

ARTICLE III. PERMITS AND INSPECTION**DIVISION 1. PERMITS****Sec. 49-300. Required.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to begin any job of plumbing until a license holder has secured from the permits and inspections division a permit to do such work; provided that no permit will be required for minor repair work as defined in sections 49-400 and 49-303.

Where equipment replacements and repairs must be performed in an emergency situation, the permit application shall be submitted within the next working business day to the permits and inspections division.

(Ord. No. 37744, § 5, 5-22-07)

Sec. 49-301. Qualifications to obtain a permit.

To obtain a permit a licensed master plumber, water conditioning contractor or lawn sprinkler contractor, shall have on file with the city a certificate of insurance which provides combined coverage for bodily injury and property damage in a minimum amount of \$1,000,000.00 plus a bond in the sum of \$10,000.00 with sufficient sureties, such bond to be for the protection of the city against loss or damage by reason of carelessness or negligence of the person holding such license to properly execute and protect any and all plumbing work performed by him or work under his supervision during the period of such license.

A certified fire suppression specialist may obtain a permit for installation of reduced pressure principle backflow preventers and double check valves on a fire suppression system. Such contractor shall have on file with the city a certificate of insurance which provides combined coverage for bodily injury and property damage in a minimum amount of \$1,000,000.00 plus a bond in the sum of \$10,000.00 with sufficient sureties, such bond to be for the protection of the city against loss or damage by reason of carelessness or negligence of the contractor.

(Ord. No. 37744, § 6, 5-22-07)

Sec. 49-302. Issuance of permits restricted.

Only a licensed master plumber filling an additional surety bond for street excavation in an amount no less than the sum of \$20,000.00 with the city shall be eligible to secure permits for the installation, repair or alteration of building sewers, storm sewer or water services.

Sec. 49-303. Exception for minor repair work.

No permit shall be required under the provisions of this article for repairs which involve only the working parts of a faucet or valve, clearance of stoppages, or repairing or replacement of defective faucets or valves; minor repairs of water conditioning appliances or minor repairs of a lawn sprinkler system; provided that alterations are not made in the existing piping or fixtures and appliances. It shall be unlawful for any person, including firms and corporations, to perform minor repair work without first

having obtained a license as required; provided that the owner of the property and his or her employees may perform minor repair work on that property.

In buildings or premises where a list of deficiency by a housing inspector of the planning department because of unsanitary condition of the plumbing system, or parts thereof, the alterations of such system shall not be considered as repairs, but as new work.

In buildings or premises condemned by a housing inspector of the planning department the plumbing system shall be required to meet all current standards of this chapter.

Sec. 49-304. Application.

Application for a permit required by the provisions of this article shall be made on forms furnished by the permits and inspections division. Such application shall show:

- (a) The name of the owner, agent or occupant of the premises where the work is to be done.
- (b) The location of the premises by lot, block and addition or street name and number.
- (c) The printed name, address and signature of the master plumber having charge of such work.
- (d) A description of the work to be done, setting forth the number and kind of plumbing fixtures.

Sec. 49-305. Plans and specifications.

Before any plumbing permit can be issued for the installation of a plumbing system in any building, there shall be filed by the owner or his authorized agent, with the planning department, plans, riser diagrams and specifications, in triplicate, showing and specifying such system. The planning department shall affix their approval, or, in case of disapproval, reasons for such disapproval, retaining one copy for the files and making two copies available to the owner or his agent. Nothing in this chapter will require the owner or his authorized agent to submit plans or specifications for repair of existing plumbing, private residence installations and minor installations in existing buildings. The owner or his authorized agent shall have the right to substitute materials and make minor alterations in his plans and specifications without further approval, provided that such changes and substitutions meet the minimum standards set out in this chapter. For purposes of this section, minor installations in existing buildings shall be defined as the installation and/or relocation of ten fixtures or less.

Sec. 49-306. Fees.

Before any permit shall be issued under the provisions of this chapter, the applicant shall pay the following appropriate fees:

- (a) For each fixture or opening roughed in or roof drain . . . \$ 7.95
- (b) For each change in location of plumbing fixture . . . 7.95
- (c) For moving or rearranging any part of drainage or venting system, each such change . . . 7.95
- (d) For below ground swimming pool . . . 58.90
- (e) For backflow protective devices:
 - (1) Atmospheric vacuum breakers . . . 7.95

- (2) Pressure vacuum breakers assembly . . . 11.35
- (3) Reduced pressure principle backflow preventer assembly and double check valve assembly . . . 28.85
- (f) For each hot tub, spa or above-ground swimming pool . . . 17.00
- (g) For each solar collector array (including related piping and regulating devices) . . . 11.35
- (h) For each storage tank incorporated into a solar energy system (including related piping and regulating devices . . . 7.95
- (i) For each residential water heater . . . 7.95
- (j) For each commercial water heater . . . 34.00
- (k) For each residential water heater replacement, maximum fee . . . 11.35
- (l) For indirect waste . . . 5.65
- (m) For each water service installation, connection, repair, extension or alteration.
 - (1) For water services not used for fire protection . . . 7.95
 - (2) For water services used for commercial fire protection . . . 55.00
 - (3) For water services for residential fire protection . . . 40.00
- (n) For each residential connection of property or each stub, extension or alteration of a sewer . . . 45.30
- (o) For each commercial connection of property or each stub, extension or alteration of a sewer . . . 61.80
- (p) For each area inlet and downspout opening . . . 7.95
- (q) For each repair of a building sewer . . . 45.30
- (r) For each tap of a sewer or manhole . . . 45.30
- (s) For each 50 lawn sprinkler heads or fraction thereof . . . 11.30
- (t) For each water conditioning device . . . 10.30
- (u) Grease interceptors . . . 50.00
- (v) Water features . . . 50.00
- (w) For any connection to the potable water system for fire protection . . . 40.00

