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17.01 TITLE/OBJECT

The purpose of this chapter is to safeguard persons and property and to give assurance of all manner of electrical work being done in a workman like manner, by establishing minimum standards for the installation and maintenance of electrical systems, by regulating and providing for the inspection of the installation and maintenance of electrical wiring, equipment and devices, and providing for the licensing and verification of certification of persons, firms and corporations undertaking electrical work who are certified as per the State of Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter SPS 305 and 316, and Wisconsin Statutes 101.80 through 101.88, and fixing a penalty for the violation thereof. Compliance with these standards is intended to result in installations reasonably free from electrical hazards. The standards merely prescribe and establish a reasonable minimum and do not constitute a specification for electrical installations and electrical equipment generally. Specifications for electrical installations are not complete when they only require compliance with this chapter, because of adequacy, suitability, operating efficiency, convenience, finish, appearance, and value of electrical installations may be greatly varied or affected in many respects without departure from the regulations of this chapter.(MC#1275)

17.02 SCOPE

The scope of the Chapter shall be as outlined in SPS-316, Subchapter II – Administration and Enforcement.

17.03 INSPECTOR

- (1) The inspector shall be of good moral character and shall be a qualified person licensed electrical inspector well versed in approved methods of electrical construction for safety of life and property, and Statutes of the State of Wisconsin relating to electrical work, the rules and regulations issued to the Department of Commerce, Safety and Buildings Electrical Division under authority of the Statutes, the National Electrical Code of the

- National Fire Protection Association as referenced by the State of Wisconsin. The inspector shall have met or be able to meet the requirements as set forth by Chapters SPS 305 and 316. (MC#1147)
- (2) The inspector shall be located in the city hall and shall not be interested, either directly or indirectly, in the installation of wiring, preparation of plant and specifications, sale or manufacture of any material, process or device entering into or used in, or in connection with, electrical installations, except as authorized by the Common Council of the City of Wisconsin Rapids. The Electrical inspection may be utilized for inspection services by other municipalities as agreed to by the Common Council.
 - (3) The inspection shall be performed by the electrical inspector, termed inspector, or the assistant. The assistant inspector shall be hired by the Inspector and approved by the common council.
 - (4) The city shall reimburse the inspector and assistant for transportation costs accumulated while enforcing this ordinance on the same basis as the other city employees.

17.04 OATH OF OFFICE (MC#1147)

The inspector shall take and subscribe an oath of office which, together with the certificate of his/her appointment, shall be filed with the city clerk.

17.05 DUTIES

- (1) The inspector or the assistant shall have the authority to enter all buildings and premises and all parts thereof, except occupied dwellings and then only with the occupant or owner's permission, in order to make an inspection, or test the electrical equipment or wiring contained therein or thereon to enforce the regulations of this chapter.
- (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to refuse lawful entry to the Inspector or the assistant, or to interfere with, harass, abuse, obstruct, or cause delay in the performance of their duties. The inspector or the assistant shall have the authority, and they are hereby empowered to order the removal of any and all obstructions including lath, plaster, lumber, boards, and partitions.
- (3) The inspector, having reasonable cause to believe a violation exists, shall make examinations of electrical wiring and appliances installed within the City of Wisconsin Rapids and when such wires or appliances are found to be in a dangerous or unsafe condition, or not in compliance with this Chapter, he/she shall notify the person, firm, or corporation owning, using, operating, or installing the same to place them in a safe condition. Any person, firm or corporation failing or refusing to make the necessary repairs or changes, and have such completed within 15 days after receipt of such notice, shall be in violation of this Code and the Inspector is hereby empowered with authority to order discontinuance of electrical service to such defective wires or appliances until they have been repaired, removed, or changed as directed by the inspector.
- (4) The electrical inspection in conjunction with the Wisconsin Rapids Municipal Court shall issue citations for violations in matters of noncompliance with all applicable State Statutes, Wisconsin Administrative Code rules, City of Wisconsin Rapids Municipal Codes, or Water Works & Lighting Commission rules.

17.06 INSPECTIONS

Inspections shall be as outlined in SPS 316.03 – Inspections(MC#1275)

17.07 AUTHORITY TO DISCONTINUE ELECTRICAL OPERATIONS

The inspector shall have the authority to cause the turning off of all electrical currents to any equipment which is found to be in an unsafe condition, and he/she shall attach an official notice, and cut or discontinue electrical service in cases of emergency and where such electrical currents are dangerous to life or property or any interference with the work of the fire department. No person, firm, or corporation shall reconnect any equipment thus cut off until written permission is given by the inspector.

17.08 APPEAL

Where the inspector refuses to issue a certificate of occupancy on the electrical work of any building, or condemns the same, the owner may, within five business days after receiving written notice from the inspector, file notice of appeal in writing with the Zoning Board of Appeals.

