



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Council Session

Item F-1

#9619 - Consideration of Amending Chapter 26 of the Grand Island City Code Regarding Licensing of Plumbing Contractors

Staff Contact: Craig Lewis

Council Agenda Memo

From: Craig A. Lewis, Building Department Director

Meeting: January 24, 2017

Subject: Amending Chapter 26 of the Grand Island City Code to Update the General Rules for Plumbing Licenses

Presenter(s): Craig Lewis, Building Department Director

Background

The City of Grand Island has adopted and enforced plumbing regulations for several decades. Currently sections 26-34 and 26-43 of the Grand Island City Code establish requirements for the licensing of the plumbing trades. The proposed amendments help to clarify and update the requirements.

Section 26-43 has since 1998 allowed for an exemption from an examination if licensed in an equivalent capacity with the City of Hastings or Kearney, basically providing for a reciprocal licensing between the three Cities.

In 2012 Hastings was removed from the exemption as they no longer recognized a Grand Island plumbing license.

This proposal is to amend the City code to remove the City of Kearney as they no longer recognize a Grand Island plumbing license.

Discussion

The City codes that provide for licensing requirements for plumbing licenses are from time to time revised to keep current in codes, practices and licensing requirements. These proposed amendments are minor in nature.

These modifications have been before the Grand Island Plumbing Board and received their approval and endorsement.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Approve the ordinance.
2. Disapprove or /Deny the ordinance.
3. Modify the ordinance to meet the wishes of the Council
4. Table the issue

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the ordinance and modify Chapter 26 of the City Code.

Sample Motion

Move to approve Ordinance #9619 to amend Chapter 26 of the City Code.

ORDINANCE NO. 9619

An ordinance to amend Chapter 26 of the Grand Island City Code; specifically to amend Section 26-34 pertaining to general rules and Section 26-43 pertaining to examinations; to repeal any ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith; and to provide for publication and the effective date of this ordinance.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. Chapter 26, Section 26-34 of the Grand Island City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§26-34. General Rules

(1) All plumbing apprentices actively engaged under a master plumber will be required to register with the City Building Department. Experience accrued towards taking the journeyman plumbers test will only be accepted as a registered apprentice. Time accrued previous to registration will be approved and noted.

(2) Time required for an apprentice to be actively engaged in the trade under the supervision of a master, journeyman, or qualified shop will be a minimum of three years. Proof of qualifications will be submitted to the Board in writing for consideration and approval for the journeyman examination. Any academical time to be considered by the Board in place of actual apprenticeship time in the trade must be from a State accredited college or Technical school.

(3) Applicants must hold a journeyman license for a minimum of four years before taking the Master exam, and be actively engaged in the trade for the full four years. Proof of qualifications will be submitted to the Board in writing for consideration and approval for the master examination.

(4) The minimum age limit for a Journeyman examination will be Twenty (20) years of age unless approved by the Board.

(5) The allotted time for the Master and Journeyman examination will be four hours ~~(two hours open book and two hours closed book).~~

(6) Request for Master and Journeyman examination will be filed in the City of Grand Island Building Department Office prior to the examination date for the consideration of the Board. Examination fee will be paid with the application. No exam fee will be refunded after taking the examination.

(7) All applicants will submit, along with their request for examination, letters of proof of the required apprenticeship time actively engaged in the trade.

(8) In the event that an applicant fails to pass the examination given, he may make application for a subsequent exam after eighty-five (85) days have passed.

(9) At the discretion of the Board, experience gained at an industrial plant or outside the ~~tri-city~~ Grand Island jurisdiction may be considered as apprenticeship time to qualify for a Journeyman examination. Information considered by the Board shall include written proof of previous experience record and oral examination.

(10) All examination papers are the property of the examining Board. Applicants will not be permitted to remain during grading or to review examination papers after they have been submitted for grading. Test results will be sent by mail.

(11) Applicant must obtain a passing score on ~~each part of the exam (written as well as drawing).~~ A passing score for a Journeyman Plumber is 70% and for a Master Plumber is 80%.

(12) An applicant with a passing score will have a 30 day grace period to pick up a new license dated from the test date.

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
January 18, 2017	☐ City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. 9619 (Cont.)

(13) An applicant must supply his own copy of this Code; the Grand Island Building Department will not supply copies to anyone during the test. Photocopies, reference books, or any other reference materials will not be allowed in the testing area during the test.

Amended by Ordinance No. 9118, effective 05-15-2007

SECTION 2. Chapter 26, Section 26-43 of the Grand Island City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

§26-43. Examinations; Fee; Exemptions

Any person desiring to be licensed as a master plumber or as a journeyman plumber pursuant to this chapter shall make written application for an examination to the Board. Examination fees shall be in accordance with the City of Grand Island Fee Schedule.

Examination fees shall accompany such application and shall be accounted for and turned over to the City Treasurer. Examination fees are not returned but shall be forfeited in the event the applicant fails the examination.

~~Any person validly registered or licensed as a master plumber or journeyman plumber or equivalent capacity by the City of Kearney shall be exempt from taking the foregoing examination, and provided the applicant is otherwise qualified pursuant to this code, shall be issued an equivalent license upon application and payment of fees.~~

Amended by Ordinance No. 9118, effective 05-15-2007
mended by Ordinance No. 9379, effective 05-15-2012

SECTION 3. Sections 26-34 and 26-43 as now existing, and any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be, and hereby are, repealed.

SECTION 4. That this ordinance shall be in force and take effect from and after its passage and publication, within fifteen days in one issue of the Grand Island Independent as provided by law.

Enacted: January 24, 2017.

Jeremy L. Jensen, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk