

# Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Huntingdon

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**Code of Ordinances**  
**of the**  
**Borough of Huntingdon**  
**Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania**

**Published by Authority of the Borough**

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**Officials**  
**of the**  
**Borough of Huntingdon**  
County of  
Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Mayor - Foster G. Ulrich, Jr.

Borough Council

President	- Glenn A. Stampfle
Vice President	- Richard D. Myers
	- Gregory Scott Shaffer
	- Jeffrey M. Speck
	- Donald M. Rudy
	- John T. Gradwell
	- John R. Shuck
Tax Collector	- Karl W. Lang

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

Manager	- Kenneth E. Myers
Secretary	- Karen A. Foust
Treasurer	- John R. Franks, Jr.
Code Officer	- Rod Smay
Solicitor	- Lawrence L. Newton
Engineer	- Raymond H. Myers, P.E. CET Engineering Services
Auditors	- CPA Associates



## FOREWORD

### *History*

This comprises the codification of the ordinances of the Borough of Huntingdon. The town of Huntingdon, described in early deeds as being “at Standing Stone on Juniata,” was laid out in 1767, only 13 years after this region of Pennsylvania was purchased from the Indians. The Rev. William Smith, head of the College of Philadelphia (now University of Pennsylvania) and an energetic speculator in frontier lands, was the town founder and proprietor. To ensure the development of his town. Smith's deeds required lot owners to erect a substantial house within a year or so of purchase.

Nevertheless, growth was slow because of unsettled conditions in this frontier region during the Revolution. But settlers poured into the area during the 1780s, and in 1787, Huntingdon was made the seat of a new county, named for the already thriving town. A pleased Dr. Smith joined local citizens in contributing funds to build a county courthouse.

As this handsome brick “seat of justice” was being constructed in 1796, Huntingdon was incorporated as a Borough. Its early date of incorporation, by Juniata Valley standards, led Huntingdon's mid-nineteenth century newspaper editors to bestow on it the nickname of “the ancient borough.”

Many of the houses built during the town's earliest period of development were log, with a scattering of brick and stone structures. A few of these eighteenth and earliest nineteenth century buildings survive along Perm Street between Second and Sixth, combined with a number of handsome brick residences built in the mid-nineteenth century by the town's increasingly prosperous citizens. Also erected during this second stage of the town's development was the county's second courthouse, which from 1842 to 1883 occupied the same plot of ground on which the present courthouse was later constructed.

Despite Huntingdon's very early founding, and the survival of representative buildings from its first century of development, the majority of outstanding buildings which line Huntingdon's downtown streets today document a later period of expansion and development which occurred between the Civil War and World War I. During this extended period, many of the ancient borough's original buildings were replaced by the larger and more substantial structures now seen along its streets. They signify a new social and economic structure, made possible by efficient railroad transportation, which saw Huntingdon transformed from a town of less than 1500 residents in 1850 to double that population (3034) in 1870 and to more than 6000 citizens in 1900.

The difference was industry, particularly manufacturing, which blossomed along the railroad, providing scores of jobs and fueling a building boom of major proportions. The workers attracted to Huntingdon's new factories, which manufactured everything from paper tablets to railroad cars, provoked a rash of house building, particularly in the rapidly developing West End. The town fathers organized a Board of Trade to attract development. Two of their projects have had significant long-term effects on the town: promoting the expansion of Juniata College on a West End hill-top site and securing the development of a large State prison on a site just across the river in Smithfield.



A distinction began to arise in Huntingdon between its residential and commercial sections, and a “downtown” developed, where retail business was centered. The expanding population needed stoves and furniture, clothing and shoes, drugs, hardware, and coal. They required banks, schools, a bigger post office, newspapers, telephones, and electric lights. And restaurants, hotels, boarding houses, pool halls, lodge rooms, and theaters. In the half century between 1865 and 1915 more than 50 large commercial buildings - an average of one a year - went up in downtown Huntingdon. Nothing remotely approaching such a boom has occurred in the same area since then.

A majority of those stylish structures survive today, many of them newly refurbished in cooperation with Huntingdon's on-going Main Street program.

The Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Huntingdon was prepared by Keystone Publishers, Inc., and adopted by the Borough of Huntingdon Borough Council on March 17, 2009 by *Ord. 855*.

### *Organization*

The Code contains four parts which are (1) the valid current ordinances of the Borough of Huntingdon contained in Chapters 1 through 27, (2) the Appendix, which lists by abstracted title all ordinances of a temporary or “one time” nature, (3) the Table to the disposition of each ordinance ever enacted by the Borough of Huntingdon, and (4) the Index, which is an alphabetical arrangement of subjects.

In the Code each Chapter is separated by a divider tab, and specific ordinances can be located by subject on the contents page at the beginning of each Chapter. The Index may also be used to search for a subject when one is looking for general information on a particular subject, or if it is not known in which Chapter the subject might be found. The Appendix consists of several general categories containing a chronological listing of short subject descriptions along with a reference to the original ordinance and its date of enactment, if known.

