



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

Council Session

Item F-1

#9866 - Consideration of Amending Grand Island City Code Chapters 18 and 26 Relative to Mechanical and Plumbing Regulations

Staff Contact: Craig Lewis

Council Agenda Memo

From: Craig A. Lewis, Building Department Director

Meeting: December 28, 2021

Subject: Amending Chapter 18 & 26 of the Grand Island City Code

Presenter(s): Craig Lewis, Building Department Director

Background

The City of Grand Island has adopted and enforced plumbing and mechanical regulations for several decades. Currently the 2018 Edition of the Uniform Plumbing and Uniform Mechanical Codes are adopted to provide minimum standards for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare in regard to installations and facilities. This proposal is to amend the City Code to provide continuing education for mechanical licenses and define the scope of services for mechanical and plumbing licenses.

Discussion

The City Council in November of 2020 approved continuing education for plumbing licenses, this amendment will require continuing education for Mechanical licenses. The amendment will also modify scope of services to allow plumbers to continue to provide services on boilers, refrigeration, and hydronics as defined in the Mechanical code.

These modifications have been before the Grand Island Plumbing and Mechanical Boards 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 to adopt the proposed revisions to Chapter 18 & 26 of the Grand Island City Code.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the ordinance to amend Chapters 18 & 26 of the Grand Island City Code.

ORDINANCE NO. 9866

An ordinance to amend Chapter 18 and 26 of the Grand Island City code; to amend Sections 18-45, 18-45.1, 18-45.2, 18-45.3, 18-46, 18-48 and 26-44.1; to clarify and/or make general corrections to various code sections, to repeal any ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith; and to provide for publication and effective date of this ordinance.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 18-45, 18-45.1, 18-45.2, 18-45.3, 18-46, 18-48, and 26-44.1 of the Grand Island City Code Chapter 18 are amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 18 MECHANICAL

Division 4. Master & Journeyman Mechanical Fitters

~~§18-45. Examinations; Fee; Exemptions~~

~~Any person desiring to be licensed as a master mechanical fitter or as a journeyman mechanical fitter 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. Examination fees are not returned but shall be forfeited in the event the applicant fails the examination.~~

§18-45.1 Master Mechanical Fitter

A Master Mechanical Fitter shall mean a person who is registered with the Grand Island Building Department and has completed all experience requirements as a journeyman mechanical fitter and has passed a master level mechanical fitter's examination. A Master Mechanical Fitter has the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to properly plan, layout, install, alter and repair mechanical systems or parts thereof including, but not limited to, ventilation air; exhaust systems; duct systems; combustion air; chimneys and vents; installation of specific appliances – as defined in the UMC; boilers and pressure vessels; hydronics; refrigeration; fuel gas piping; process piping; solar energy systems; stationary power plants – as defined in the UMC, in accordance with the standards, rules, and regulations established by the Grand Island Mechanical Board. A practicing Master Mechanical Fitter must be an employee of a registered Contracting Master Mechanical Fitter and work under a Contracting Master Mechanical Fitter's supervision.

§18-45.2 Journeyman Mechanical Fitter

A Journeyman Mechanical Fitter shall mean a person who is registered with the Grand Island Building Department and who has completed their apprenticeship under the supervision of

Approved as to Form	▣ _____
December 23, 2021	▣ City Attorney

ORDINANCE NO. 9866 (Cont.)

a Contracting Mechanical Fitter. A Journeyman Mechanical Fitter has passed a journeyman level mechanical fitter's examination and has a working knowledge and application of the skills required to be employed as a mechanical fitter in accordance with the standards, rules, and regulations established by the Grand Island Mechanical Board. A practicing Journeyman Mechanical Fitter must be an employee of a registered Contracting Master Mechanical Fitter and work under a Contracting Master Mechanical Fitter's supervision.

§18-45.3 Apprentice Mechanical Fitter

An Apprentice Mechanical Fitter is an entry-level mechanical fitter who is registered with the Grand Island Building Department and is working under the direct supervision of a licensed Journeyman Mechanical Fitter or Master Mechanical Fitter and is an employee of a registered Contracting Master Mechanical Fitter.

§18-46. Reserved Examinations; Fee; Exemptions

Any person desiring to be licensed as a master mechanical fitter or as a journeyman mechanical fitter 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. Examination fees are not returned but shall be forfeited in the event the applicant fails the examination.

§18-48.1 Continuing Education Requirements

All Journeyman Mechanical Fitters, Master Mechanical Fitters, and Contracting Master Mechanical Fitters are required to complete a total of six (6) hours of continuing education annually. The six (6) hours shall include four (4) hours of principle instruction and two (2) hours of code instruction as defined below in Section 18-48.2.

§18-48.2 Instruction Hours Defined

Principle instruction hours means subjects that directly relate to the performance of HVAC services. Examples of such subjects include, but are not limited to: the design, installation, servicing, troubleshooting, and skills training for HVAC appurtenances, boilers and gas piping systems.

Code instruction hours means subjects that directly relate to regulations governing HVAC and mechanical systems. Examples of such subjects include, but are not be limited to: the Uniform Mechanical Code, written and published by IAPMO, the Nebraska American Disabilities Act, and NFPA 54.

ORDINANCE NO. 9866 (Cont.)

§18-48.3 Journeyman Mechanical Exam Credit.

Apprentices who pass the Journeyman Mechanical Fitters License Examination will be exempt from any continuing education requirements for the calendar year in which the passing score is obtained.

§18-48.4 Master Mechanical Exam Credit.

Journeyman Mechanical Fitters who pass the Master Mechanical Fitters Examination will be exempt from any continuing education requirement for the calendar year in which the passing score is obtained.

SECTION 2. Section 26-44.1 of the Grand Island City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 26 PLUMBING

Division 3. Master and Journeymen Plumbers

§26-44.1 Master Plumber

A Master Plumber shall mean a person who is registered with the Grand Island Building Department and has completed all experience requirements as a journeyman plumber and has passed a master level plumber's examination. A Master Plumber has the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to properly plan, layout, install, alter and repair plumbing systems or parts thereof including, but not limited to, plumbing fixtures and fixture fittings; water heaters; water supply and distribution; sanitary drainage, including onsite wastewater systems; indirect wastes; vents, traps and interceptors; storm drainage; fuel gas piping; health care facilities and medical gas and medical vacuum systems; firestop protection – as defined in the UPC; alternate water sources for nonpotable applications; nonpotable rainwater catchment systems; combination waste and vent systems; alternate plumbing systems; boilers and pressure vessels; and hydronics; in accordance with the standards, rules, and regulations established by the Grand Island Plumbing Board. A practicing Master Plumber must be an employee of a registered Contracting Master Plumber and work under a Contracting Master Plumber's supervision.

SECTION 3. Any ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be, and hereby are, repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 9866 (Cont.)

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall be in force and take effect from and after its passage and publication pursuant to law beginning January 1, 2022.

Enacted: December 28, 2021.

Roger G. Steele, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk