MEMBERS PRESENT: Bart Caldwell, Chairperson  
Dave Kriens, Vice Chairperson  
Chuck Gassman  
Randy Tinker  
Chad Layland  
Martie Mendenhall  
Cheryl Peterson  
Matthew Keller  
Jon Thyberg  
Don Stockton  
Candy Morgan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mel Shivvers  
Blake O’Brien

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Bishop, Deputy Building Official  
Ann DiDonato, Assistant City Attorney II  
Jeremy Eekhoff, Fire Protection Engineer

GUESTS:

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Bart Caldwell at 3:30 p.m. Meeting was held at the Des Moines Municipal Service Center located at 1551 East Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway.

Item 1: Introductions

Board members, staff, and the public introduced themselves.

Item 2: Old Business

a. Minutes May 9, 2019 Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals

Randy Tinker made a motion to approve the May 9, 2019 minutes with one correction. Matthew Keller was absent last meeting, but was listed as attending. This will be corrected. Chuck Gassman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 3: PDC Staff Report.

Deputy Building Official (DBO) Bishop provided a brief staff report to discuss items of interest from the Permit and Development Center (PDC). The Permit and Development Center is finishing the hiring process to fill the commercial plans examiner vacancy. In other staffing news, Phil Delafield,
Assistant City Manager and former Community Development has announced his retirement from City government effective July 26, 2019.

The Central Iowa Code Consortium met on June 5th to finalize the code amendment recommendations. The fire code and plumbing code did not have enough votes to pass and will be reassessed at a future meeting.

The Permit and Development Center permit counter has been recently updated. This renovation was long overdue.

The new Energov System is also in the works to replace the current Tidemark program currently used for permitting. This system will revolutionize how we do business adding features such as online permitting, online plans submissions. This project has several milestone dates in progress and it is targeted to launch next year.

The City of Des Moines will be updating its zoning code. The first public hearings were held last week. Additional information can be found at plandsm.com.

**Item 4: New Business**

**a) Recognition of Board Member for Service**

Don Stockton recently informed Deputy Building Official (DBO) Brian Bishop of his upcoming retirement from Baker Electric. Don has also retired from the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals. Brian Bishop presented Don with a certificate of appreciation for his years of service to the Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals.

**b) Central Iowa Code Consortium preliminary recommendations**

DBO Bishop provided a brief overview of all the Central Iowa Code Consortium plumbing, mechanical, fuel gas and energy code recommendations. City staff will provide a draft of the differences between the State Plumbing and Mechanical Code and the CICC amendments. The energy code was discussed. The CICC recommendation was to stay with the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code until a statewide stakeholder group is established to recommend the adoption of an updated energy code.

**c) Code adoption timeline**

The code adoption timeline for the 2018 codes is slated for January 1, 2020. City staff will try to provide a draft of the code in late August for this Board to review. City staff will try to schedule a meeting in late August rather than our normal second Thursday of the month.

**d) Letter from Iowa Department of Public Health on State Code Adoption**

Deputy Building Official Brian Bishop provided members of the Board with a copy of a letter that the Cody Christensen had received from the Iowa Department of Public Health. The letter reiterated that the State Plumbing Code and State Mechanical Code are the mandated minimum code for plumbing and mechanical systems in the State of Iowa. The State Plumbing and Mechanical Systems Board are currently in the process of adopting the 2018 Uniform Plumbing Code and 2018 International Mechanical Code. The letter specifically states that cities larger than 15,000 in
population are required to adopt the State Plumbing Code and State Mechanical Code. Cities cannot adopt requirements less stringent than the State. Cities can adopt requirements more stringent than the State but Cities must send their ordinances to the State if they are more stringent.

a. State Code Adoption

In past code adoptions the City of Des Moines has adopted the same codes as the State of Iowa, but has not specifically referenced the State Plumbing Code or State Mechanical Code. The adoption has typically mirrored that of the State. For the next cycle, City staff would like to adopt the State Plumbing and State Mechanical Code with amendments to include inspections, Board of Appeals, etc. Assistant City Attorney Ann DiDonato stated that the State law is very clear that the City shall adopt by reference the State Plumbing and State Mechanical Code as the minimum standards for plumbing and mechanical installation in the City of Des Moines. Chuck Gassman asked if the Board could review the amendments from the CICC that are more stringent. DBO Bishop that those would be the only amendments that could be reviewed.

Item 5: Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Randy Tinker and seconded by Jon Thyberg. The motion passed with unanimous approval and the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Brian Bishop, Deputy Building Official