

Posted on the Trenton Town Hall bulletin board and the Town's official website on June 11, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AMENDMENTS TO THE ZONING CODE, TOWN OF TRENTON ORDINANCE #Z2025.07.03

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before the Town of Trenton Plan Commission and Town Board at the Town of Trenton Town Hall, 1071 Highway 33, West Bend, WI at 6:40 p.m. on July 14, 2025. The Public Hearing will be held to consider amendments to the Zoning Code of the Town of Trenton. The full draft of the proposed amendment follows.

Town of Trenton, Washington County, Wisconsin Ordinance Z2025.07.03 Amending the Zoning Code of the Town of Trenton Regarding Fences

WHEREAS, the Town of Trenton Board has authority to enact or amend town ordinances under Wis. Stats. §60.61(2), and

WHEREAS, the Plan Commission has reviewed sections of the current town building and zoning ordinances regarding fences; and

WHEREAS, the Town has duly noticed and held a public hearing on _____, on the proposed zoning code amendment, following the procedures in Wis. Stats. §60.61(4); and

WHEREAS, at its _____ meeting, the Plan Commission approved Resolution Z2025.____.____ recommending approval of the changes to the town zoning code as detailed herein; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board determines that this Ordinance is in the best interests of the residents of the Town of Trenton.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town of Trenton Board hereby ordains that the Town of Trenton Zoning Code §380 is amended as follows:

Section 1. Amend §380-109B. Fences categorized, as follows:

Replace "five" with "the following"

Add (6) Agricultural fence. A fence used in farming and ranching to confine livestock, protect crops, or manage property lines, designed to keep animals in or out of a designated area, typically made of materials like wood, wire, or mesh.

Section 2. Remove §380-109D. Residential fences, and replace with:

D. Fence standards.

- (1) Residential fence standards. Residential fences, hedges and walls as categorized in Section B. (1) - (5) are permitted on the property lines in the side and rear yards of residential districts but shall not in any case exceed a height of six feet and shall not be closer than two feet to any alley line. Residential fences, hedges and walls are permitted in the street yard provided they are no more than three feet in height and shall not be closer than five feet to a street right-of-way.
- (2) Agricultural fence standards. Agricultural fences as categorized in Section B. (6) are permitted in the R-3, C-1, CES-5 and CES-10 districts as follows:
 - a. On the property lines in the side and rear yards.
 - b. In the street yard with permission from the Plan Commission. Application shall include details of the fencing material, construction and height and a diagram of the placement of the fence on the property.

- (3) Security fence standards. Security fences are permitted on the property lines in all districts except residential districts but shall not exceed 10 feet in height and shall be of an open type similar to woven wire or wrought iron fencing.
- (4) Prohibited fences. No fence on residentially zoned property shall be constructed which is of a dangerous type of construction or which conducts electricity or is designed to electrically shock or which uses barbed wire. Barbed wire may be used in industrially zoned areas if the devices securing the barbed wire to the fence are 10 feet above the ground or height and project toward the fenced property and away from any public area.
- (5) Fences constructed in the EA, AE and A-1 zoning districts are excluded from the provisions of §380-109 Fences and hedges.

Section 3. Remove §380-109G. Nonconforming fences and hedges and replace with:

Nonconforming fences and hedges. {Remove (1) and place language immediately following} Any fence or hedge previously permitted and existing on the effective date of this Zoning Code and not in conformance with this section may be maintained, but any alteration, modification or improvement of said fence shall comply with this section.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance is invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the other provisions of this ordinance.

Section 5. Effective date. This ordinance shall be effective upon publication or posting under applicable law.

Public comments on the proposed amendment may be submitted in writing or may be presented during the public hearing. Written comments must be submitted to the Town Administrator (townadmin@townoftrenton.wi.gov or 1071 Highway 33, West Bend, WI 53095) and shall become part of the record, provided they are received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 14, 2025. The Public Hearing will be closed when all interested parties in attendance have had an opportunity to offer comments. Upon the close of all Public Hearings scheduled for Monday, July 14, a meeting of the Trenton Plan Commission shall be called to order and the application shall be addressed per the agenda.

By: Mike Lipscomb, Trenton Town Chairman/Trenton Plan Commission Chairman
Dated this 10th day of June, 2025.