

ARTICLE 23-14
INTERPRETATION AND VALIDITY

**SECTION 14.1 PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE DECLARED TO BE MINIMUM;
REQUIREMENTS**

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this ordinance shall be held to be minimum requirements adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety and welfare. Wherever the requirements of this ordinance are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

SECTION 14.2 CONTINUANCE

This ordinance is a further amendment of Chapter 23 of the "Code of the City of Pittsfield Zoning" and "City of Pittsfield Building Zone Map, Section One of Two Sections", both dated December 29, 1952, as amended, and shall be construed to be a continuation of the regulations contained therein, regardless of changes in working or arrangement, except insofar as amendments constitute changes in meaning. In the event of discrepancy in meaning as between the ordinance as originally adopted, and later amendments, the meaning in the most recent amendment shall prevail.

No lot created, structure built, or use established in violation of the provisions of the zoning ordinance existed at the time of such violation shall be deemed to have achieved any nonconforming status solely as the result of the adoption of a subsequent amendment.

SECTION 14.3 SEVERABILITY

Should any section of this ordinance be declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, it is the intention that such decision shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION 14.4 VALIDATION OF PRIOR PERMITS, ETC.

All building permits, certificate of occupancies, Special Permits, variances or other permits or licenses lawfully issued pursuant to the Pittsfield City Code, Chapter 23, as amended, entitled "Zoning", approved July 9, 1970, to persons who, in good faith, have relied on said ordinance, shall be valid and not be revoked or canceled.

SECTION 14.5 REFERENCES TO MASSACHUSETTS ZONING ACT

References made in this ordinance to general or particular provisions of Chapter 40A, Massachusetts General Laws ("The Zoning Act") shall be deemed to refer to such section or pertinent portions thereof as are in effect as of the date of enactment of this ordinance or any subsequent amendment hereto. In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between any provisions of this ordinance and any present or future provisions in said Chapter 40A, the provisions of the statute shall govern.