

**CITY OF MONTROSE  
COUNTY OF WRIGHT  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2019-07**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1031: ALTERNATIVE ENERGY  
SYSTEMS TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR SOLAR FARMS  
WITHIN THE CITY.**

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONTROSE ORDAINS:**

**Section 1.** Code Amended. Section 1032.4 Types of SES is hereby amended to the correct section numbering, 1031.4. This change is reflected in sections 2-4 below in their own numbering.

**Section 2.** Code Amended. Section 1031.4, 5-h. is hereby amended to read as follows:

- h. Setbacks. All equipment and structures shall meet the setback and coverage limitations for the zoning district in which the system is located, except that Solar Farms shall be setback from all property lines at least one hundred (100) feet.

**Section 3.** Code Added. Section 1031.4, 5. is hereby amended to include the following items, and to read as follows:

- i. Screening. All solar farms shall be screened from adjacent residential uses in accordance with Section 1020-5, Required Landscape Screening. Landscaping shall be consistent with the design standards and criteria established in Section 1020-4, B.
  - a) Solar farms which abut a public roadway must provide screening from right-of-way through a combination of fencing, landscaping or earthen berms. These should provide screening to a minimum height of 8 feet. The grade for determining this height will be based upon the grade elevation of the solar farm that is being screened. Design Criteria for this screening shall be based upon the provisions of Chapter 1020, FENCING/SCREENING/LANDSCAPING in the City of Montrose's zoning ordinance.

**Section 4.** Code Added. Section 1031.4, 4. is hereby amended to include the following items, and to read as follows:

- j. For proposed solar farms which fall within the area of the interim build scenario identified in the City's Comprehensive Plan, additional review by city staff will be required to determine consistency with the plan and potential growth impact. This review is subject to the following conditions:
  - a) The site should not immediately abut an existing residential development which utilizes urban utilities.
  - b) The site should not impede future logical extension of urban utilities or public

right-of-way as determined by the public works director and city engineer.

**Section 5.** This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force after its passage and publication.

ADOPTED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019 by the City Council of the City of Montrose.

CITY OF MONTROSE

By: Michelle Otto  
Michelle Otto, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: Deborah R. Boelter  
Deborah R. Boelter, City Clerk-Treasurer