

CHAPTER 29

ELECTRICAL CODE.

Article I. In General.

- 29-101. Adoption of the National Electric Code.
- 29-102. Duties of electrical inspector; assistant electrical inspector.
- 29-103. Inspections generally; correction of defective installations.
- 29-104. Installation of new apparatus; compliance with chapter.
- 29-105. Disconnecting means, circuit breakers, etc.
- 29-106. Installation of electric meters.
- 29-107. Installation of metallic conduits.
- 29-108. Enclosing of service wires.
- 29-109. Light in stairways.
- 29-110. Support of objects on conduit wires or fixtures prohibited.
- 29-111. Extension cords, heating devices, etc.
- 29-112. Starting motors across the line.
- 29-113. Placement of sheet metal, etc., near wiring.
- 29-114. Gasoline stations.
- 29-115. Mobile home courts and camps.
- 29-116. Disposition of fees collected under chapter.
- 29-117. Penalties.

Article II. Permits.

- 29-201. Installation permit -- Required.
- 29-202. Same -- Filing of plans; inspection fees.
- 29-203. Same -- Issuance; fee for work completed prior to obtaining permit.
- 29-204. Reinspection fees.

Article III. Electricians.

- 29-301. Examining board.
- 29-302. Certification -- Required.
- 29-303. Same -- Application.
- 29-304. Apprentices.
- 29-305. Journeyman or master electrician -- Examination; issuance of certificate.
- 29-306. Same -- Fees.
- 29-307. Partnerships and corporations.
- 29-308. Certificates.
- 29-309. Same -- Renewal.
- 29-310. Same -- Revocation generally.
- 29-311. Same -- Material or supply dealers.
- 29-312. Permitting name to be used by another.
- 29-313. Insurance.
- 29-314. Installation by uncertified electricians.
- 29-315. Nonresident contractors.

Article I. In General.

29-101. Adoption of the National Electric Code.

The National Electric Code 2008 Edition, including Section 760-41(B) amended below, is hereby adopted as the Electric Code of this municipality for establishing the minimum regulations governing the conditions and maintenance of all electrical service and appliances regarding all property, buildings, and structures, providing the standards for electrical service and appliances and other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupation and use. Each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions, and terms of the National Electric Code are hereby referred to, adopted, and made a part hereof, as if fully set out in this ordinance, with the additions, insertions, deletions, and changes, if any, prescribed herein. The National Electric Code, printed in book or pamphlet form, is hereby incorporated by reference in addition to all amended editions as though printed in full herein, insofar as such code does not conflict with the Statutes of the State of Nebraska or other specific model codes adopted by the City of Hastings. One copy of the National Electric Code is on file at the office of the

Hastings City Code

Municipal Clerk and is available for public inspection at any reasonable time. The provisions of the National Electric Code shall be controlling throughout the municipality and throughout its extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction.

Section 760-41(B) of the 2008 National Electric Code shall state:

An individual branch circuit shall be required for the supply of the power source for dwelling unit smoke detectors. This branch circuit shall not be supplied through ground-fault circuit interrupters or arc fault circuit interrupters.

(Code 1973, 12-1; Ord. Nos. 2636, 2975-5/86, 3020-5/87, 3170-5/90, 3336-8/93, 3545-8/96, 3671-3/99, 4021-6/2005 and 4183-7/2008)

29-102. Duties of electrical inspector; assistant electrical inspector.

The electrical inspector shall act under the direction of the City Engineer and shall have supervision of all electrical installation work in the City, and shall perform such duties as are prescribed in this Chapter. He shall have the right, during reasonable hours, to enter any building in the City for the performance of his duties.

The electrical inspector shall inspect all electrical installations and the installation and construction of the electric system to ensure compliance with the requirements of this Chapter and with any additional conditions set forth in any permit.

