

PREFACE

A modern, comprehensive and continually updated city code is not only a requirement of the state law governing Iowa cities, but is essential for the proper operation of local government.

The citizens of a community have the right to know what local laws are in effect providing protection for them and governing their activities.

The mayor and members of the council must know what policies have been established by ordinance to assist them in reviewing these policies and establishing future policies.

Administrative officials and other city employees need accurate and specific information about these policies to enable them to fairly and effectively carry out these policies as established.

This 1975 City Code of Buffalo, Iowa is much more than a mere codification of the old ordinances of the city. It is an entirely new code, superseding all previous ordinances except those expressly saved from repeal by the adopting ordinance, incorporating the latest recommendations of the League of Iowa municipalities for the implementation of Homew Rule which are appropriate for Buffalo.

The subject matter contained in the code is not arranged in the traditional alphabetical manner. It has been arranged instead to parallel the program budgeting format now being required by the state's City Finance Committee and therefore be a more practical and useful reference to citizens and officials alike.

Throughout the preparation of this code particular effort was made to insure that its content, organization, and phrasing would meet the practical, day-to-day needs of those using the code and assist them in their effort to achieve that ultimate purpose of their local government responsive service to the citizens of Buffalo in compliance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Iowa.

To enhance its usefulness and to minimize the necessity to refer to multiple sources for information or guidance, substantial portions of the state law have been incorporated in this City Code. For example, Title VIII, Chapter 1, Article 3, not only lists those streets and alleys that have been vacated, but includes the procedures set out by state law which must be followed by a city to vacate a street or alley, together with the citation to the appropriate section of the state law governing this procedure.

In addition, the Technical Advisory Service of the League of Iowa Municipalities has prepared Procedural Guides, available upon request, which provide further elaboration and recommendations to accomplish many of the procedures required of, or available to, cities.

An exceptional, and exclusive, feature of this code is the comprehensive review and supplemental or update service available. Any new or amendatory ordinance can simply be incorporated in the appropriate place, new pages added, and old pages removed. Annually the entire code will be reviewed and any changes necessitated by new laws passed by the State Legislature, required by court decisions, or desirable as an improved procedure or practice will be called to the attention of the city and upon approval of the council also incorporated in the code. This exclusive review and supplement service provides maximum possible assurance to the user that the code is current and compatible with law and practice.

This code was prepared and published under the supervision of the League of Iowa Municipalities by Government Research and Management Services, Des Moines, Iowa, at the direction of the mayor and city council of Buffalo, Iowa.

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