/or inspectors shall serve a Notice of Violation (hereinafter referred to as "Notice" or "Notice of Violation") on all persons, firms, or corporations found to be in conflict with or in violation of any of the provisions of this resolution
- 105.3 Form of Notice of Violation.** Whenever the Director of Planning and Zoning and/or inspectors determines that there has been a violation of this resolution or has grounds to believe that a violation has occurred, notice shall be given in accordance with all the following:

- A. The Notice must be in writing; and
- B. The Notice shall be sent to the person, firm, or corporation listed by the Lake County Auditor's Office as owner of the property at issue; and
- C. The Notice must include a description of the property at issue which description is sufficient for identification purposes; and
- D. The Notice must include a statement of the violation or violations determined to exist on the property with specific references to the section or sections of this resolution alleged to have been violated; and
- E. The Notice must include a description of the corrective action which must be taken to bring the property into compliance with the provisions of this resolution; and
- F. The Notice must include a deadline by which time the person receiving the Notice shall be required to take the necessary corrective action required to bring the property into compliance with the provisions of this resolution.
- G. The notice must include the amount of civil fine that will be assessed if the corrective action is not taken by the deadline (or any extension obtained as provided in **Section 105.05** of this resolution)

105.4 Method of Service. The Notice of Violation shall be deemed to be properly served if a copy thereof is:

- A. Delivered personally; or
- B. Sent by certified or first-class mail addressed to the owner of the property at issue at the address of the property; or
- C. Sent by certified or first-class mail addressed to the owner of the property at issue at the address listed as the owner's tax mailing address by the Lake County Auditor; or
- D. certified or first-class mail addressed to the owner of the property at issue at the owner's last known address; or
- E. Posted in a conspicuous place on or about the property at issue if another method of delivery of the Notice is returned showing that the Notice was not delivered.

105.5 Extension of Compliance Deadline. For good cause shown, the Director of Planning and Zoning may, at his/her sole discretion, extend the deadline previously stated in the Notice of Violation for corrective action to bring a property into compliance. A request for extension must be in written format and shall detail the justification for the request for extension of compliance deadline. In the event such an extension is granted, the Director of Planning and Zoning shall notify the owner of the property at issue of the extension in the same form and pursuant to the same method of service required by **Sections 105.03 and 105.04** of this resolution. Any such notice of extension shall specifically state the revised deadline by which time the person receiving the extension shall be required to take the necessary corrective action required to bring the property into compliance with the provisions of this resolution.

SECTION 10 - CIVIL CITATIONS

- 106.1 Civil Citation Issued.** If a person, firm, or corporation to whom a Notice of Violation has been served does not bring the property at issue into compliance with the provisions of this resolution by the deadline established in the Notice of Violation or by the granted deadline extension, if any, such person shall be issued a Civil Citation (hereinafter referred to as "Citation" or "Civil Citation").
- 106.2 Form of Civil Citation.** Civil Citations issued for a failure to comply with the Notice of Violation by the deadline established therein, or by the granted deadline extension, if any, must be given in accordance with all of the following:
- A. The Citation must be in writing on a form specifically designated as a Civil Citation form;
 - B. The Citation must include a statement advising the person charged that he/she must answer the citation within fourteen (14) days after the date on which the Citation is served upon him/her;
 - C. The Citation must include a statement indicating the allowable answers that may be made and that the person will be afforded a court hearing if he/she denies committing the violation;
 - D. The Citation must include a statement specifying that the answer must be made in person, or by mail, to the Painesville Township Fiscal Officer;
 - E. The Citation must include a statement indicating the amount of the fine arising from the violation;
 - F. The Citation must include a statement advising the person of the violation charged, and the date, time and place of the violation charged; and
 - G. The Citation must include the name, title, the signature, and affirmation of the Painesville Township Official who issued the Citation.
- 106.3 Method of Service.** The Civil Citation shall be deemed to be properly served if it is:
- A. Delivered personally by the bailiff for the Painesville Municipal Court or any other person not less than 18 years of age, who is not a party and has been designated by order of the municipal court to make personal service; or
 - B. Sent by certified or express mail, return receipt requested with instructions to the delivering postal employee to show to whom it was delivered, the date of delivery, and the address where it was delivered, addressed to the owner of the property at issue at the address listed as the owner's tax mailing address maintained by the Lake County Auditor; or
 - C. Sent by certified or express mail, return receipt requested with instructions to the delivering postal employee to show to whom it was delivered, the date of delivery, and the address where it was delivered, to the owner of the property at issue at the owner's last known address; or
 - D. Delivered personally to the usual place of residence of the owner of the property at issue to the owner or some person of suitable age and discretion then residing at that residence by the bailiff of the Painesville Municipal Court or any other person not less than 18 years of age, who is not a party and has been designated by order of the municipal court to make residence service; or
 - E. Any other method of service permitted by the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure.