The Table to disposition indicates what action has been taken by the Borough of Huntingdon Borough Council with regard to every ordinance ever enacted. An ordinance has either been (1) specifically repealed, (2) superseded by another ordinance, (3) is located in a Chapter of the Code book, or (4) is located in the Appendix. Annual tax rate and budget ordinances are located only in the Table. The Table is a cross reference to the original ordinance books of the Borough of Huntingdon, and to the location within the Code of each ordinance by number.

ORDINANCE NO. 858

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HUNTINGDON, HUNTINGDON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA; CONSOLIDATING, REVISING, AMENDING AND REPEALING CERTAIN ORDINANCES; ENACTING CERTAIN NEW PROVISIONS; PROVIDING A PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING THE CODE AND FOR THE CITATION OF THE CODE AND THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF; ESTABLISHING RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE CODE; SAVING CERTAIN PROVISIONS FROM REPEAL; AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION.

The Borough of Huntingdon hereby ordains:

**Section 1. Adoption.** The “Code of Ordinances, Borough of Huntingdon,” as prepared and published for the said Borough of Huntingdon, is hereby adopted as a consolidation, codification and revision of the ordinances of the Borough of Huntingdon. Chapters 1 through 27 thereof contain the text of the body of all general administrative and regulatory ordinances of the Borough of Huntingdon organized as follows:

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Chapter 1 . . . . . Administration and Government  
Chapter 2 . . . . . Animals  
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Chapter 4 . . . . . Buildings  
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Chapter 7 . . . . . Fire Prevention and Fire Protection  
Chapter 8 . . . . . Floodplains  
Chapter 9 . . . . . [Reserved]  
Chapter 10 . . . . . Health and Safety  
Chapter 11 . . . . . Housing  
Chapter 12 . . . . . [Reserved]  
Chapter 13 . . . . . Licenses, Permits and General Business Regulations  
Chapter 14 . . . . . [Reserved]  
Chapter 15 . . . . . Motor Vehicles and Traffic  
Chapter 16 . . . . . [Reserved]  
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Chapter 21 . . . . . Streets and Sidewalks  
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Chapter 24 . . . . . Taxation; Special  
Chapter 25 . . . . . Trees  
Chapter 26 . . . . . Water  
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APPENDIX

A . . . . . Annexation of Territory

- B . . . . . Debt and Bond Issues
- C . . . . . Franchises and Services
- D . . . . . Governmental and Intergovernmental Affairs
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- F . . . . . Public Property
- G . . . . . Sewers
- H . . . . . Streets and Sidewalks
- I . . . . . Water
- J . . . . . Zoning; Prior Ordinances

Table to the Disposition of All Ordinances  
 Table to the Disposition of Significant Resolutions

The Appendix of the volume lists, by subject matter, in chronological order, the titles (or an abstract of title) of enactments of special nature or of historical interest, for the complete text of which the official records of the Borough of Huntingdon shall be authoritative.

**Section 2. Citation and Effective Date.** The codification referred to in Section 1 of this ordinance shall be known and cited officially as the “Borough of Huntingdon Code of Ordinances,” and all future ordinances shall make reference thereto. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication of notice of final enactment as required by law.

**Section 3. Saving Clause.** The provisions of the Borough of Huntingdon Code of Ordinances, so far as they are the same as those ordinances and regulations in force immediately prior to the adoption of said Code, are intended as a continuation of such ordinances and regulations and not as a new enactment. The provisions of the Borough of Huntingdon Code of Ordinances shall not affect any suit or prosecution pending or to be instituted to enforce any of the prior ordinances or regulations.

**Section 4. Consolidation and Revision.** As a necessary part of codification, the following provisions are hereby consolidated and revised as indicated:

A. *Consolidations.*

Section	Subject	Ordinance No., Section
		[Reserved]

B. *Revisions.*

Section	Subject	Ordinance No., Section
		[Reserved]

**Section 5. New Enactments, Amendments and Repeals.** As a necessary part of codification, the following ordinances are hereby enacted, amended and repealed as summarized by short title:

A. *New Enactments.*

<b>Section</b>	<b>Subject</b>
§§1-101–1-111	Preliminary Provisions
§§1-501–1-507	Imposition and Collection of Attorney's Fees
§§7-501–7-507	Smoke Detectors
§§10-301–10-306	Outdoor Wood Furnaces
§§25-101–25-113	Shade Trees