The minimum fee for any permit shall be \$22.70.

(Ord. No. 38649, § 6, 2-2-10)

Sec. 49-307. Commencing work without permit.

In the event any work for which a permit is required by the provisions of this article is started before obtaining such permit, such work shall be stopped, and shall not be resumed, until such permit is obtained. Upon application for such permit, the amount of the fee specified therefore shall be a minimum of \$100.00 or quadrupled, whichever is greater; provided, however, upon clear and convincing proof of a practical hardship, inadvertent mistake or error, the chief plumbing inspector may waive such penalty fee.

Sec. 49-308. Second permit required in case of completion of work by different plumber.

When one license holder completes the rough work in whole or in part of any plumbing job and another license holder is called to complete said plumbing work, either in whole or in part, then a new permit is required. Each person holding a permit for the construction of such work shall be held responsible only for the work he has installed. Before the second party is issued a permit for the completion of the plumbing job, the plumbing inspector shall first notify the license holder holding the original or first permit in writing that a new permit is to be issued. A new permit shall be invalid until such notice is given.

Secs. 49-309--49-319. Reserved.

DIVISION 2. INSPECTIONS**Sec. 49-320. Required.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to allow or permit water or sewage to flow through water or drainage piping that may be installed or such existing piping as may be altered or repaired, or to use the same, until such piping has been inspected, tested, and approved by the plumbing inspector.

Sec. 49-321. Exception.

No test or inspection shall be required where a plumbing system or part thereof is set up and used for exhibition purposes only and has no connection with the sewer or water supply system.

Sec. 49-322. Qualifications of inspectors.

The chief plumbing inspector and all other plumbing inspectors of the city shall meet the qualifications set up by the human resources director. They shall have had at least seven years' active and continuous experience as a licensed plumber in the city. They shall hold a valid plumber's license which shall have been issued by the plumbing board, and they must be skilled and experienced in the sanitary installations of all plumbing work in all classes of building, and in making proper tests of old, as well as new, installations of plumbing systems.

(Ord. No. 37101, § 1, 8-9-05)

Sec. 49-323. Conflict of interest of inspectors.

It shall be unlawful for the chief plumbing inspector, or any of his inspectors, to engage in the business of the sale, installation, or maintenance of plumbing or plumbing fixtures, either directly or indirectly. They shall have no financial interest in any concern engaged in such business at any time while in the employ of the city.

Sec. 49-324. Duties and authority of inspectors.

The chief plumbing inspector shall be under the direction of the permits and inspections division. Plumbing inspectors shall be under the direction of the chief plumbing inspector. The chief plumbing inspector and plumbing inspectors shall have the authority and it shall be their duty:

- (a) To enforce all provisions of this chapter.
- (b) To inspect all plumbing work in the process of construction, alteration, or repair within the city and within three miles of the city limits.
- (c) To file a complaint with the plumbing board against any person or persons who violate any of the provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 49-325. Investigation and prosecution of violations.

It shall be the duty of the plumbing inspector to investigate all cases reported to or referred to him, of the use of improper material or workmanship on any job of plumbing work or the violation of the provisions of this chapter, either by any license holder, builders, agents, or owners, to stop such work, and to order same removed and replaced in a proper and workmanlike manner with the proper material to conform to the purpose and intent of this chapter.

Sec. 49-326. Right of entry of inspectors.

The chief plumbing inspector and plumbing inspectors shall carry an official badge of office and upon exhibition thereof shall have the right of entry at reasonable times into and upon all buildings or structures and premises within the regulatory jurisdiction of the city for the purpose of making inspections, reinspections or investigations, or otherwise performing such duties as may be necessary in the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter or any amendments thereto.

Sec. 49-327. Notification that work is ready for inspection.

It shall be the duty of any license holder to notify the office of the plumbing inspector when plumbing work is ready to be inspected. The plumbing inspector shall, within eight working hours thereafter, make the necessary inspection. If the plumbing is not rejected within eight working hours after an inspection is ordered, the plumbing work may be covered at the master plumber's responsibility. More than one rough inspection may be made without charge when the progress of construction requires such inspection.

Sec. 49-328. Final inspection.

Within ten days after the completion of any job of plumbing work, it shall be the duty of the license holder having charge of such work to notify the plumbing inspector that such work is ready for final inspection, and no such plumbing or drainage system shall be used until it has been inspected and approved by the plumbing inspector.

