ORDINANCE NO. 2019-19

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, AMENDING
THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, SECTION 3.10 – VESTED
RIGHTS AND NONCONFORMITIES; AND PROVIDING FOR
SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN
CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of St. Pete Beach periodically finds sections in its Land Development Code which require clarification, updating and/or amending; and

WHEREAS, the City’s Land Development Code also serves to maintain an environment conducive to the health, safety, welfare of the City’s residents, and preserves and enhances property values within the City; and

WHEREAS, on October 21, 2019 and November 18, 2019, the City’s Planning Board sitting as the Local Planning Agency held a public hearing to consider the proposed Land Development Code changes and provided recommendations to the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission has found this ordinance to be in the best interest, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City and

WHEREAS, notice of this ordinance has been provided in accordance with applicable law.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH FLORIDA, HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Recitals. The above recitals (“Whereas” clauses) are hereby adopted as legislative findings, purpose and intent of the City Commission.

SECTION 2. The provisions in this Section pertaining to the City’s Land Development Code are amended as follows:

Division 3, Sec. 3.10 (Vested rights and nonconformities) shall be amended as follows:

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(b) Nonconforming structures. Where a lawful structure exists at the time of adoption or amendment of this Code which could no longer be built under the terms of this Code by reason of restrictions on lot area, impervious surface, height, or other such characteristics, such structure may continue to be used so long as it remains otherwise lawful, subject to the following provisions:

(1) No such structure may be enlarged, altered or improved in a manner which increases its non-conformity, except for the conditions set forth for elevating an existing structure in Section (3)A. below.
(2) Any nonconforming structure which suffers substantial damage, as defined in this Code, shall only be repaired, restored or reconstructed in a manner which brings the entire structure into compliance with all requirements of this Code and other applicable codes of the city.

(3) Should such nonconforming structure be moved, either vertically or horizontally, it shall comply with the following:

A. The structure shall be moved, vertically only, such that the lowest floor is elevated no higher than six inches above the base flood elevation, as defined and established in the city's flood damage prevention regulations set forth in Chapter 98 of the Code of Ordinances, except that minimum necessary additional height shall be allowed to provide for the construction of a garage underneath any structure which is so moved. The maximum height of the new construction for the garage shall not exceed nine feet from the existing grade of the lot to the bottom of the existing horizontal structural member of the lowest floor. Under no circumstances shall the resulting structure exceed the maximum height allowed by the zoning district.

B. The structure shall be moved, horizontally only, such that no additional non-conformities are created, and no existing non-conformities are increased, by such relocation; and

C. The structure shall be located on the property so that there is a setback of at least three feet from the nearest property line on all sides of the structure.

(4) Any nonconforming structure may be reinforced to make it resistant to hurricanes for the health safety and welfare of the public. These improvements include the addition of hurricane shutters, impact windows and doors, and hurricane straps.

(5) Ordinary repairs and maintenance may be made to a non-conforming structure provided that such repairs or maintenance do not constitute a substantial improvement as defined in the Land Development Code.

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SECTION 3. Conflicts. All ordinances or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of any conflict with the Ordinance.

SECTION 4. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable, and if any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance but they shall
remain in effect, it being the legislative intent that this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

SECTION 5. Construction. This Ordinance is to be liberally construed to accomplish its objectives.

SECTION 6. Publication. This Ordinance shall be published in accordance with the requirements of law.

SECTION 7. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

FIRST READING: 11/12/2019
PUBLISHED: 11/29/2019
SECOND READING: 12/10/2019
PUBLIC HEARING: 12/10/2019

Alan Johnson, Mayor

I, Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted in accordance with the provisions of applicable law this 10th day of December, 2019.

Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

Andrew Dickman, Esq., City Attorney