The electrical inspector shall inspect all electrical distribution systems from the weather head, or point of attachment to the supplying utility, in the City, and investigate all cases reported to or referred to him, of the use of unsuitable material or workmanship on any job of electrical work, or the violation of the provisions of this Chapter, and report such fault or violation to the City Engineer for further action.

Assistants to the electrical inspector shall be appointed by the City Engineer after examination and recommendation by the merit service commission. Any assistant to the electrical inspector shall have such powers and duties as are assigned to him by the electrical inspector.

The electrical inspector shall have the authority to cause the turning off of all electric current and to cut or disconnect in cases of emergency any wire where such electric current is dangerous to life and property or may interfere with the work of the Fire Department. The Chief of the Fire Department or person in charge at times of fire, as well as the electrical inspector, or either of them, shall have the power to at once cause the removal of all wires or the turning off of all electric current where the circuits interfere with the work of the Fire Department during the progress of a fire.

(Code 1973, 12-2; Ord. Nos. 1896, 2240, and 2562)

29-103. Inspections generally; correction of defective installations.

The electrical inspector shall make inspections of any electrical wiring, appliance installations or connections upon request in order to ascertain whether the electrical wiring or appliance installation requirements have been or are being violated. Should the electrical inspector, upon making such an inspection as requested, find an unsafe or unsatisfactory installation, he shall have the authority to shut off the appliance or service at the meter. He shall tag the unsafe or unsatisfactory installation and he shall notify (1) the installer immediately if the job is a new installation or (2) the owner, agent, tenant or one in charge of the property to cause said unsafe or unsatisfactory installation to be remedied within a specified time and not exceeding ten days, if it is not a new installation. Failure to make such corrections, changes or repairs or failure to notify the inspector to make reinspections, within the specified time after receiving such notification to comply therewith, shall be considered as maintaining an unsafe electrical installation and violating the requirements of this Section. In such case, the inspector shall make such reinspections of the premises as the inspector deems reasonable and necessary and report his findings to the City Engineer who shall, in turn, cause action to be taken in the proper court to secure compliance with this Section, in which case the penalties set forth in Section 29-117 shall apply. It shall be the duty and the responsibility of the installer or one making the corrections, changes or repairs, to notify the inspector within forty-eight hours after completion of the correction, changes or repairs and request a reinspection. Request for inspection shall be made by the installer at the office of the electrical inspector not less than eight working hours in advance of inspection.

(Code 1973, 12-3; Ord. No. 1896)

29-104. Installation of new apparatus; compliance with chapter.

Electrical Code

All electric apparatus shall be installed strictly in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. Upon completion of the installation of any electric apparatus, the installer installing the same shall notify the electrical inspector who shall inspect such electric apparatus and the installation thereof, and, if all of the provisions of this Chapter have been complied with, then the electrical inspector shall issue a certificate of

approval, which certificate shall certify that such apparatus has been installed in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. No electric apparatus shall be used until inspected by the electrical inspector and a certificate issued by him approving same and permitting its use.

(Code 1973, 12-4; Ord. No. 1896)

29-105. Disconnecting means, circuit breakers, etc.

(1) Required. A single means of disconnecting all ungrounded conductors in the building from the service entrance conductors shall be provided.

(2) Location. The disconnecting means shall be located at a readily accessible point nearest to the entrance of the conductors, either inside or outside the building wall.

(3) Approval. The disconnecting means shall be of a type approved for service equipment and for prevailing conditions.

(4) Types permitted.

The disconnecting means for ungrounded conductors shall be a manually operable switch or circuit breaker or the air-break or oil immersed type, equipped with a handle or other suitable operating means, positively identified and marked, for mechanical operation by hand.

A push-button type of electrical remote control may be used in addition to the manual handle.

(5) Externally operable. All enclosed service switches or circuit breakers shall be externally operable. It is recommended that where the current of a single circuit, or group of circuits is separately metered, as in apartment house installations, devices be installed in a convenient location to control each separately metered installation, such devices being enclosed and the switch or circuit breaker being externally operable.

