



City Council Communication

Meeting Date: January 6, 2020

Requested By: Development Services Department

Item Title: Public Hearing

Consider an ordinance amending Oskaloosa Municipal Code Chapter 17.36, "Floodplain Management Regulations". (1st Reading)

Explanation:

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is a Federal program designed to reduce future flood damage through community-based floodplain management. Communities who adopt and enforce a floodplain management ordinance receive access to affordable NFIP flood insurance protection for property owners. Oskaloosa became an NFIP community in 2011 and currently has two properties within the city with flood insurance policies.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has regulatory authority over most of Iowa's floodplains and works with communities to adopt floodplain management ordinances. The DNR has released an updated statewide model ordinance and recommends that Oskaloosa update its ordinance by adopting the new model. The ordinance meets all State standards and meets or exceeds minimum Federal NFIP standards. Communities are allowed to adopt higher standards if they wish.

Oskaloosa's floodplain management ordinance is a chapter within the zoning ordinance. The Planning & Zoning Commission held a public hearing at their December 3rd, 2019 meeting and recommends unanimous approval of the attached ordinance. Staff concurs and recommends that the Council open the public hearing, accept comments and questions, discuss the proposed ordinance, and hold a first reading.

Budget Consideration:

Minimal cost to codify and print municipal code updates.

Attachments:

Proposed ordinance
Oskaloosa area NFIP floodplain maps