

ORDINANCE NO.: 4851

AN ORDINANCE to amend portions of Article V in Sections 103-226 to 103-237 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances relating to the Plumbing Code so it conforms with recent changes in the state plumbing code.

THE COMMON COUNCIL of the City of La Crosse do ordain as follows:

SECTION I: Section 103-227 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 103-227. - State plumbing credentials required.

No person shall carry on the business of plumbing or do any plumbing work until such person shall have first obtained the required license or registration to do so from the State. No person shall install plumbing unless at all times a Wisconsin licensed master plumber, master plumber-restricted or utility contractor is in charge, who shall be responsible for the proper installation. No plumbing credential is required to repair faucets, valves, pipes and appliances nor to remove stoppages in waste and drain pipes.

(Code 1980, § 19.01)

SECTION II: Section 103-227 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 103-228. - Adoptions by reference.

(a) The provisions of Wis. Admin. Code chs. SPS 305 and 381-386 and Wis. Stat. ch. 145 are hereby adopted by reference as part of this article. No plumbing shall be installed except in accordance with such provisions and this article.

(b) All one- and two-family dwellings and manufactured dwellings the initial construction of which was commenced on or after June 1, 1980, and additions or alterations to all one- and two-family dwellings, and manufactured, modular or mobile homes, shall comply with Wis. Admin. Code ch. SPS 325, which is herein adopted by reference and made a part hereof.

(Code 1980, § 19.02)

SECTION III: Section 103-229(a), (d) and (e) are hereby amended to read as follows:

(a) *Plumbing permits.* No plumbing work shall be installed without a permit therefore from the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety , except that no plumbing permit is required for repairing faucets, valves, pipes and appliances nor for removing stoppages in waste and drain pipes. Any plumbing work installed without a permit may be ordered removed and replaced by the City Plumbing Inspector. The applicant for a plumbing permit shall file with the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety the application and plans showing the work to be done. Plans shall be required for all buildings, including multifamily dwellings, and shall show all drainage, vent piping and water distribution systems in detail. Upon approval thereof and payment of the permit fees, a permit shall be issued. No permit shall be granted except to a Wisconsin licensed master plumber, master plumber-restricted or utility contractor.

* * *

(d) *Expiration.* All plumbing permits shall expire two years from date of approval unless there is continuous performance of the work for which issued. Permits expire if work is not commenced within six months from the date of issuance or ceases for a period of 60 days.

(e) *Permit Fees*

- (1) The fees provided for herein shall include all plumbing fixtures, appliances, devices, or traps to be installed, or openings roughed in for future installation, which will be, or are connected to the water supply or drainage system, directly or indirectly or both. This includes garbage disposals, dishwashers, water heaters, water treatment devices, roof drains and devices connected to the building storm drains, along with fees for the inspection of changes or alterations in building drains, stacks, vents, and plumbing work where no fixtures are installed.
- (2) Permit fees shall be based upon the physical value of the work to be done as determined by the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety on the basis of current costs in the amount established by resolution.

(Code 1980, § 19.03)

Cross reference— Persons indebted to City not to be issued permit, license or lease, § 2-292.

- (3) The above permit fees shall be double where construction is commenced before a permit is issued. Other penalties provided by this Code may also be invoked.
- (4) In addition to the permit fee, for all additions or alterations, record maintenance fees are required as established by resolution.

SECTION IV: Section 103-230 (6), (7) and (8) are amended and (9) and (10) are created to read as follows:

- (6) No person shall break open or make connections with any public sewer or water main, except in the presence of the City Plumbing Inspector. The connection shall be inserted at or before 3:00 p.m. on regular business days and measurement taken.
- (7) Final inspection. When a plumbing and drainage system or water system is completed and the fixtures installed, the final inspection shall be made. No plumbing or drainage system shall be used until it has been inspected and approved, unless special permission is given by the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety for temporary use. It is recommended that the plumber be on the job when the final inspection is made.
- (8) Notice for inspections. The plumber in charge shall notify the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety at least two business days before any inspection or any connection with an existing sewer main or water main. The plumber in charge shall make arrangements that will enable the City Plumbing Inspector to reach all parts of the building

readily, and shall have present the proper apparatus and appliances and shall furnish all materials and all labor necessary for making all the tests required in making the inspection.

(Code 1980, § 19.04)

(9) Reinspections. When the plumber in charge notifies the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety that all code corrections are completed and it is found that violations still exists there shall be a fee as established by resolution for each additional inspection.

(10) Disclaimer on inspections. The disclaimer prescribed in section 103-68 shall apply to and include the installation of plumbing systems by the plumber responsible for the work performed.

SECTION V: Section 103-231 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 103-231. - Defective work and materials.

If tests or inspection disclose defective material, leakage, unworkmanlike construction, or other violation of this article, such violation shall be removed and replaced within three days, and, when necessary, retested. The presence of any foreign substance about a joint or any part of a plumbing or drainage system shall be sufficient cause for condemning such joint or part of the system. Split fittings, hubs, and improper or defective materials which have been condemned by the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety shall be removed from the system and not used again. Poor workmanship, design, improper grade or alignment, or methods of installation likewise shall be sufficient cause for the condemnation of the whole or any part of the system.

(Code 1980, § 19.05)

SECTION VI: Sections 103-234 through 103-236 are hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 103-234. - Property lines.

Sewer and water laterals shall be located within the property lines or on public land only. Septic tanks shall be located within the property and not less than five feet from the property lines.