(6) Indication of type. The disconnecting means shall plainly indicate whether it is in the open or closed position.

(7) Equipment. Service equipment installations up to and including two hundred amperes may be installed anywhere in the City without a main disconnecting means prior to the meter equipment. A disconnecting means shall be supplied on central air conditioning units. Manufactured or harness-type wiring systems not bearing the Underwriters Laboratories label for the entire system shall not be installed in residential or commercial installations.

(8) Rating. Residential service disconnecting means shall have a rating not less than the load to be carried determined in accordance with Article 220 of the National Electrical Code. In general the service disconnecting means shall have a rating of not less than one hundred amperes where a switch or a circuit breaker is used. All existing sixty ampere residence electrical service shall have no more than eight connecting branch circuits.

(9) Conductors serving additional buildings. In a property comprising more than one building under single management, the conductors supplying each building served shall be provided with a readily accessible means, within or adjacent to the building, of disconnecting all ungrounded conductors from the source of supply. In garages and outbuildings on residential property, the disconnecting means may consist of a snap switch, suitable for use on branch circuits, including switch controls at more than one point.

(10) Disposal units. Disposal units shall be installed with a fused disconnect means within access of the unit.

(Code 1973, 12-5; Ord. Nos. 1896, 2013, and 2240)

29-106. Installation of electric meters.

Electric meters shall be installed as near as practicable to the point where the service enters the building and should be so located as to be readily accessible for examination, reading and replacement. An electric

Hastings City Code

meter shall not be placed where it will be subject to damage. It shall be located at a minimum of fifty-four inches to a maximum of seventy-five inches above grade. The measurements are to be made to the center of the meter.

(Code 1973, 12-6; Ord. No. 1896)

29-107. Installation of metallic conduits.

Approved metallic conduit shall be used in new construction or extension wiring in the installation of all electric apparatus in all buildings, structures and dwellings, except in dwellings of four families or less and in buildings or structures used for private garages where the floor area of the same will permit the storage of more than four vehicles; provided, that by special permission from the electrical inspector, approved metallic raceways may be used for extension to rigid metallic conduit installations where not permanently closed in by the structure or finish of the building. "Approved" as used in this section shall mean favorably passed upon by the electrical inspector, or his deputy, as suitable for the purpose for which designed.

(Code 1973, 12-8; Ord. No. 1896)

29-108. Enclosing of service wires.

Service wires for all electrical installations shall be enclosed in approved metallic conduit from service entrance head to main disconnect device or meter.

(Code 1973, 12-9; Ord. No. 1896)

29-109. Light in stairways.

All stairways in apartment houses and apartments over business sections shall have a light. This light shall not be on a pull chain or a switch.

(Code 1973, 12-11; Ord. No. 1896)

Reference: Section 3313 of the Uniform Building Code, 1985 Edition.

29-110. Support of objects on conduit wires or fixtures prohibited.

In commercial or residential installations, it shall be a violation of this Code to support any foreign object or installation on conduit, wires or fixtures.

(Code 1973, 12-12; Ord. No. 1896)

29-111. Extension cords, heating devices, etc.

All extension cords, portable cords for lamps, heating devices and electrical appliances shall be reinforced portable cords for their respective uses, and shall not exceed six feet in length.

(Code 1973, 12-13; Ord. No. 1896)

29-112. Starting motors across the line.

Motors up to thirty horsepower in one motor may be started across the line. Up to fifty horsepower motor with a fluid drive or pressure relief device may be started across the line also.

(Code 1973, 12-15; Ord. No. 1896)

29-113. Placement of sheet metal, etc., near wiring.

Any person and any contractor desiring to place any sheet metal, insulation or other material, in construction, repairing or improving any building or structure, within six inches of any electric wire not installed in approved conduit for use in connection with electric light, heat or power, shall, before proceeding with the execution of such work, notify the electrical inspector who shall inspect the same and cause all wires to be placed in a safe and secure condition.