*B. Amendments.*

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<i>Ord. 359</i>	Tampering with Public Property
<i>Ord. 363</i>	Poles and Wires
<i>Ord. 419</i>	Sewer Rates and Uses
<i>Ord. 420</i>	Sewer Rates and Uses
<i>Ord. 481</i>	Poles and Wires
<i>Ord. 495</i>	Sewer Rates and Uses
<i>Ord. 497</i>	Poles and Wires
<i>Ord. 540</i>	Sewer Rates and Uses
<i>Ord. 576</i>	Revenue Sharing
<i>Ord. 582</i>	Sewer Rates and Uses
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<i>Ord. 599</i>	Sewer Usage
<i>Ord. 600</i>	Sewer Usage
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<i>Ord. 614</i>	Poles and Wires
<i>Ord. 624</i>	Sewer Rates and Uses
<i>Ord. 662</i>	Sewer Rates and Uses
<i>Ord. 686</i>	Personnel Policies; Employment Procedures
<i>Ord. 736</i>	Realty Transfer Tax
<i>Ord. 754</i>	Sewers; Sewers, Cesspools and Connections

**Section 6. Adoption of Standard Codes by Reference.** As a necessary part of codification, the following ordinances are hereby enacted by reference as standard codes summarized by short title:

<b>Section</b>	<b>Short Title</b>
	[Reserved]

**Section 7. Land Use Amendments.** The Borough of Huntingdon Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as is more fully shown in the complete text of Chapters 22 and 27

thereof which is attached hereto and made part hereof by reference hereto as if fully set out at length herein, with deletions shown by ~~strike-through~~ and additions shown by underline, all of which is briefly summarized hereinafter.

A. *New Provisions.* The following provisions are new provisions which are being added to the Code, are underlined throughout the text, and are summarized as follows:

<b>Section</b>	<b>Subject</b>
	[Reserved]

B. *Revised Provisions.* The following provisions of the Code are revised, the text of which indicates deletions by ~~strike-through~~ and additions shown by underline, and are summarized as follows:

<b>Section</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Ordinance No., Section</b>
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§22-921	Insect and Rodent Control	449, App. I
§22-923	Park Management Responsibilities	449, App. I
§27-107	Enforcement, Violations and Penalties	843, §106

Section	Subject	Ordinance No., Section
§27-807	Moving of Buildings	843, §807

C. *Repealed Provisions.* The following provisions of the Code are repealed, the text of which indicates deletions by ~~strike-through~~, and are as follows:

Section	Subject	Ordinance No., Section
	[Reserved]	

**Section 8. Procedural Changes.** The following minor procedural changes have been made to existing Borough of Huntingdon ordinances:

- A. Grammatical and spelling errors have been corrected where necessary;
- B. Minor changes have been made to correct obsolete terms and usages;
- C. The penalty provisions have been revised where necessary to comply with the Pennsylvania Borough Code, Vehicle Code, Municipalities Planning Code and the Local Tax Enabling Act.

**Section 9. Amending the Code of Ordinances.** The procedure for amending the Code of Ordinances shall include the citation of the Chapter, Part, Section and subsection to be amended, revised, repealed or added as follows:

- A. Amendment or Revision - “Chapter \_\_\_, Article \_\_\_, Section \_\_\_, Subsection \_\_\_ is hereby amended [revised] to read as follows...”
- B. Additions - “Chapter \_\_\_, Article \_\_\_, Section \_\_\_, Subsection \_\_\_ is hereby amended by the addition of the following...”
- C. Repeal - “Chapter \_\_\_, Article \_\_\_, Section \_\_\_, Subsection \_\_\_ is hereby repealed in its entirety.”

**Section 10. Responsibility for Code of Ordinances.** It shall be the responsibility of the Borough of Huntingdon Secretary to maintain an up-to-date certified copy of the Code of Ordinances. This copy shall be the official copy of the Borough of Huntingdon Code of Ordinances and shall be available for public inspection.

**Section 11. Penalties.** It shall be unlawful for anyone to change, alter or tamper with the Code of Ordinances in any manner which will intentionally misrepresent the laws of the Borough of Huntingdon. Whosoever shall violate this Section shall be guilty of an offense under §4911, “Tampering with Public Records or Information,” of the Crimes Code, 18 Pa.C.S.A. §4911, and shall be prosecuted under that Section of the law.

**Section 12. Severability of Parts of Codification.** It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Borough of Huntingdon that the Chapters, Parts, Sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this codification are severable. If any Section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Code is declared unconstitutional, illegal or otherwise invalid by the judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, that

invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining Chapters, Parts, Sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases of this codification.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

ATTEST: Borough of Huntingdon

/s/ Karen A. Foust  
Secretary

/s/ Glenn Stampfle  
President, Borough Council

APPROVED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

/s/ Foster G. Ulrich Jr.  
Mayor

## **Fee Schedule<sup>1</sup>**

[Reserved]

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<sup>1</sup>Editor's Note: A comprehensive Fee Schedule is being prepared by the Borough of Huntingdon and will be included here upon enactment by the Borough Council

