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MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 25 2008

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR GARY BECKER
& MEMBERS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

FROM: RICHARD L HELLER 
CHIEF BUILDING INSPECTOR

RE: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CITY OF RACINE
ELECTRICAL ORDINANCE
CHAPTER 15.05 ELECTRICAL LICENSES

I wish to discuss the attached proposed changes to the Electrical Ordinance.



AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF RACINE
ELECTRICAL ORDINANCE

CHAPTER 15.05 ELECTRICAL LICENSES
SUB PARAGRAPH 15.05.010 REQUIRED

No person shall engage in work of installing, altering or repairing any electrical wiring fixtures or apparatus for any purpose in the City of Racine without a LICENSE, therefore, as provided in this Chapter.

EXCEPTION: ~~One and two~~ Single family residences, owner occupied; the owner shall be EXEMPT from license and issued a permit upon request to perform any electrical wiring he deems necessary and proves he is competent to perform the work. The owner shall not contract with another person, written or oral, to perform this work under this permit.

CHAPTER 15.07.110 RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICAL WIRING WORK

No person, firm or corporation shall perform electrical wiring work which requires an electrical permit unless the work includes implementation of the following requirements, Except that if a permit is require for work in a specific room(s) or an area specified in (a) through (k m) below, then only those requirements in (a) through (k m) that apply to such room(s) or area are required to be implemented. Under this section provided that upon any ~~increase in amperage~~ or modification of the electrical service, all requirements (a) through (k m) shall be implemented.

- (a) The electrical service must be a minimum of 100 amperes for a single-family dwelling and 150 amperes for a multi-family dwelling as per the NEC and WI Dept. of Commerce. ~~including both service conductors and equipment. Disconnecting means shall be provided and shall consist of a single main disconnecting means for a service in multi occupancy, up to and including six. If over six a single service main shall be installed. The disconnection means shall be located at a readily accessible point nearest to the entrance of the conductors either inside or outside the building.~~ A service entrance LB type fitting shall be installed at the point of entrance to the building for all above grade services. All services that are through-the-soffit shall be a minimum 2-inch IMC or rigid conduit. Metal tripods or 4 by 4 supports shall not be used.
- (b) At least two 20 ampere appliance circuits shall be provided for receptacles and outlets located in the kitchen.
- (c) Additional receptacles installed in any dining room, family room, breakfast room or pantry must be installed on one or more 20 ampere appliance circuits.
- (d) At least one 20 ampere branch circuit shall be provided for the laundry receptacles.
- (e) The following minimum number of receptacles of the specified type shall be installed in the designated areas:
 1. Kitchen – 3 wall receptacles.
 2. Each bathroom – 1 receptacle which shall be protected by GFCI
 3. Basement – 1 wall or ceiling receptacle protected by a GFCI.
 4. All other rooms (not specified in 1-3 above) – 2 separate wall receptacles on adjacent/opposite walls.
- (f) New receptacles which are installed shall be of the three wire grounded type. In addition, existing receptacles in kitchen, laundry and pantry that are not of the grounded type wire shall be changed to either GFCI or grounded type Receptacles. All new 125 volt single phase 15 and 20 ampere receptacles, as well as existing receptacles ~~that are replaced, that are within six (6) feet of the kitchen sink~~ to serve counter top surfaces shall have ground fault circuit interrupter protection.
- (g) At least one switch controlled lighting fixture shall be installed in each bathroom, bedroom and kitchen, except that such fixture may be omitted in bedrooms, if at least one switched receptacle is present. If a sink light is present, this is to be controlled by a wall switch (no sink light is required). At least one exterior entrance light should be installed and controlled by a wall switch.
- (h) At least one ceiling or wall type fixture shall be installed in each hallway, furnace room, laundry room and all other habitable rooms other than specified in (g), except dining rooms and living rooms.
- (i) Individual branch circuits shall be installed to operate fixed motor operated appliances, whether automatically or manually started.
- (j) Basement and attic not conforming to the electrical code wiring shall be revised to meet current electrical code standards.
- (k) If garage wiring is not grounded, a ground rod shall be installed and connected to the wiring system to provide a ground means. All garage receptacles shall be ~~the three wire grounded type. New receptacles installed in a garage shall be~~ protected by a ground fault circuit interrupter. All garages shall have a disconnecting means.
- (l) Closet lights and Outdoor receptacles shall conform to current N.E.C. and Wisconsin Department of Commerce.
- (m) Any other code violations inside or outside the premise shall be corrected.

~~ALL EXISTING ROUND METER SOCKETS MUST BE CHANGED TO A NEW METER SOCKET.~~
ALL BANDED / ROUND METER SOCKETS SHALL BE REPLACED.