(Code 1973, 12-16; Ord. Nos. 1896 and 2275)

29-114. Gasoline stations.

Wiring of service stations or petroleum dispensing stations shall be in accordance with the National Electrical Code as adopted by the City.

(Code 1973, 12-17; Ord. No. 1896)

Electrical Code

Reference: Section 79.903 (e) of the Uniform Fire Code, 1985 Edition.

29-115. Mobile home courts and camps.

Every mobile home court or camp shall be equipped with electric power. All mobile home courts and camps shall comply with this Chapter and shall be inspected by the electrical inspector.
(Code 1973, 12-18; Ord. No. 1896)

29-116. Disposition of fees collected under chapter.

All fees collected under the provisions of this Chapter shall be credited to the General Fund of the City.
(Code 1973, 12-20; Ord. No. 1896)

29-117. Penalties.

Any person upon whom a duty is placed by the provisions of this Chapter, who shall fail, neglect or refuse to perform such duty or who shall violate any of the provisions of this Chapter, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided by this Code. If the defendant is a licensed electrician the judgment of the conviction may also include a provision for the revocation of the defendant's license for such time as the court shall determine. If the license of any defendant is thus revoked, the court shall furnish, or cause to be furnished, the Examining Board for Electricians and the City Clerk certified copies of the judgment of conviction.
(Code 1973, 12-21; Ord. No. 1896)

Reference: As to general penalty, see Section 1-109 of this Code.

Article II. Permits.

29-201. Installation permit -- Required.

No wiring or electrical apparatus shall be installed until a permit has been obtained.
(Code 1973, 12-22; Ord. Nos. 1896 and 2275)

29-202. Same -- Filing of plans; inspection fees.

No permit shall be issued until an applicant has filed a plan with the Electrical Inspector and paid an inspection fee as set forth in the most recent Council fee resolution.
(Code 1973, 12-23; Ord. Nos. 1896, 2273, 2559, and 2775)

29-203. Same -- Issuance; inspection fee for work completed prior to obtaining permit.

If the plan submitted complies with this chapter in all respects, upon payment of the inspection fee, the electrical inspector shall issue a permit for the installation thereof. Any installation completed for which a permit has not been taken will be inspected and an inspection fee double the rate shown above will be assessed against the installer.
(Code 1973, 12-24; Ord. Nos. 1896 and 2275)

29-204. Reinspection fees.

A reinspection fee may be assessed for each inspection or reinspection when such portion of work for which inspection is called is not complete or when corrections called for are not made.

This section is not to be interpreted as requiring reinspection fees the first time a job is rejected for failure to comply with the requirements of this code, but as controlling the practice of calling for inspections before the job is ready for such inspection or reinspection.

Reinspection fees may be assessed when the inspection record card is not posted or otherwise available on the work site, the approved plans are not readily available to the inspector, for failure to provide access on the date and time for which inspection is requested, or for deviating from plans requiring the approval of the Building Inspector.

In instances where reinspection fees have been assessed, no additional inspection of the work will be performed until the required fees have been paid.
(Ord. No. 4106-10/2006)

Hastings City Code

Article III. Electricians.

29-301. Examining board.

There is hereby created an Examining Board for Electricians which shall comprise the electrical inspector, City Engineer, two appointees from the local electrical trades group, and one member from the City Council all to be selected by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. One of such appointees shall be a certified electrical contractor and one shall be an accredited employee or member of a firm duly authorized and certified to install electric wiring and equipment. The electrical inspector shall be secretary of the Examining Board for Electricians and shall have custody of all records of the same. The Examining Board for Electricians is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to prescribe, amend and enforce rules and regulations consistent with this Chapter for the examination of journeyman electricians and master electricians. Each appointment shall be for a period of two years with the term of office to expire the first day of July after the full two year period has been served or in the case of the city councilperson, until his or her term of office as councilperson ends, whichever comes first. Vacancies shall be filled by the appointive power to serve for the balance of the term of the member of the Board whose position becomes vacant. Each member of the Board shall receive ten dollars for each meeting.