SECTION 107 - PERMISSIBLE ANSWERS TO CIVIL CITATION

- 107.1 Permissible Answers.** Any person, firm, or corporation to whom a Civil Citation has been served may answer said Citation in one of the following ways:
- A. Admission that the person, firm, or corporation committed the violation charged, filed

- in the manner and within the time permitted by **Section 108** of this resolution; or
- B. Express denial of the violations charged by the person, firm, or corporation charged, filed in the manner and within the time permitted by **Section 109** of this resolution; or
- C. Implicit denial of the violations charged by the failure of the person, firm, or corporation charged to file an answer or pay the fine set forth in the Civil Citation within the time permitted by **Sections 108 and 109** of this resolution.

SECTION 108 - ADMISSION OF VIOLATIONS CHARGED IN CIVIL CITATION

- 108.1 Admission of Guilt.** Persons, firms, or corporations served with Civil Citations may admit commission of the violations charged by paying the fine set forth in the Civil Citation as required by **Sections 108.02 and 108.03** of this resolution.
- 108.2 Admission of Guilt of Violations Charged in Civil Citations & Payment of Fine by Hand Delivery.** Persons, firms, or corporations served with Civil Citations may admit the violations charged in the Civil Citation by paying the fine or fines set forth in the Civil Citation in person to the Township Fiscal Officer. Such payments must be hand-delivered within fourteen (14) days of the date that the Civil Citation was served upon such person, firm, or corporation.
- 108.3 Admission of Guilt of Violations Charged in Civil Citations & Payment of Fine by Mail.** Persons, firms, or corporations served with Civil Citations may admit the violations charged in the Civil Citation by paying the fine or fines set forth in the Civil Citation by mailing the payment, postage prepaid, to the Painesville Township Fiscal Officer, 55 Nye Road Painesville Township, Ohio 44077. Such admissions/payments must be received by the Fiscal Officer no later than fourteen (14) days after the date that the Civil Citation was served upon firm, or corporation. **Effect of Admission and Payment of Fine.** Persons, firms, or corporations who admit guilt as to the violation charged in a Civil Citation issued against them and who pay the fine set forth in the Citation are in no way absolved from resolving, removing, repairing, or otherwise abating the condition which resulted in the issuance of the Civil Citation. If such persons, firms, or corporations fail to resolve, remove, repair, or otherwise abate that condition, Painesville Township may continue to issue Civil Citations each day it determines that the condition continues to violate the provisions of this resolution. Civil Citations issued for such continuing, unresolved violations of this resolution need not be preceded by additional Notices of Violation as the initial Notice of Violation shall suffice to notify the person, firm, or corporation involved as to the nature of the violation charged. Further, the admission of guilt and payment of the fines set forth in the Civil Citation shall in no way preclude the Painesville Township Board of Township Trustees from instituting, by and through its Law Director or otherwise, appropriate action to enjoin, restrain, correct or abate a violation, or to prevent illegal occupancy of a building, structure, or premises, or to stop an illegal act, conduct business or utilization of the building, structure, or premises.

SECTION 109 - EXPRESS DENIAL OF VIOLATION CHARGED IN CIVIL CITATION

- 109.1 Express Denial of Violation Charged in Civil Citations & Hand Delivery of Denial.** Persons, firms, or corporations served with Civil Citations may deny the violation charged in the Civil Citation by expressly denying the violation in writing and presenting the denial in person to the Painesville Township Fiscal Officer. Such denials must be hand-delivered within fourteen (14) days of the date that the Civil Citation was served upon such person, firm, or corporation.
- 109.2 Express Denial of Violation Charged in Civil Citations & Mailing of Denial.** Persons,

firms, or corporations served with Civil Citations may deny the violations charged in the Civil Citation by expressly denying the violations in writing and by delivering or mailing the denial, postage prepaid, to the Painesville Township Fiscal Officer, 55 Nye Road Painesville Township, Ohio 44077. Such denials must be received by the Fiscal Officer no later than fourteen (14) days after the date that the Civil Citation was served upon such person, firm, or corporation.

