

Ordinance amending Corpus Christi Code of Ordinance, Chapter 14, Sections 14-201 & 14-241 to adopt the National Electrical Code, 2017 Edition, with local amendments, amending sections 14-1306, 14-1316, 14-1311, & 14-1313 to remove electrician licensing, registration, and special fee and clarifying building permit fees; providing for penalties, severance, effective date and publication.

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the public health, necessity, convenience, safety and the general welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Corpus Christi ("City"), the City Council desires to update its ordinances to include the latest version of the National Electrical Code ("Code of Ordinances");

WHEREAS, effective September 1, 2017, Texas Occupation Code §1305.201 prohibits municipalities from collecting a permit fee, registration fee, administrative fee, or any other fee from an electrician who holds a license issued by the state for work performed in the city; and

WHEREAS, copies of said Codes of Ordinances are available in the office of the City Secretary for review and inspection by the public.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances, Sec. 14-201, subsection 1.2 is amended by adding the following language that is underlined (**added**) and deleting the language that is stricken (**deleted**) as delineated below

Sec. 14-201. - Purpose.

1.2 The City of Corpus Christi has adopted, with local amendments, the International Code Council (ICC), 2015 editions of the International Building Code, Existing Building Code, Energy Conservation Code, Fuel Gas Code, Mechanical Code, Plumbing Code, and Residential Code for One and Two Family Dwellings and the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) National Electrical Code, **2014 2017** edition, as the City's Electrical Code, copies of which, authenticated by the signatures of the mayor and city secretary, are made public record by sections 14-231 (Building Code), 14-232 (Existing Building Code), 14-241 (Electrical Code), 14-251 (Energy Conservation Code), 14-261 (Fuel Gas Code), 14-271 (Mechanical Code), 14-281 (Plumbing Code), and 14-291 (Residential Code).

SECTION 2. Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances, Sec. 14-241 is amended by adding the following language that is underlined (**added**) and deleting the language that is stricken (**deleted**) as delineated below

Sec. 14-241. - Electrical code.

With the following deletions and revisions, the National Electrical Code, ~~2014~~ 2017 Edition (including Annex H, Administration and Enforcement), as published by the National Fire Protection Association, a copy of which, authenticated by the signatures of the mayor and city secretary, made public record by this section, and on file in the city secretary's office, is incorporated by reference and adopted as the electrical code for the City of Corpus Christi.

(11)

Article 90 of the National Electrical Code is amended by adding a new section 90.10 to read as follows:

~~90.10 Individual metering required. A building or buildings containing more than five (5) dwelling units must provide for individual metering or sub-metering of each dwelling unit.~~

(13)

Section 210.52(B)(1) of the National Electrical Code is revised to read as follows:

(1)

Receptacle Outlets Served. In the kitchen, pantry, breakfast room, dining room, laundry/utility room, or similar area of a dwelling unit, the two (2) or more 20-ampere small-appliance branch circuits required by Section 210.11(C)(1) shall serve all receptacle outlets covered by Sections 210.52(A) ~~and (C) and receptacle outlets for refrigeration equipment.~~

(18)

Section 230.70 of the National Electrical Code is amended by adding new subsections 230.70(D) and 230.70(E) to read as follows:

(E)

Exception For Certain Lighting Fixtures Installed on Poles. A service disconnect means is not required on a pole with a lighting fixture, if:

(1)

The pole is in a location accessible to the public, such as in parking lots, parks, etc., and a disconnecting means is installed in the circuit powering the fixture at a secure location, or with a lockable disconnect which is permanently identified at the location of the disconnect or

(2) The fixture and all wiring providing power to the fixture are under the exclusive control of an electric distribution utility.

(19)

Section 250.52(A)(5) of the National Electrical Code is revised to read as follows:

(F)

Rod and Pipe Electrodes. Rod and pipe electrodes shall not be less than 2.5 m (8 ft.) in length and shall consist of ~~the following materials:~~ shall consist of 2 rods constructed of the following material:

(24)

Article 408 of the National Electrical Code is amended by adding new sections 408.23 and 408.24, to read as follows:

408.23 Spare Raceways. For each panel a spare one-inch raceway must be installed from the panel to an accessible location.

Exception No. 1: A spare raceway is not required if there is no access in the attic or from floor above or below the panel.

Exception No. 2: A spare raceway is not required if the walls and ceiling adjacent to panel are not covered.

