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ELECTRICAL CODE
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ELECTRICAL CODE 16.01

16.01 **TITLE.** This chapter shall be known as the Electrical Code of the City of Fond du Lac.

16.02 **DEFINITIONS.** Terms used in this chapter have the following meaning:

ELECTRICAL APPRENTICE. Any person employed by a holder of a City electrical certificate working under an indenture set forth in §106.01, Wis. Stats.

ELECTRICAL CONTRACT. Any person who undertakes or offers to undertake with another to plan for, lay out, supervise and install or to make additions, alterations and repairs in the installation of wiring apparatus and equipment for electric light, heat or power. The contractor must hold a master electrician's license or have a master electrician regularly employed in a supervisory manner.

ELECTRICAL WORK. The installation, superintending or inspection of electrical wiring and equipment for production, modification, regulation, control, distribution, utilization or safe guarding of electrical energy as covered by the Wisconsin Electrical Code, the provisions of which so far as applicable are hereby adopted by reference together with all subsequent amendments, additions and revisions.

INDUSTRIAL FIRM, CORPORATION OR INSTITUTION. Any person, industrial firm, corporation or institution engaged in the manufacture of a product or services regularly employing one or more licensed electrical maintenance electricians for the alteration, maintenance, repair and replacement of electrical equipment in or on buildings or premises owned or occupied.

MAINTENANCE ELECTRICIAN. Any person employed by an industrial firm, corporation or institution who is skilled in electrical work and whose electrical work for such employer is limited exclusively to the plant or shop of his employer.

MASTER ELECTRICIAN. A person having the necessary qualifications, training, experience and technical knowledge to properly plan, lay out and supervise the installation of wiring, apparatus and equipment for electric light, heat, power and purposes in accordance with the Wisconsin Electrical Code.

STATE CERTIFIED BEGINNING ELECTRICIAN. Any person who is currently certified by the State of Wisconsin as a Beginning Electrician.

STATE CERTIFIED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR. Any person who is currently certified by the State of Wisconsin as an Electrical Contractor.

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STATE CERTIFIED JOURNEYWORKER ELECTRICIAN. Any person who is currently certified by the State of Wisconsin as a Journeyworker Electrician.

16.03 **STATE ELECTRICAL CODE.** Section 101.865(1), Wis. Stats., relating to the regulations of wiring, of Ch. PSC 144 and ILHR 16, Wisconsin State Electrical Code, Volume 2, are hereby adopted and made part of this code with the same force and effect as if set forth in full. Any future amendments, revisions, modifications or renumberings of any statutes or administrative code provisions incorporated herein are intended to be made a part of this code in order to ensure uniform statewide regulations of these subjects. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of such statutes or code provisions shall constitute a violation of this chapter.

16.04 **SCOPE OF PROVISIONS.** (1) REGULATED USES. The regulations of this chapter shall apply to the supply of electricity and to all sales, rentals, leases, uses, installations, alterations, repairs, removals, renewals, replacements, disturbances, connections, disconnections and maintenance of all electrical materials, wiring, conductors, fittings, devices, appliances, fixtures, signs and apparatus, or parts thereof, or attachments therefor, hereafter referred to as electrical equipment, which are intended to be or are within, on, under, over or near all buildings, structures, equipment and premises, except as provided in sub. (2).

(2) EXCEPTIONS. The electrical license and permit regulations of this chapter shall not apply to the following:

(a) The installation, alteration or repair of electrical generation, transmission or distribution equipment but not utilization equipment, owned and operated by an electrical public utility.

(b) The installation, alteration, repair of equipment where such equipment is owned and operated by a public utility company, railroad or the City.

(c) Any work in railroad cars, boats, buses, aircraft and automobiles.

(d) Any work in connection with electrical equipment used for radio and television transmission, but not including supply wires, etc., to such equipment.

(e) Any work involved in the manufacturing or testing of electrical equipment or apparatus but not including any temporary or permanent wiring of equipment associated with the manufacture of such equipment or apparatus.

(f) Any work associated with:

1. The repair of plug-connected electrical appliances or devices.

ELECTRICAL CODE 16.04(2)(f)2.

2. Permanently connected electrical appliances or devices which have electrically and mechanically disconnected and separated from all sources of electrical supply by an electrical licensee. The opening of switches or the blowing or removal of fuses shall not be considered as electrical or mechanical disconnections or separation.

(g) The installation or replacement of approved fuses which are not oversized for the circuit involved.

(h) The installation or replacement of approved lamps or plug connected portable appliances which do not overload the circuit involved and are not located in hazardous locations.