SECTION 110 - IMPLICIT DENIAL OF VIOLATIONS CHARGED IN CIVIL CITATION

110.01 Implicit Denial of Violations. Persons, firms, or corporations who fail to either expressly deny the violation charged in the Civil Citation issued against them in the manner and within the time permitted by **Section 109** of this resolution or who fail to admit the violations charged in the Civil Citation issued against them by paying the fine or fines set forth in the Civil Citation in the manner and within the time permitted by **Section 108** of this resolution shall be deemed to have denied the violation charged.

SECTION 111 - MUNICIPAL COURT PROCEEDINGS

111.1 Referral to Municipal Court. If the person, firm, or corporation issued a Civil Citation either expressly or implicitly denies the violation charged in the Citation within fourteen (14) days after service of the Civil Citation, the Painesville Township Fiscal Officer or Director of Planning and Zoning shall notify the Painesville Municipal Court of the denial so that a hearing can be set.

111.2 Municipal Court Hearings. Municipal Court hearings are conducted according to the Rules of Civil Procedure and the court determines whether the violation is proven by the Township by a preponderance of the evidence. If the court determines that the violation has been proven, it will order the violator to pay the fine.

111.3 Payment of Fine After Determination of Guilt. Persons, firms, or corporations found to have violated the provisions of this resolution charged in the Civil Citation must pay the fines assessed by the court within ten (10) days after the judgment. Failure to pay the fine within this time period will result in the placement of a lien on the property at issue and/or the collection of the amount due in any manner authorized by law.

SECTION 112 - APPEAL PROCESS

112.01 Appeal. Persons, firms, or corporations wishing to appeal an adverse determination by the Painesville Municipal Court may file an appeal with the **11th** District Court of Appeals within thirty (30) days after the judgment.

SECTION 113 - PENALTIES AND FINES

113.1 Violation Penalties. Any person, firm, or corporation who violates a provision of this resolution shall be issued a Civil Citation in the following amounts:

- A. In the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for the first offense;
- B. In the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for the second offense;
- C. In the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the third offense;
- D. In the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for fourth and each subsequent offense.

113.2 Continuing Violations. Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been

served shall be deemed a separate offense.

SECTION 114 - ABATEMENT AND OTHER LAWFUL REMEDIES

- 114.01 Emergency Measures.** Nothing in the provisions of this resolution shall prohibit the Painesville Township Board of Trustees from taking any action authorized by law, without regard to the provisions of this resolution and regardless of whether the legal procedures herein described have been instituted, when, in its opinion, there is imminent danger of failure or collapse of a building or structure which endangers life, or when any structure or part of a structure has failed and life is endangered by the occupation of the structure, or when there is actual or potential danger to the building occupants or those in the proximity of any structure because of explosives, explosive fumes or vapors or the presence of toxic fumes, gases or materials, or operation of defective or dangerous equipment.
- 114.02 Injunctive Relief.** The Painesville Township Board of Trustees may authorize the township law director to file for injunctive relief if the violation of the resolution is a matter of health or safety.
- 114.03 Property Leins.** The Painesville Township Board of Trustees may authorize the township law director to file for a lien upon the property of a violator if the violation relates to the use of the property and if the violator has failed to pay a fine imposed pursuant to section 504.07 of the Revised Code within ten days after the judgment imposing the fine has become final. The unpaid fine shall be entered on the tax duplicate and is a lien upon the property from and after the date of entry and shall be collected as other taxes, returned to the township, and placed in the township general fund.

CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS

SECTION 201 - GENERAL

- 201.1 Scope.** Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following terms shall, for the purposes of this resolution, have the meanings shown in this chapter.
- 201.2 Interchangeability.** Words stated in the present tense include the future; words stated in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the single number includes the plural, and the plural, the singular.
- 201.3 Terms not defined.** Where terms are not defined in this resolution the usual and customary definition shall apply.
- 201.4 Parts.** Whenever the words "dwelling unit", "dwelling", "premises", "building", or "story" are stated in this resolution, they shall be construed as though they were followed by the words "or any part thereof".

