

City of Norwich Electrical Board

May 31, 2019

8:00 am

Fire Station Conference Room

Present:

Richard Barnes

Ald. D. Zeino

Tom Jensen

Chief J. Papelino

CEO A. Donnison

CEO D. Smith

R. Hart

Meeting opened at 8:010 am. D. Zieno made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/10/2019 with corrections made. Seconded by Chief Papelino. Ayes all.

Members discussed the need for definitions added to the existing code. Historically it has not been needed because most understood and accepted the Code Officers interpretation of a repair. However, it has recently become an issue so clarification is needed. Members were given definitions directly from the July 2017 NYS Building Standards supplement for repair, alteration, alteration level 1 and alteration level 2. These can be made more restrictive but can not be made less restrictive. Upon further discussion the following was approved on a motion made by T. Jensen to forward to Common Council for approval.

§ 227-2 Statement of purpose.

Since there is danger to life and property inherent in the use of electrical energy, this chapter is enacted to regulate the installation, alteration or repair of wiring for electric lights, heat or power, and signal systems operating on 75 volts or more, including all fire alarm systems, in or on all real property within the City of Norwich, New York, and the licensing of those individuals wishing to perform this line of work. Property owners may do their own repair work.

Section 227-2(a) Definitions:

Repair: The restoration to good or sound condition of any part of an existing building for the purpose of its maintenance. Includes the patching or restoration of materials or fixtures for the purpose of maintaining such materials or fixtures in good or sound condition. Such repairs shall

not include the cutting away of any wall, partition or portion thereof, the removal or cutting of any structural beam or load-bearing support, or the removal or change of any required means of egress, or rearrangement of parts of a structure affecting the egress requirements; nor shall ordinary repairs include addition to, alteration of, replacement or relocation of any standpipe, water supply, sewer drainage, drain leader, gas, soil, waste, vent or similar piping, electric wiring or mechanical or other work affecting public health or general safety.

Alteration: Any construction or renovation to an existing structure other than repair or addition. Alterations are classified as Level 1 and Level 2.

Alteration Level 1: Includes the removal and replacement or the covering of existing materials, elements, equipment or fixtures using new materials, elements, equipment or fixtures that serve the same purpose, without reconfiguring the space.

Alteration Level 2: Includes the reconfiguration of space, the addition or elimination of any door or window, the reconfiguration or extension of any system or the installation of any additional equipment.

Equipment: Included but not limited to any plumbing, heating, electrical, ventilation, air conditioning, refrigeration and fire protection equipment and elevators, dumb waiters, boilers, pressure vessels and other mechanical facilities or installations that are related to building services.

Fixture: Lighting, Emergency exit signage

Seconded by R. Barnes. Ayes all.

All members had been previously given a suggestion for a third license to be added to the electrical code which at this time is being called a project license. Upon review of the document the following comments were made and questions were asked: D. Zieno suggested that there be no fee associated with this license. A. Donnison stated ultimately it will be up to the Common Council but that all other license holders have this same fee as there are costs involved with issuing a license. T. Jensen asked if a project license holder could serve on the board. Per the code which states the make up of the board - not at this time just because you hold a project license, you could serve as a city resident of which there is currently an opening. R. Hart suggested the city attorney review the third license proposal to make sure no issues would arise later. R. Barnes agreed the fee should stay as it took all the current master license holders many years to get to hold the license they currently have. A. Donnison explained that unless someone had a better name we would go with the name of Electric Project License and it would include a specific address and be good for that project only.

T. Jensen made a motion to approve the following and to forward to the Common Council for approval:

Chapter 227

Electrical Standards

Article IV

Licenses

227-30 Grades.

There shall be ~~two~~ three grades of licenses and.....

D. An electrical project license which shall entitle the holder to engage in the business of electrical wiring of any nature and to employ and supervise licensed journeyman electricians of any grade. In no case shall a person who holds only an electrical project license contract for, advertise by any media for or engage in any manner of business for, nor shall he perform work of any nature regarding the business of electricity in the City of Norwich outside of the specific project the license was issued for.

227-32(A) Qualifications for Electrical Project License.

Applicants for an electrical project license shall be of good moral character and shall have a current valid NYS mechanical engineering license and shall be required to take and pass the master electrician examination. Upon passing this examination it shall be valid to obtain an electrical project license with the provision that documentation is also supplied to show that the license holder is the owner or a owner of the project address for which the license is sought. After 10 years of inactivity (no project licenses obtained) the applicant must reapply to sit for the master electrical examination.

227-45 Reciprocal Licensing.

D. Any holder of an electrical project license is not eligible to participate in any reciprocal agreements with other communities.

Electric Project License Fee: \$100.00 per project

Seconded by J. Papelino. Ayes all.

It is already written within this code that all license holders must provide a copy of proof of liability insurance and workers comp if they have employees. Electric project license holders

will also be permitted to maintain and make repairs on the building owned by same.

Meeting adjourned by J. Papelino, seconded by T. Jensen at 9:20am. Ayes all.