(Code 1980, § 19.08)

Sec. 103-235. - Defects in existing systems.

Plumbing or drainage or water piping which becomes defective or improper, or other conditions endangering health, or violating this article, shall be corrected within such time as is specified by the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety

(Code 1980, § 19.09)

Sec. 103-236. - Additional regulations.

(a) *Water supply.* All water service installations shall comply with Water Utility rates, rules, regulations, policies and ordinances

governing the introduction, supply, installation and consumption of water.

(b) *Sewers.*

(1) *Connections with sewer mains.* The City Engineer shall inform plumbers of the position and junctions of sewer mains as far as known, but the City shall not be responsible for the correctness of such information. When no junctions are found in a public sewer within three feet from the flow side of the measurement given by the City Engineer, a length of the sewer main shall be removed and a "Y" connection inserted in its place to serve as the connection. If the building sewer is five inches in size or less, and permission is given by the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety, a new tap or connection may be made by tapping the main, by carefully cutting a round opening in the main so a hub of the private sewer will rest on the sewer main, such hub to have a short piece of pipe extended into the tap to be flush with the inside wall of the main. Where the hub is placed on top of the sewer main, a cast iron pipe rest shall be placed on the main before the hub is placed on the main. Such connection shall be secured by ample cementing or grouting. The cement used shall be composed of one part cement to two parts of clean sharp sand. All such work shall be done only in the presence of the City Plumbing Inspector. All such junctions shall be made at the expense of the plumber.

(2) *Sewers to be kept free from sand.* No plumber shall allow any earth, sand or other solid material to pass, flow or run into any sewer while cutting into or making any connection therewith, or while doing any work in laying, altering or repairing any drain connected with the main sewer. All sewer pipes shall be laid with bell end up grade and laid on a firm bed of earth which shall be thoroughly tamped.

(c) *Boilers.*

(1) All potable water lines to water or steam boilers shall have a control valve and cross connection control installed before the water supply enters the boiler. All water and steam boilers shall have a temperature and pressure relief valve installed on the boiler.

(2) Boiler compounds, solutions or chemicals that are in contact with or injected into the boiler may be of a type that is nonpoisonous and nontoxic. The user shall supply the Fire Department - Division of Fire Prevention and Building Safety with a certified statement by a nationally recognized testing laboratory that such compound, solution or chemical is nonpoisonous and nontoxic by virtue of tests conducted before the boiler is put into operation. Nonpoisonous and nontoxic additives shall only be used after installation of an approved backflow prevention device between the boiler and potable water. Poisonous or toxic compounds, solutions or chemicals shall only be used after installation of an approved reduced pressure device between the boiler and potable water.

(3) Steam boilers shall have safety feeders and low water cutoffs installed. Steam boiler feeder and low water cutoffs shall have separate controls and not combined.

(d) *Private wells.* Permitting of private wells shall be as required in section 46-41. All private water supplies shall be uncontaminated and the source shall, in construction or abandonment, comply with the specifications of Wis. Admin. Code ch. NR 812, which is hereby adopted by reference.

(e) *Cross connections.* The public water system shall be protected from all cross connections as required in section 46-40. No potable water system shall be connected to any part of a drainage or impure water system unless adequately protected against back-siphonage. When a new water lateral is connected to the public water system the existing private well shall only be allowed to be used for outdoor hydrants, irrigation systems, HVAC systems or other uses as approved by the Water Utility. Private wells shall be isolated from all municipal water systems.

(f) *Discharge of sewage or wastes.* No person shall discharge sewage, industrial wastes, or effluent, except clear water, into any lake, pond, river, or stream or into any storm sewer connected with or discharging into said waters. No person shall permit any sanitary drain or waste to discharge into any open storm sewer or gutter, upon the ground, in any public street or alley, or upon any sidewalk.

(g) *Private Sewage Systems.* The Board of Public Works shall approve any private sewage system within the corporate limits of the City of La Crosse. Septic or other sewage treatment tanks and seepage pits, or drainage fields shall be constructed where no public sewerage system is available or likely to become available within a reasonable time, conforming to the Wisconsin State Plumbing Code as to location, materials, capacity, design, disposal of sludge and effluent, and ventilation. Connection with the public sewer shall be made within six months after the public sewer is available. All abandoned septic tanks, drywells, seepage pits, cisterns, and wells shall be immediately removed or filled, pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § SPS 383.33.

(h) *Tracer wires.* A tracer wire shall be installed with all non-metallic laterals, from the main, curb stop or property line to building, and it shall be sized to a minimum of #12 AWG copper covered conductor. The wire covering color code for piping type shall be blue for water, green for sanitary, and brown for storm laterals.

(i) *Miscellaneous requirements.*

(1) Plumbing installations shall comply with sections 103-328 and 103-337.

(2) No fire or flames shall be used to thaw frozen pipes.

(3) All pipe holes are to be plugged for fire stopping, and those which are abandoned and empty and those which are larger than the pipe, either with the same material through which the opening is made or with noncombustible material.

(4) Plumbing installations for accessory structures shall be restricted in accordance with section 115-390.
(Code 1980, § 19.10(A)-(I))

SECTION VII: This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

_____/s/_____
Timothy Kabat, Mayor
_____/s/_____
Teri Lehrke, City Clerk

Passed: 12/11/14
Approved: 12/15/14
Published: Summary Published 12/20/14