17.09 OWNER'S PRIVILEGE (MC#1147)

A property owner may not install a new electric service and main electrical panel on their residence or accessory building unless the owner is a state licensed electrician. A property owner may personally install electrical wiring inside their own single family residence or accessory building, including new sub panels and branch circuits, which is owned and occupied by them or to be occupied by them as a permanent residence, provided that said owner shall:

- (1) Apply for and secure a permit in accordance with succeeding sections.
- (2) Pay required fees

- (3) Sign an affidavit stating they are responsible for their work and that they will comply with SPS 320.10 regarding these inspections.
- (4) Do the work themselves in accordance with this code
- (5) Apply for inspections as required
- (6) Prove their electrical knowledge and receive the approval of the inspector

17.10 CITY AND INSPECTOR NOT LIABLE

This chapter shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility or liability of any person supplying electricity to, or selling, renting, owning, using, operating, controlling, installing, altering, repairing, removing, replacing, disturbing, connecting, or maintaining, any electrical equipment, for damages to person or property caused by any defect herein or therefrom; nor shall the city or its inspector be held as assuming any such responsibility or liability by reason of the issuance or revocation of any license, permit or certificate, or the inspection authorized by this chapter, or by reason of the approval or disapproval of any electrical equipment, sales, rentals, drawings, plans, specifications, materials, samples, test reports, literature, information or schedules, authorized in this chapter.

17.11 DEFINITIONS (MC#1275)

- SPS 305.405 Terminology
- SPS 305.41 Electrical contractors
- SPS 305.43 Master electricians
- SPS 305.435 Residential master electricians
- SPS 305.437 Registered master electricians
- SPS 305.44 Journeyman electricians
- SPS 305.433 Industrial journeyman electricians
- SPS 305.447 Residential journeyman electricians
- SPS 305.45 Registered electricians
- SPS 305.46 Electrical apprentices.

17.12. LICENSE REQUIRED (MC#1275)

Licensure shall be as outlined in SPS-305.40 and Section 101.862 (4), Wis. Stats. – License or Registration

17.17 PERSONS EXEMPT FROM LICENSE REQUIREMENTS(MC#1275)

Exempt persons shall be as outlined in Section 101.862 (4), Wis. Stats. – License or Registration

17.19 PERMITS (MC#1275)

Permits shall be as outlined in SPS 316.012 - Permits

17.20 EXCEPTIONS (MC#1275)

Exceptions are as outlined in SPS 316.012 (2) and exemptions are as outlined in Section 101.862(4), Wis. Stats. – License or Registration

17.21 PERMIT AND INSPECTION FEES (MC#1275)

Permits shall be as outlined in SPS 316.012 – Permits

Permit and inspection fees shall be assessed according to the schedule set by the Director of Planning and Economic Development with the concurrence of the Common Council.

17.25 REWIRING EXISTING BUILDINGS (MC#1275)

In the rewiring of existing buildings (residential) the following shall apply:

- (1) All new branch circuits and wiring shall comply with the current electrical Code
- (2) Install listed smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors to all levels when not present. Test and repair if needed any existing detectors All new detectors shall be powered by the building electrical system and include battery backup on each unit. New detector systems shall be wired so if any detector initiates all detectors shall initiate. Install per Wisc. SPS 321.0 and SPS 321.097, Uniform Dwelling Code, and SPS 328, Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors.
- (3) All detectors in existing dwellings may be of the battery only type.

17.26 PERMIT AND SERVICE FOR TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY WORK

- (1) On applying for permit for temporary electrical work, a specified period of time for which such wiring is to remain in service must be stated or the permit will only be valid for sixty (60) days. Service shall be cut off at the end of this period and shall not again be connected without written permission from the inspector.

- (2) A temporary service during construction or repair must be installed in accord with an approved sketch furnished by the inspector.
- (3) In emergency work, the person, firm, or corporation doing or causing work to be done shall report the same to the inspector immediately after beginning work, on forms furnished by the inspector, and such work shall be in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION XV Section 17.27 of the Wisconsin Rapids Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

17.27 PENALTIES AND VIOLATIONS

As outlined in 101.88 Stats – Compliance and penalties.

Electrical work that is constructed in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be corrected in the time frame given by the electrical inspector. Should the electrical inspector feel that remedy by local citation is the best remedy he/she and/or his/her designee shall cause such citation to be issued and file such citation and supporting documents that he/she feels are necessary with the municipal court clerk for action in such court. Each day that a violation exists may be considered a separate violation. Penalties shall be outlined in 101.88. Wis. Stats.

SECTION XVI Section 17.28 of the Wisconsin Rapids Municipal Code is hereby created to read as follows:

17.28 WISCONSIN ADMINISTRATIVE CODES AND STATUTES INCORPORATED HEREIN AND REFERENCED IN THIS CHAPTER:

SPS 305 Licenses, Certifications and Registrations

SPS 316 Wisconsin Electrical Code

SPS 320 Uniform Dwelling Code

SPS 324 Electrical Standards for Uniform Dwellings

WISCONSIN STATUTES CHAPTER 101 SUBCHAPTER IV ELECTRICAL WIRING AND ELECTRICIANS STATUTES

SPS 321.09 and SPS 321.097 Construction Standards

SPS 328 Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors