

Hartford Township, Van Buren County, Michigan
Ordinance Number 34
Adoption of Michigan Housing Law

An ordinance to promote the health, safety and welfare of the people of Hartford Township by adoption of the Michigan Housing Law (Act 167 of the Public Acts of 1917, as amended); to provide for the demolition of dangerous and unsafe buildings and to provide for the maintenance and improvement of buildings and the enforcement of the Act, and to repeal all existing Township ordinances in conflict herewith.

THE TOWNSHIP OF HARTFORD, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Adoption of Michigan Housing Law. In accordance with and pursuant to Public Act 1945, No. 246 (MCL 41.181 *et seq*) Hartford Township hereby adopts the Michigan Housing Law provided at Act 167 of the Public Acts of 1917, as amended (MCL 125.401 through 125.543).

Section 2. Enforcement. The designated Zoning Administrator, Code Enforcement Officer and Building Official are hereby designated as the enforcing agents to discharge the responsibilities of the Township of Hartford under Act 167 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1917, as amended.

Section 3. Establishment of Fee Schedule. The Township of Hartford shall have authority to establish, by resolution, at any regular or special meeting, a schedule of fees, rates and charges for the administration and enforcement of this Ordinance, and the Michigan Housing Law promulgated thereunder and adopted herein; provided further that any violation of this Ordinance or the adopted Housing Law shall require those deemed responsible for violation to pay all attorney fees and court costs that may be incurred in the enforcement of said Housing Law. It is further provided that the fees shall be reasonable and bear a reasonable relationship to the cost and expense of such administration, enforcement and activity. The Township of Hartford shall further have the right to amend by resolution the aforementioned schedules from time to time.

Section 4. Violations and Penalties. ~~Any person, firm or corporation who violates or fails to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance or the Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine not to exceed \$100.00, and costs of prosecution, or by imprisonment in the County jail for a term not exceeding ninety (90) days, or both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court. Each day that a violation of this Ordinance exists shall constitute a separate offense. In addition, the Township of Hartford shall have authority to proceed in any court of competent jurisdiction for the purpose of obtaining injunctive relief or other appropriate remedy to compel compliance with this Ordinance.~~ *Amended June 17, 2013 with Ordinance 38a to read

- A. Any person or entity responsible for a violation of this Ordinance, whether as an occupant, owner (by deed or land contract), lessee, licensee, agent, contractor, servant, employee, or otherwise, shall be liable as a principal. Each day that a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.
- B. Any person, firm, association, partnership, corporation or governmental entity who violates any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be responsible for a municipal civil infraction as defined by Michigan Statute which shall be punishable by a civil fine determined in accordance with the following schedule:

	Minimum Fine	Maximum Fine
1 st Offense within 3-year period*	\$ 75.00	\$500.00
2 nd Offense within 3-year period*	\$150.00	\$500.00
3 rd Offense within 3-year period*	\$300.00	\$500.00
4 th or More offense within 3-year period*	\$500.00	\$500.00

*Determined on the basis of the date of commission of the offense(s).

Additionally, the violator shall pay costs which may include all expenses, direct and indirect, to which Hartford Township has been put in connection with the municipal civil infraction. In no case, however, shall costs of less than \$9.00 or more than \$500.00 be ordered. In addition, the Township shall have the right to proceed in any court of competent Jurisdiction for the purpose of obtaining an injunction, restraining order, or other appropriate remedy to compel compliance with this Ordinance. Each day that a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.

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Section 5. Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances. All other Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed, and each Section of this Ordinance, and each subdivision of any Section thereof, is hereby declared to be independent, and in finding or holding of any Section or subdivision thereof to be invalid or void, shall not be deemed or held to affect the validity of any other Section or subdivision of this Ordinance.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance and its provisions established and adopted hereby shall take effect and be in full force and effect 30 days after its adoption and publication in accordance with the State statute.

*Adopted by the Township of Hartford, Van Buren County, Michigan on January 14, 2010
Effective February 21, 2010*