(Code 1973, 12-26; Ord. Nos. 1896, 2384 and 3644-5/98)

29-302. Certification -- Required.

No person shall engage in or work at the business, trade or calling of an electrician in the City until he or she shall have been certified as an electrician, qualified with the Examining Board for Electricians for such work, and paid all applicable fees and occupation taxes.

(Code 1973, 12-27; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-303. Same -- Application.

Application for certification shall be made in writing to the electrical inspector at the office of the City Engineer upon blanks furnished by that office, which shall show the name, residence and business location of the applicant, and such other information as may be required.

(Code 1973, 12-28; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-304. Apprentices.

It shall be unlawful for any person to work as an electrician's apprentice without first obtaining an electrician's apprentice certification. Upon payment of the certification fee as set forth in the most recent Council fee resolution to the City Engineer, and the filing of a written application with the electrical inspector, or his deputy, shall issue to any person over eighteen years of age, and engaged in learning the trade of electrician, an annual apprentice's certificate which shall expire on April 30th after its issuance. Such apprentice's certificate shall not be transferable and shall entitle the holder thereof to act as an electrician's apprentice to a certified electrician. It shall be unlawful for an apprentice electrician to do or perform any act of electrical installation, repair or maintenance without the personal supervision of a certified journeyman or master electrician in actual physical attendance at all times the work is being done or performed; and it shall further be unlawful for any certified journeyman or master electrician employing any apprentice electrician to assign work to be done and performed by the apprentice in violation of the foregoing provisions.

No corporation, firm or partnership shall be allowed more than one apprentice electrician to each journeyman electrician employed by the corporation, firm or partnership on any one given job or project.

(Code 1973, 12-29 and 12-37; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-305. Journeyman or Master Electrician -- Examination; issuance of certificate.

An applicant for a journeyman electrician certificate shall have worked under the supervision of a certified journeyman or master electrician, for a period of four years, before being eligible to take a journeyman electrician's examination. An applicant for a master electrician's certificate shall have worked under the supervision of a master electrician, for a period of two years, before being eligible to take a master electrician's examination.

Before the applicant shall be certified as a journeyman or master electrician, as the case may be, he shall have a certificate or a license granted by the State Electrical Division or he shall submit to an examination to determine his fitness and competency to engage in the business or trade of electrical work, which

Electrical Code

examination shall be given by the Examining Board for Electricians, as hereinabove provided. Upon the payment of the required certification fee, such applicant, after having by such examination shown himself to the satisfaction of the Examining Board for Electricians, to be fit, competent and qualified to act as a journeyman electrician or master electrician, as the case may be, shall be certified by the City Engineer who shall deliver to the applicant a certificate signed by the City Engineer.

An applicant failing to pass an examination shall not be eligible for the re-examination until six months shall have elapsed after the previous examination. Should he fail after the third examination, he shall not be eligible for a period of one year thereafter to take an additional examination. He shall pay an examination fee for each re-examination required.

Any person certified as a journeyman or master electrician by the cities of Grand Island, Nebraska or Kearney, Nebraska shall be exempt from taking the foregoing examination and, provided the applicant is otherwise qualified pursuant to this Code, be issued an equivalent certificate upon application and payment of all applicable fees and occupation taxes.

(Code 1973, 12-29; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-306. Same -- Fees.

The fees to be charged for certification and examination under this Chapter shall be as set forth in the most recent Council fee resolution.

(Code 1973, 12-30; Ord. Nos. 1896, 2775 and 3644-5/98)

29-307. Partnerships and corporations.