~~*408.24 Spare Circuits.* One (1) spare circuit must be installed for every five (5) circuits in all new buildings.~~

SECTION 3. Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances, Sec. 14-1306 is amended by adding the following language that is underlined (added) and deleting the language that is stricken (~~deleted~~) as delineated below

~~**Sec. 14-1306. -- Special fees.**~~

~~(a) *Re-out inspection.* A re-out inspection fee is required for the purposes of obtaining a temporary and/or permanent electrical release.~~

~~(1) A separate re-out inspection fee will not be charged when a certificate of occupancy fee has been paid.~~

~~(2) If the re-out inspection is performed concurrently with the electrical permit inspection, and the electrical permit fee has been paid, a separate re-out inspection fee will not be charged.~~

SECTION 4. Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances, Sec. 14-1310 is amended by adding the following language that is underlined (added) and deleting the language that is stricken (~~deleted~~) as delineated below

~~Sec. 14-1310. - Fees for examinations and licenses.~~

- ~~(a) The required examination fee for a license to qualify electricians of all classes must accompany the application for a license.~~
- ~~(b) Any required license fee must be paid before the issuance of a license.~~
- ~~(c) The license fee must be paid annually. Licenses are valid for only in the calendar year in which the fee is paid. A license is not valid unless and until the license fee has been paid for the calendar year.~~
- ~~(d) Duplicate licenses may be issued to replace a lost or destroyed license, if the license holder presents provided satisfactory evidence that the license was lost or destroyed, and the licensee pays the fee for the duplicate license.~~

SECTION 5. Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances, Sec. 14-1311 is amended by adding the following language that is underlined (added) and deleting the language that is stricken (~~deleted~~) as delineated below

Sec. 14-1311. - Contractor registration fees.

A electrical, mechanical contractor and a lawn irrigator or backflow prevention assembly tester must pay an annual registration fee to maintain a current status as a registered contractor. Individual who holds multiple registrations must pay separate fee for each registration.

SECTION 6. Corpus Christi Code of Ordinances, Sec. 14-1313 is amended by adding the following language that is underlined (added) and deleting the language that is stricken (~~deleted~~) as delineated below

Sec. 14-1313. - Technical construction codes fee schedules.

The following fee schedules apply to activities under article II of this chapter:

BUILDING PERMIT FEES (\$80.00 Min. Permit Fee)	AMOUNT OF FEE
RESIDENTIAL	0.52% of Valuation

COMMERCIAL	
\$0 to \$5 Million	.70% of Valuation
\$5.001 to \$10 Million	.65% of Valuation
\$10.001 to \$20 Million	.60% of Valuation
\$20.001 to \$50 Million	.58% of Valuation
Construction site offices	\$80.00
<i>Signs</i>	
Sign	\$108.00
Electrical Building permit for electrical signs, per transformer	\$6.75 Min Fee \$80.00
<i>Residential Construction Building Permits</i>	
New one- and two-family dwellings, apartments, townhouses, condominiums, accessory buildings, remodel, and repair	0.52% of Valuation
<i>Residential - Other</i>	
Swimming pool	80.00
Roofing and siding	\$.045 sq.ft.
2nd driveway	\$80.00

Re-out inspection to establish electrical service in a home where no service has existed in the previous 90 days	\$80.00
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<u>BUILDING ELECTRICAL PERMIT FEES (ELECTRICAL ONLY)</u>	AMOUNT OF FEE
<i>Electrical Building Permit Fees (ELECTRICAL ONLY) are for Stand Alone Permits NOT Associated with a Building Permit <u>for new construction</u> - Based on Valuation</i>	
Residential	0.52% of Valuation
Commercial	
\$0 to \$5 Million	.70% of Valuation
\$5.001 to \$10 Million	.65% of Valuation
\$10.001 to \$20 Million	.60% of Valuation
\$20.001 Million to \$50 Million	.58% of Valuation
Replacement license	\$25.00
Minimum fee	\$80.00

LICENSE	FEES	
Classification	Examination Fee	License Fee

House mover	None	\$133.00
Master electrician	\$75.00	\$135.00
Master electrician-sign	\$75.00	\$135.00
Master electrician-elevator	\$75.00	\$135.00
Journeyman electrician	\$75.00	\$30.00
Maintenance electrician	\$35.00	\$30.00
Limited journeyman electrician	\$75.00	\$30.00
Apprentice	None	\$25.00
Certified electrical maintenance person	\$30.00	None

SECTION 7. This ordinance takes effect after official publication.

SECTION 8. Penalties are as provided in Section 1-6 of the Code of Ordinances.

SECTION 9. If for any reason any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word or provision of this ordinance shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect any other section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word or provision of this ordinance, for it is the definite intent of this City Council that every section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, word or provision hereof be given full force and effect for its purpose.

SECTION 10. Publication shall be made one time in the official publication of the City of Corpus Christi as required by the City Charter of the City of Corpus Christi.