SECTION 202 - GENERAL DEFINITIONS

- 202.1 ACCESSORY STRUCTURE:** A subordinate structure detached from but located on the same lot as the principal building. Accessory structure may include arbor, trellis, pergola, shed, garage, pavilion, carport, gazebo
- 202.2 ACCESSORY USE OR ACCESSORY BUILDING:** An accessory use or building is a subordinate use or building located on the same lot on which the main building or use is situated which is customarily incidental to the main use of such building or main use provided that the accessory use does not constitute or become a public or private nuisance, and that the use is not otherwise prohibited by this resolution.
- 202.3 APPROVED:** Approved by the township official.
- 202.4 BASEMENT:** A basement shall be the portion of a building located all or part below the ground and having at least 50% of its height below the average grade of the adjoining ground.
- 202.5 BUILDING:** A structure having a roof supported by walls, and designed, built or intended for the shelter or enclosure or protection of persons, animals, chattels, or property of any kind. Building roofs and walls are constructed with solid materials, such as metal or wood products. Building roofs may be covered with flexible shingle materials.
- 202.6 BUILDING CODE:** The most current edition of the State of Ohio Building Code, or such other code as may be officially designated by the Lake County Commissioners for the regulation of construction, alteration, addition, repair, removal, demolition, use, location, occupancy, and maintenance of all buildings and structures.
- 202.7 BUILDING, DETACHED:** A building having no party wall common with another building.
- 202.8 BUILDING, PRINCIPAL:** A building occupied by the main use or activity on the lot on which said building is located.
- 202.9 BASEMENT.** That portion of a building which is partly or completely below grade.
- 202.10 CIVIL CITATION.** Citation issued pursuant to **Section 106** of this resolution.

- 202.11 CANOPY:** A roofed structure constructed of fabric or other material supported by a building or by support extending to the ground directly under the canopy and placed so as to extend outward from a building providing a protective shield for doors, windows, and other openings.
- 202.12 COURTESY NOTICE.** A letter, pamphlet, or other informational item informing a property owner of a concern on their property and a timeframe to come into compliance. This notice is given with the intent to inform and educate property owners of the resolution and general or specific issues but is not considered a formal violation notice. This notice is not mandatory and is provided only at the discretion of the Director or Inspector.
- 202.13 DECK:** A platform, either freestanding or attached to a building that is supported by pillars or posts.
- 202.14 DETERIORATION.** To weaken, disintegrate, corrode, rust or decay and lose effectiveness.
- 202.15 DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING.** The official who is charged with the administration and enforcement of this resolution, or any duly authorized representative.
- 202.16 DWELLING UNIT.** A single unit providing complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation.
- 202.17 EASEMENT.** An interest in land or property reserved for present or future use by a person or agency other than legal fee owner(s) of the property. The right of a person, government agency, or public utility company to use public or private land owned by another entity for laying and maintaining utilities, accessing another property, or for another specific reason.
- 202.18 EXTERIOR PROPERTY.** The open space on the premises and on adjoining property under the control of owners or operators of such premises. Exterior Property shall include such open areas as carports and other storage areas open and visible to passersby.
- 202.19 EXTERMINATION.** The control and elimination of insects, rats, vermin, or other pests by eliminating their harborage places; by removing or making inaccessible materials that serves as their food; by spraying, fumigating, and trapping or by any other approved pest elimination method.
- 202.20 FENCE OR WALL:** Any structure of any material or combination of materials, including a gate that is part of the structure, that is designed to enclose land, divide land, mark a boundary, create a barrier, limit access to or direct passage across land, provide screening, protect against a potential hazard, or serve a decorative purpose. In no case will living plants, such as hedges, shrubs, bushes or trees, be deemed or considered to be fences or walls regardless of how these may be arranged or located, and regardless of whether these may serve the same or similar purpose as a fence or wall. Terraces, steps and other similar improvements will not be deemed to be fences. Earthen berms that exceed four (4) feet in height above the natural grade will be deemed to be fences.
- 202.21 GARBAGE.** The animal or vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food.

- 202.22 GATE:** A structure designed to allow access through a fence or a wall, but when closed, it performs the same function as a fence or a wall.
- 202.23 IMMINENT DANGER.** A condition which could cause serious or life-threatening injury or death at any time.
- 202.24 INFESTATION.** The presence, within or contiguous to, a structure or premises of insects, rats, vermin, or other pests.
- 202.25 INOPERABLE VEHICLE.** Vehicles shall be deemed to be inoperable when they meet any of the following criteria:
- A. Not capable of moving in forward or reverse under its own power and or not capable of being legally operated on a public roadway, or waterway in the case of boats and other watercraft; or
 - B. Any vehicle or motor vehicle which cannot be legally operated on public streets or highways by reason of lacking the equipment required by State Motor Vehicle Code and /or other laws of the State of Ohio; or
 - C. Any vehicle or motor vehicle which is not currently licensed, or for which the vehicle registration has expired, or which is not capable of being licensed for operation upon the public streets and highways under the provisions of the State Motor Vehicle Code, or other applicable provisions of the laws of the State of Ohio.
- 202.26 INSPECTORS.** Persons assigned to the Planning and Zoning Department who are duly authorized representatives of the Director of Planning and Zoning. Inspectors are charged with initial administration and enforcement of this resolution, under the direction and supervision of the Director of Planning and Zoning.
- 202.27 JUNK OR UNLICENSED VEHICLE.** A vehicle, including but not limited to, collector's vehicles, cars, trucks, buses, trailers and boats, shall be deemed a junk or inoperable vehicle whenever all of the following occur and as may be amended pursuant to **ORC 505.173:**
- Three model years old, or older;
 - Apparently inoperable;
 - Extensively damaged, including, but not limited to, any of the following: missing wheels, tires, engine, or transmission.
- 202.28 NEGLECT.** The lack of proper maintenance for a building or structure.

- 202.29 NOTICE OF VIOLATION.** A written notice which complies with **Section 105** of this resolution.
- 202.30 NOXIOUS WEED.** Any plant or plant product that can directly or indirectly injure or cause damage to crops (including nursery stock or plant products), livestock, poultry, or other interest of agriculture, irrigation, navigation, the natural resources of the United States, the public health, or the environment.
- 202.31 OCCUPANCY.** The purpose for which a building or portion thereof is utilized or occupied.
- 202.32 OCCUPANT.** Any individual living or sleeping in a building, or having possession of a space within a building.
- 202.33 OPENABLE AREA.** That part of a window, skylight, or which is available for unobstructed ventilation and which opens directly to the outdoors.
- 202.34 OPERATOR.** Any person who has charge, care or control of a structure or premises which is let or offered for occupancy.
- 202.35 OWNER.** Any person, agent, operator, firm, or corporation having a legal or equitable interest in the property; or recorded in the official records of the state or county as holding title to the property; or otherwise having control of the property, including the guardian of the estate of any such person, and the executor or administrator of the estate of such person if ordered to take possession of real property by a court.
- 202.36 PERSON.** An individual, corporation, partnership, or any group acting as a unit.
- 202.37 PREMISES.** A lot, plot, or parcel of land, easement, or public way, including any structures thereon.
- 202.38 PUBLIC WAY.** Any street, alley, or similar parcel of land essentially unobstructed from the ground to the sky, which is deeded, dedicated, or otherwise permanently available to the public for public use.
- 202.39 RECREATIONAL AND UTILITY VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT.**
- Vehicular, portable structures, or objects designed and constructed to be used as temporary dwellings for travel, recreational and vacation uses, and utility uses, including:
- A. Boat and Boat Trailers.**
- Boats, floats, and rafts, plus the customary equipment to transport same on streets and highways.
- B. Motor Homes.**
- Self-propelled recreational vehicles constructed with permanently installed facilities for cold storage, cooking and consuming of food and for sleeping.

C. Travel Trailers.

Non-self-propelled recreational vehicles not exceeding an overall length of thirty-five (35) feet, exclusive of bumper and tongue or coupling, and including tent-type fold-out camping trailers as defined in Section 4517.01 (R) of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio as amended.

D. Truck Campers.

Non-self-propelled recreational vehicles, without wheels for road use, and designed to be placed upon and attached to a motor vehicle.

E. Utility Trailers.

Any non-self-propelled vehicle so designed, constructed, reconstructed, or added to by means of accessories in such manner as will permit the unit to be used to transport materials or goods.

- 202.40 RUBBISH.** Combustible and noncombustible waste materials except garbage; the term shall include but not be limited too, the residue from burning of wood, coal, and other combustible materials; paper, rags, cartons, boxes, wood, excelsior, rubber, plastic, leather, tree branches, yard trimmings, tin cans, bottles, metals, mineral matter, glass, crockery and dust and other similar materials. The term shall also include inoperable and broken appliances, electronics, discarded or broken furniture and household equipment and other general trash and debris.
- 202.41 SIGN.** A name, identification, description, display, or illustration which is affixed to or painted upon or represented directly or indirectly upon a building, structure or piece of land; or affixed to the glass on the outside or inside of a window so as to be seen from the outside of a building and which directs attention to an object, product, place, activity, person, institution, organization, or business.
- 202.42 STRUCTURE.** That which is built or constructed on premises or a portion thereof.
- 202.43 SWALE.** A low-lying or depressed area designed to direct water runoff across a property to an appropriate outlet.
- 202.44 SWIMMING POOL.** Any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing designed to hold or capable of holding water to a depth of more than twenty-four (24) inches. The water level depth is the level that water could reach before it spills out. This includes in- ground, above-ground, and on-ground swimming pools, hot tubs and spas.
- 202.45 TENANT.** A person, corporation, partnership, or group: whether or not the legal owner of record, occupying a building or portion thereof as a unit.
- 202.46 VENTILATION.** The natural or mechanical process of supplying conditioned or unconditioned air to, or removing air from, any space.
- 202.47 WEEDS AND RANK VEGETATION.** Any plants or shrubs exceeding eight (8) inches in height, which are excessively vigorous in growth, malodorous and/or flagrant, or tends to choke out plants that are more desirable and which does not include agricultural crops such as hay and pasture or vegetation planted for some useful or ornamental purpose.

- 202.39 WORKMANLIKE.** Executed in a skilled manner; e.g., generally plumb, level, square, in line, undamaged and without marring adjacent work.
- 202.40 YARD.** An open space on the same lot with a structure.

CHAPTER 3 - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

SECTION 301 – GENERAL

- 301.1 Scope.** The provisions of this resolution shall govern the minimum conditions and the responsibilities of persons for maintenance of structures, equipment, and exterior property for all areas within the unincorporated portion of the Township.
- 301.2 Responsibility.** The owner of the premises shall maintain the structures and exterior property in compliance with these requirements, except as otherwise provided for in this resolution. A person shall not occupy as owner-occupant or permit another person to occupy premises which are not in a sanitary and safe condition, and which do not comply with the requirements of this resolution. Occupants of a dwelling unit are responsible for keeping in a clean, sanitary, and safe condition that part of the premises which they occupy and control.
- 301.3 Vacant Structures and Land.** All vacant structures and premises thereof or vacant land shall be maintained in a clean, safe, secure, and sanitary condition as provided herein so as not to cause a blighting problem or adversely affect the public health or safety.

SECTION 302 – EXTERIOR PROPERTY AREAS

- 302.1 Accessory Structures.** All accessory structures, including detached garages, fences, and walls, shall be maintained structurally sound and in good repair, including, but not limited to, painting, roofing, replacement of broken or damaged boards or panels, replacement of missing or damaged components, and removal of any vegetation growing within, through or against such fence or structure that compromises the integrity of said fence or structure.
- 302.2 Defacement of Property.** No person shall willfully or wantonly damage, mutilate or deface any exterior surface of any structure or building on any private or public property by placing thereon any marking, carving, or graffiti. It shall be the responsibility of the owner to restore said surface to an approved state of maintenance and repair.
- 302.3 Furniture.** No furniture intended, designed, or constructed primarily for indoor use may be stored outside, unless it is in a completely enclosed porch or patio room.
- 302.4 Junk, Inoperable or Unlicensed Vehicle.** No junk, inoperable or unlicensed vehicle shall be located on any property, except when stored within a completely enclosed building or as part of a permitted vehicle salvage operation.
- 302.5 Light Fixtures, Exterior.** Exterior lighting fixtures over steps, paths, walkways, courts, drives, and parking lots shall be neatly maintained in operable condition and lighted for sufficient periods of time before and after business hours to provide for pedestrian and employee safety and property aimed so as not to shine on adjacent property per the Painesville Township Zoning Resolution. Lighting shall follow the requirements of any approved lighting plan and or the Painesville Township Zoning Resolution as may be applicable regarding illumination levels and color temperature limits.

