

**ORDINANCE NO: 2024 - 01**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRISTOL, CHAPTER 120 HOUSING STANDARDS TO INCLUDE REGULAR INSPECTION OF RECOVERY HOMES**

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Township of Bristol is empowered to adopt Ordinances of the Township pursuant to the Pennsylvania First Class Township Code, 53 P.S. § 56502; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania First Class Township Code authorizes Bristol Township to adopt rules and regulations concerning the maintenance of property, 53 P.S. § 58105-A; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Township of Bristol finds the regular inspection of recovery homes is necessary and in the interests of the public health, safety and general welfare of the public and the residents of recovery homes located within the Township of Bristol;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BRISTOL:**

1. The following definition is added to Section 120-2:

**RECOVERY HOUSE – A recovery house is a group home where any number of individuals reside together either by court order or voluntarily in order to recover from drug, alcohol and/ or substance abuse which serves as a transitional environment between rehabilitation facilities and reintegration into their future lives. This definition shall also include sober houses or sober living environments.**

2. The definition of RENTAL UNIT is revised to read as follows:

**A dwelling unit or rooming unit which is not owner occupied.**

3. Section 120-10 is amended to include new subsection K.:

**K. Recovery House Inspections. All recovery houses shall be subject to four (4) quarterly inspections every year to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Chapter as well as occupancy limits. The**

property owner or manager shall grant the Township Building Official access to the property to complete the required inspections.

4. Section 120-11 is amended to include new subsection C.:

In the event the property owner or manager of a recovery house refuses the Building Official access to the property to conduct an inspection under Section 120-10.K., the Building Official may declare the property to be unsafe, unfit for human occupancy and/ or an imminent danger that endangers life as those terms are defined in the 2021 International Property Maintenance Code or other future edition adopted by the Township. If the Building Official makes such a determination, he is empowered to take any and all abatement and enforcement steps outlined in the 2021 International Property Maintenance Code or other future edition adopted by the Township.

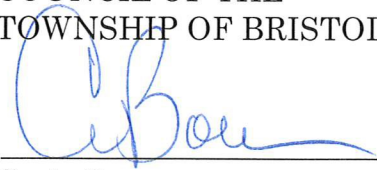
5. All provisions of the Code of the Township of Bristol inconsistent or in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.
6. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any section, clause, sentence, part or provision hereof shall be held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision of the court shall not affect or impair any of the remaining sections, clauses, sentences, parts or provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Council of the Township of Bristol that this Ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional section, clause, sentence, part or provision had not been included herein.
7. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED this 15 day of February, 2024.

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Siefker,  
Secretary

COUNCIL OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF BRISTOL

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Bowen,  
Council President

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Ordinance enacted by the Bristol Township Council on \_\_February 15\_\_, 2024.



  
Amy Siefker, Secretary