Sec. 49-329. Work not to be covered before inspection.

No person shall so cover or conceal from view any plumbing work on any building or building site so as to prevent the proper inspection as required in section 49-327 and a notice or sign stating that the plumbing has been inspected and approved.

Whenever any plumbing work in any building has been covered by lathing, plastering, flooring, or otherwise, before the plumbing inspector has had reasonable opportunity to inspect same, then the plumbing inspector shall have the authority to require the removal of such obstruction sufficiently to afford an adequate means of making proper inspection.

Sec. 49-330. Inspections of sanitary and storm sewers.

(a) When boring or pipe bursting is used, the following inspection procedures will be used:

(1) The plumbing inspector shall observe the insertion of any pipe through holes bored underground. There shall be unrestricted insertion of the pipe through the hole. If the inspector believes excessive force has been applied to the pipe during insertion, an air test shall be performed on the portion of pipe installed through the hole. If the test fails, the pipe shall be removed.

(2) After installation is completed the pipe will be required to be flushed with water and then videoed in the presence of a plumbing inspector. Sewer pipe installations less than 75 feet long with a fall of one-half inch per foot or more will not be required to be flushed or videoed.

(3) The size of the holes bored for the insertion of any pipe shall not be any larger than 1.5 times the size of the pipe for sizes ten inches and smaller and 1.3 times the size of the pipe for sizes larger than ten inches. If the hole is oversized, the void around the pipe must be mud-jacked in the presence of a plumbing inspector or ductile iron pipe must be installed. In addition, the pipe must be flushed with water and then videoed in the presence of a plumbing inspector.

(b) Where pipe is laid in an open trench the following inspection procedures will be used.

(1) Sewer pipe, regardless of size, laid in an open trench with less than one-eighth inch per-foot fall shall be installed in a bed of Class IB material and laid with the aid of a laser. In addition, the pipe must be flushed with water and then videoed in the presence of a plumbing inspector.

(2) Any time the plumbing inspector has cause he/she may require a test on the piping.

(c) The sanitary sewer serving a new structure on a property which was previously occupied by another building may not be connected to the previous building's sewer before the original sewer has been tested and inspected by thoroughly flushing the pipe with water and following the flush with an electronic video inspection of the entire length of the pipe. The video inspection shall be performed in the presence of the plumbing inspector or, with prior approval by the inspector, the electronic inspection may be recorded and the recording submitted to the inspector in an approved form for review by the inspector at a time and location of his/her choice.

(Ord. No. 37744, § 7, 5-22-07; Ord. No. 38649, § 7, 2-2-10)

Sec. 49-331. Correction of defective work; reinspections.

If plumbing work is found to be faulty, or incorrectly or defectively installed, the plumbing inspector shall notify the master plumber who installed or is in charge of such installation of the changes necessary to be made in order that the same may conform to this chapter, and that reinspection is necessary. The license holder shall, within 48 hours from the time of notification, cause, make, or commence to make the changes ordered, and shall proceed with the work until same has been completed. Upon completion thereof, he shall notify the plumbing inspector to that effect. The plumbing inspector shall then cause the reinspection to be made, and if said work is found to comply

with this chapter he shall sign the inspection card, noting thereon the date of approval of the work. If the plumbing inspector shall again find the work incorrectly installed, he shall notify the master plumber of the necessary changes.

Fees for reinspection. In case the plumbing inspector is required to make more than one trip from his office for the purpose of inspecting any work on account of violation of rules, wrong address, or any other irregularities caused by the contractor or any of his employees, the following charges will be made and paid before the certificate of inspection is issued:

- (a) *First additional trip*: No charge.
- (b) *Second additional trip and each additional trip thereafter*: \$50.00.

(Ord. No. 38289, § 8, 11-18-08)

Sec. 49-332. Certificate of inspection.

It shall be the duty of the plumbing inspector to inspect all plumbing work covered by the provisions of this chapter and if, after having made inspection on any job, the same is found to be properly done as required by this chapter, it shall be the duty of the plumbing inspector upon request to issue to the license holder in charge of the work a certificate setting forth that the work has been done according to the requirements of this chapter.

Secs. 49-333--49-339. Reserved.

DIVISION 3. TESTING

Sec. 49-340. Required tests.

All the piping of plumbing, rainwater, or drainage system shall be tested with water or air as hereinafter set forth.

Sec. 49-341. Testing materials and labor to be furnished by permittee.

The license holder doing the work authorized by the permit shall furnish the equipment, material, power or labor necessary for the inspections and tests required by this article.

Sec. 49-342. Testing of waste, vent and rainwater systems.

Plumbing drainage, venting and rainwater systems shall be tested upon completion of the rough-in piping installation by water or air and proved water or air tight, provided that exterior rainwater leaders and perforated or open joint drain tile will not require testing.

- (a) *Water test.*
 - (1) The water test shall be applied to the soil, waste, vent and rainwater systems inside of the building in its entirety or in sections.
 - (2) If applied to the entire system, all openings in the piping shall be tightly closed except the highest opening above the roof or other highest point and the system filled with water to the highest point of overflow. All dead ends shall be