- 302.6 Maintenance of Plantings.** All plant materials, especially trees and shrubs, afflicted with decay, disease, insect infestation, or otherwise considered dangerous to other plant material shall be removed or appropriately treated. All sound plant materials, especially trees and shrubs, shall be properly maintained and not evidence signs of neglect.
- 302.7 Off Street Parking.** All open off-street parking areas shall be graded and surfaced with bituminous concrete (asphalt), Portland cement concrete, brick, cobble-stone or similar hard surface. In no case shall a landscaped area (i.e., neither paved nor graveled) be used as an open off-street parking area.
- 302.8 Rodent or Vermin Harborage.** All structures and exterior property shall be kept free from rodent or vermin harborage and infestation. Where rodents or vermin are found, they shall be promptly exterminated by approved processes as defined in **202.11** which will not be injurious to human health. After extermination, proper precautions shall be taken to eliminate rodent harborage and prevent re-infestation.
- 302.9 Mosquito Infestation.** All structures and exterior property shall be kept free of stagnant water by any means, which may yield the potential for serving as a breeding ground for mosquitos.
- 302.10 Sanitation.** All yards exterior property and premises shall be maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition. The occupant shall keep that part of the exterior property which such occupant occupies or controls in a clean and sanitary condition.
- 302.11 Storage.** Except as provided for in other regulations of the Township, all outdoor storage of any kind shall be prohibited.
- 302.12 Swimming Pools.** Swimming pools shall be properly maintained and treated to prevent the growth of algae and shall contain such operating circulation systems as to prevent stagnation of water or creation of an environment hospitable to the growth of mosquitos and other similar larvae. This provision is not intended to prevent the normal and customary enclosure of a pool during winter months. Pools shall be free of visible tears, missing or broken components, rust, and other similar deterioration. All required fencing, covers, and locks as required per the zoning certificate and/or Painesville Township Zoning Resolution shall be maintained.
- 302.13 Traffic Markings.** All traffic markings located in off-street parking areas such as directional arrows, lane division lines, parking space lines, stop signs, etc., shall be maintained so as to be clearly visible and easily recognized.
- 302.14 Vegetation Cutting Required.** All grass, weeds, or rank vegetation shall be periodically cut and in no case shall exceed a height of eight (8) inches. This provision shall not apply to agricultural crops and fields being actively maintained for the production of hay and other agricultural products or lots in an agricultural or floodplain district in excess of five (5) acres in area or lots within a public park or other area designated by a government jurisdiction as a wildlife or nature preserve, except that the area surrounding structures on such lots shall be cut and maintained. Nothing in this section shall prevent Painesville Township from utilizing the nuisance provisions pertaining to noxious weeds outlined in the Ohio Revised Code as an alternative to, or in conjunction with, the enforcement provisions outlined in this resolution.

- 302.15 Yards.** All yards, courts, and lots shall be kept free of overgrown vegetation, debris, and other materials which may cause a fire, health, safety hazard, or general unsightliness. Yards shall be maintained free of barren or open areas of soil that may cause erosion or generation of dust. Yards shall be maintained with a vegetative cover of grass, rock, or other ornamental plants except for a well maintained and orderly garden actively used for the growth of food or other ornamental plants, forested areas with naturally occurring barren areas beneath trees and similar areas.

SECTION 303 – EXTERIOR STRUCTURE

- 303.1 General.** The exterior of a structure shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound, and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to the public health, safety, or welfare.
- 303.2 Protective Treatment.** All exterior surfaces, including but not limited to, doors, door and window frames, awnings, cornices, porches, trim, balconies, signs, decks, and fences shall be maintained in good condition. Exterior wood surfaces, other than decay-resistant woods, shall be protected from the elements and decay by painting or other protective covering or treatment. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint shall be eliminated and surfaces re-painted. All siding and masonry joints as well as those between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors, and skylights shall be maintained weather resistant and water tight. All metal surfaces subject to rust or corrosion shall be coated to inhibit such rust and corrosion and all surfaces with rust or corrosion shall be stabilized and coated to inhibit future rust and corrosion. Oxidation stains shall be removed from exterior surfaces. Surfaces designed for stabilization by oxidation are exempt from this requirement.
- 303.3 Basement Hatchways.** Every basement hatchway shall be maintained to prevent the entrance of rodents, rain, and surface drainage water.
- 303.4 Building Security.** Doors, windows, or hatchways for dwelling units shall be provided with devices designed to provide security for the occupants and property within.
- 303.5 Chimneys and Towers.** All chimneys, cooling towers, smoke stacks, and similar appurtenances shall be maintained structurally safe and sound, and in good repair free of cracks, holes or missing portions. All exposed surfaces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather-coating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.
- 303.6 Decorative Features.** All cornices, belt courses, corbels, trim, wall facings, and similar decorative features shall be maintained in good repair with proper anchorage and in a safe condition.
- 303.7 Doors.** All exterior doors, door assemblies and hardware shall be maintained in good condition. Locks at all entrances to dwelling units, rooming units, and guestrooms shall tightly secure the door.
- 303.8 Exterior Walls.** All exterior walls shall be free from holes, breaks, and loose or rotting materials; and maintained weatherproof and properly surface coated where required to prevent deterioration.
- 303.9 Foundation Walls.** All foundation walls shall be maintained plumb and free from open cracks and breaks and shall be kept in such condition so as to prevent the entry of water, rodents and other pests.
- 303.10 Gutters.** Rain gutters, downspouts, leaders, or other means of water diversion shall be provided to collect/conduct and discharge all water from the roof and maintained so as not to leak or cause dampness in the walls, ceiling, or basements or adversely affect adjacent properties. Gutters and downspouts shall be situated in a manner such that they do not discharge directly onto an adjacent property unless part of a storm water system