A partnership or corporation shall be certified as eligible for a master electrician's certificate upon payment of the certification fee and filing with the electrical inspector of an application upon forms prescribed by the electrical inspector showing that a certified master electrician is a member of the firm or an officer of the corporation and will at all times be in actual charge of and responsible for the installation, removal or repair of all electrical work done by the firm or corporation. The certificate of a firm or corporation shall terminate automatically upon the withdrawal from the firm or corporation of the master electrician listed upon the application.

(Code 1973, 12- ; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-308. Certificates.

All certificates required by this Chapter shall expire on April 30th following date thereof and shall not be assignable. If certification and registration fees are not paid within thirty days of expiration, the certificate shall be automatically revoked.

(Code 1973, 12-32; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-309. Same -- Renewal.

Certificates, at the time of their expiration, may be renewed upon recommendation of the Examining Board for Electricians without an examination upon payment of the required fee.

Any person certified under the provisions of this Chapter as a journeyman electrician or master electrician who does not renew his certification for a period of one month after the expiration of same, shall pay the examination fee required by this Article, and submit himself to an examination by the Examining Board for Electricians before such person can be certified.

(Code 1973, 12-33; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-310. Same -- Revocation generally.

The City Council by a majority vote shall have the power to revoke any journeyman electrician's or master electrician's certificate upon the recommendation of the Examining Board for Electricians, if the same was obtained through error or fraud or if the recipient thereof is shown to be grossly incompetent or has a second time willfully violated any of the provisions of this Chapter, including the National Electrical Code adopted by the City. This penalty shall be cumulative and in addition to the penalties prescribed for the violation of the provisions of this Chapter. If a certificate is revoked, the holder of the same may not apply for certification until one year from the date of such revocation.

(Code 1973, 12-34; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-311. Same -- Material or supply dealers.

Hastings City Code

Any person engaged in dealing in materials or supplies, but not engaged in the installation, alteration, repair or removal of appliances shall not be required to be certified under this Article.
(Code 1973, 12-35; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-312. Permitting name to be used by another.

No certified electrician shall allow his name to be used by another person, directly or indirectly, to obtain a permit for the installation of any electrical work. If any certified electrician violates this provision, the City Council shall forthwith revoke the certificate issued to such electrician and, in addition to having his certificate revoked, such electrician may be prosecuted under this Code for such violation.
(Code 1973, 12-36; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644/5-98)

29-313. Insurance.

The holder of any certificate under this Chapter shall secure and maintain during all times that the certificate is in effect, bodily injury and property damage liability insurance coverage with limits of at least \$300,000.00. The certified electrician shall furnish the City Clerk with a certificate of such insurance coverage, which certificate shall note that the insurance coverage shall not be terminated except upon ten (10) days' written notice to the City of Hastings.

The policy of insurance required by this Section shall be purchased at the expense of the applicant, shall be in effect for at least one year from May 1 of the current year and shall provide coverage of products, hazards and completed operations. Cancellation of a policy shall automatically suspend the certificate of applicant until a substitute policy has been obtained and a certificate of that fact has been filed in the office of the City Clerk.
(Code 1973, 12-38; Ord. Nos. 1896, 1915, 2162 and 3644-5/98)

29-314. Installation by uncertified electricians.

It shall be unlawful for any person to cause or permit any job of electrical connections incident to any property owned, managed or controlled by such person, unless the electrician performing such work has been certified as required by this Article and has received a permit from the City electrical inspector for the particular work.
(Code 1973, 12-39; Ord. No. 1896 and 3644-5/98)

29-315. Nonresident contractors.

In addition to charging and collecting the fees provided for in the most recent Council fee resolution, the electrical inspector shall require from any nonresident person performing a contract or completing a job within the jurisdiction of the City (1) satisfactory evidence that the applicant is qualified, and (2) a set of plans and specifications for the work to be performed.
(Code 1973, 12-40; Ord. Nos. 1898, 2273, 2369 and 3644-5/98)