

(Published in The Morning Sun on May 1, 2026)

**ORDINANCE NO. G-1386**

AN ORDINANCE creating Article VI, Sections 50-201 through 50-208, in Chapter 50 of the Pittsburg City Code to regulate the use of storage containers and shipping containers in the City of Pittsburg, Kansas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURG, KANSAS:

Section 1. Article VI in Chapter 50 of the Pittsburg City Code is hereby created as follows:

**ARTICLE VI-SHIPPING CONTAINERS AND STORAGE CONTAINERS**

Section 2. Section 50-201 of the Pittsburg City Code is hereby created as follows:

**APPLICABILITY.**

This Article establishes uniform regulations for the placement, use and permitting of storage containers and shipping containers in all zoning districts within the City of Pittsburg, Kansas, while maintaining public safety, protecting community character, and ensuring compatibility with surrounding uses.

Section 3. Section 50-202 of the Pittsburg City Code is hereby created as follows:

**DEFINITION.**

For the purpose of this Article a “Shipping Container or Storage Container” is a prefabricated steel intermodal container designed for the transportation of goods via sea, rail, or land. This definition also includes rail boxcars, enclosed vehicle trailers, and vehicular transport truck box enclosures originally manufactured as part of a transport vehicle.

Section 4. Section 50-203 of the Pittsburg City Code is created as follows:

**REQUIREMENTS.**

The use of Shipping Containers or Storage Containers in commercial and residential districts shall comply with the following requirements:

**a) Permit Requirements:**

- i. Temporary use requires a building permit and inspections before placement and upon removal.
- ii. Permanent use requires a building permit and inspections before placement and upon removal.

**b) Maximum Number of Containers:**

- i) No more than two (2) Storage Containers and Shipping Containers are permitted per parcel.

**c) Placement:**

- ii) Storage Containers and Shipping Containers must comply with the current zoning setback requirements.
- iii) Storage Containers and Shipping Containers must not obstruct public rights-of-way, public utility or drainage easements, emergency vehicle access, or access to adjacent structures.

**d) Safety Standards and Aesthetic Requirement:**

- i) Storage Containers and Shipping Containers must meet structural integrity, fire safety, and any other standards outlined in Section 3114 of the International Building Code.
- ii) All exterior signage must be removed from all Storage Containers and Shipping Containers, and all Storage Containers and Shipping Containers must be painted or sided in a color complementary to and compatible with the primary structure within thirty (30) days of placement.

Section 5. Section 50-204 of the Pittsburg City Code is created as follows:

**PROHIBITED ACTIONS.**

The following uses and placement of Storage Containers and Shipping Containers is prohibited:

**Stacking:**

- a) Storage Containers and Shipping Containers shall not be stacked without the use of stamped engineered drawings that meet or exceed the minimum standards set forth in the International Building Code.

**Visibility:**

- b) Storage Containers and Shipping Containers must not block visibility for

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- b) Storage Containers and Shipping Containers must not block visibility for motorists or create safety hazards, as determined by the City Building Official, Zoning Administrator or Chief of Police.

**Permit:**

- c) Placement of Storage Containers and Shipping Containers prior to obtaining a building permit.

**Living Quarters:**

- d) Use of Storage Containers and Shipping Containers as residential living quarters.

Section 6. Section 50-205 of the Pittsburg City Code is hereby created as follows:

**TEMPORARY USE.**

**a) Purpose and Duration:**

- i) Storage Containers and Shipping Containers may be used temporarily for purposes such as moving into or out of a residence, building or other structure, construction-related storage, or other short-term uses approved in advance and in writing by the Building Official or Zoning Administrator.
- ii) Temporary use of Storage or Shipping Containers may not exceed ninety (90) days. Extensions not to exceed thirty (30) additional days may be approved by the Building Official or Zoning Administrator upon prior written request.

**b) Compliance:**

- i. Temporary use of Storage Containers and Shipping Containers must meet all the general regulations stated in Section 50-203 hereof.
- ii. Temporary use of Storage Containers and Shipping Containers in commercial zones may be required to comply with accessibility requirements (e.g., ADA compliance).

Section 7. Section 50-206 of the Pittsburg City Code is hereby created as follows:

**PERMANENT USE.**

Storage Containers and Shipping Containers may be used as permanent accessory structures under the following conditions:

- a) Storage or Shipping Containers shall only be placed upon lots with an existing principal residential or commercial structure or on adjacent lots under common ownership.

- b) Storage Containers and Shipping Containers must pass all required inspections to ensure compliance with applicable building and safety codes.
- c) Emergency and fire vehicle access must be maintained at all times.

Section 8. Section 50-207 of the Pittsburg City Code is hereby created as follows:

**EXISTING NONCONFORMING STORAGE CONTAINERS AND SHIPPING CONTAINERS.**

All nonconforming Storage Containers and Shipping Containers in use prior to the adoption of this Article must comply with the provisions hereof within ninety (90) days following its effective date.

Section 9. Section 50-208 of the Pittsburg City Code is hereby created as follows:

**VIOLATION AND PENALTIES.**

- a) Unauthorized placement, use, or modifications of Storage Containers or Shipping Containers will be treated as violations of this Article. Violations are punishable in accordance with Section 1-7 of the Pittsburg Municipal Code.
- b) Violations of this Article shall also be subject to immediate removal orders from the City Building Official or Zoning Administrator at the owner's expense.

Section 10. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication of its summary in the official city paper.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF PITTSBURG,  
KANSAS, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.

  
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Chuck Munsell, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Tammy Nagel, City Clerk