approved by Lake County.

- 303.11 Handrails and Guards.** Every handrail and guard shall be firmly fastened and capable of supporting normally imposed loads and shall be maintained in good condition.
- 303.12 Overhang Extensions.** All overhang extensions including but not limited to canopies, marquees, signs, awnings, fire escapes, standpipes, and exhaust ducts shall be maintained in good repair and be properly anchored so as to be kept in a sound condition. When required, all exposed surfaces of metal or wood shall be protected from the elements and against decay or rust by periodic application of weather-coating materials, such as paint or similar surface treatment.
- 303.13 Roofs and Drainage.** The roof and flashing shall be sound, tight, and not have defects that admit rain. Roof drainage shall be adequate to prevent dampness or deterioration in the walls or interior portion of the structure. Roof drains, gutters and downspouts shall be maintained in good repair and free from obstructions.
- 303.14 Signs.** Signs shall be structurally sound and free of hazards. Prohibited signs or signs that are related to a business that no longer operates on the premises on which the sign is located with the exception of approved off-premise outdoor advertising shall be removed.
- 303.15 Stairways, Decks, Porches, and Balconies.** Every exterior stairway, deck, porch and balcony, and all appurtenances attached thereto, shall be maintained structurally sound, in good repair, with proper anchorage and capable of supporting the imposed loads.
- 303.16 Structural Members.** All structural members shall be maintained free from deterioration and shall be capable of safely supporting the imposed dead and live loads.
- 303.17 Window, Skylight, Doors, and Frames.** Windows shall be fully supplied with window glass or an approved substitute which is glazed and is without open cracks or holes, shall have sashes in good condition which fit within frames, be capable of being easily opened and held in position by hardware, and maintained so as to exclude adverse weather elements from entering the structure.

SECTION 304 - RUBBISH AND GARBAGE

- 304.1 Accumulation of Rubbish or Garbage.** All exterior property and premises, of every structure, carport, deck, and patio shall be free from any accumulation of rubbish or garbage.
- 304.2 Disposal of Rubbish.** Every occupant of a structure shall dispose of all rubbish in a clean and sanitary manner by placing such rubbish in approved containers.
- 304.3 Rubbish Storage Containers.** The owner of occupied premises shall supply approved covered containers for rubbish, and the owner of the premises shall be responsible for the removal of rubbish. Such containers shall not be stored or placed outside unless placed at the side or rear of a home in the case of residential properties, except for a twenty-four (24-hour) period prior to and following the designated trash collection day for the property, during which time such containers or bags and other items for disposal may be placed in a neat and orderly manner at the curb or edge of the property for pickup. This provision does not apply to designated common waste bins located at an apartment complex or other similar facility.
- 304.4 Appliances.** Appliances such as refrigerators, air conditioners and similar equipment not in operation shall not be discarded or abandoned on premises.
- 304.5 Disposal of Garbage.** Every occupant of a structure shall dispose of garbage in a clean and sanitary manner by placing such garbage in an approved garbage disposal facility or approved garbage container.
- 304.6 Containers.** The operator of all establishments producing garbage shall provide, and at all times cause to be utilized, approved leak proof containers provided with close-fitting covers for the storage of such materials until removed from the premises for disposal.

SECTION 305 - EXTERMINATION

305.01 Infestation. All structures shall be kept free from insects, vermin, and rodent infestation. Insects, vermin, or rodents found in any structure shall be promptly exterminated by approved processes as defined in **202.11** that will not be injurious to human health. After extermination, proper precautions shall be taken to prevent re-infestation.