(i) The renewal or replacement of any existing branch circuit switches, sockets, or receptacles.

16.05 **ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR.** (1) DUTIES. The Electrical Inspector shall enforce the provisions of the chapter. Complete records of all permits issued and inspections made and other official work performed under the provisions of this chapter shall be kept so arranged as to afford prompt information concerning electrical installation.

(2) RIGHT OF ACCESS TO BUILDINGS. The Electrical Inspector or his assistants shall have the right during reasonable hours to enter any public or private buildings, premises or subway in the discharge of his official duties or for the purpose of making any inspection or test of the electrical wires or appliances contained therein. He shall be given prompt access to any premises upon notification to the proper authority.

(3) AUTHORITY TO DISCONTINUE ELECTRICAL OPERATIONS. The Electrical Inspector shall have the authority to cause the turning off of all electric currents to any equipment which he finds to be in an unsafe condition, and cut or discontinue electrical service in case of emergency and where such electrical currents are dangerous to life or property or may interfere with the work of the Fire Department. No person shall reconnect any equipment thus cut off until written permission is given by the Electrical Inspector.

(4) PERIODIC INSPECTION. The Electrical Inspector periodically may make thorough examinations of all the electrical wires and appliances installed within the City and when such wires or appliances are found to be in a dangerous or unsafe condition, he shall notify the person owning, using, operating or installing the same to place them in a safe condition. No person shall fail or refuse to make the necessary repairs or changes within 15 days after the receipt of notice from the City, and the Electrical Inspector is hereby authorized to order the discontinuance of electrical service to such defective wires or equipment until they have been repaired, removed or changed, as directed by the Electrical Inspector, subject to the limitations of this chapter.

ELECTRICAL CODE 16.06(1)

16.06 LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES. (1) **REQUIRED.** No person shall alter or install electrical wires and apparatus for the utilization of electrical current for light, heat or power in the City without first having procured a license or certificate as provided below. Application for such license or certificate shall be made to the Electrical Inspector; and before same is issued, the application shall be approved by the Board of Electrical Examiners.

(2) **CLASSES OF LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES.** There shall be the following classes of electrical certificates and licenses:

- (a) Electrical Contractor's Certificate.
- (b) Electrical Maintenance Certificate.
- (c) Master Electrician's License.
- (d) State Journeyworker Electrician Certificate.
- (e) Maintenance Electrician's License.
- (f) State Beginning Electrician Certificate.

(3) **ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S CERTIFICATE.** (a) No person shall contract or undertake to install or repair electrical wires or apparatus within the City, except as otherwise provided, without first having obtained an electrical contractor's certificate from the State of Wisconsin. A contractor shall, with his application for the certificate or renewal, file a certificate of insurance with the Electrical Inspector showing that he carries public liability insurance in the amount of at least \$100,000 personal injury per person, \$500,000 per occurrence of accidental death or personal injury, \$50,000 property damage or completed operations insurance with the same limits.

(b) A State Certified Electrical Contractor shall be granted a City license upon providing the Electrical Inspector with evidence that the contractor or at least one full-time employee holds a state certificate of a master electrician and posting the necessary insurance listed above.

(c) Persons holding a City Electrical Contractor's License on the effective date of this ordinance shall not be required to be a State Certified Electrical Contractor but must meet all other requirements.

(4) **ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE CERTIFICATE.** No firm, corporation or institution shall undertake to alter or repair electrical wires or apparatus within the City in or on existing buildings or premises owned or occupied by them except as otherwise provided without having first obtained an electrical maintenance certificate. An electrical maintenance certificate shall be granted to the firm if it employs one or more licensed electricians. At the time of making application for a certificate, the person making the same shall file, in writing, a statement with affidavit naming the licensed person who shall have complete responsibility for the electrical work.

ELECTRICAL CODE 16.06(5)

(5) MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE. No person shall undertake to alter, plan, install or supervise electrical wiring and equipment without first having obtained a master electrician's license. Applicant shall show proof of a State of Wisconsin master electrician's certificate. Exemption shall be provided for any person who, on the date of this adoption, currently maintains a City master electrician's license.

(6) STATE CERTIFIED JOURNEYWORKER ELECTRICIAN. (a) No person shall alter or install electrical wires or apparatus without becoming a State Certified Journeyworker Electrician. A journeyman electrician shall work under the supervision of a licensed master electrician and shall be restricted to the employment of an Electrical Contractor licensed by the City of Fond du Lac. Persons holding a City Journeyman's license on the effective date of this Ordinance shall not be required to be a State Certified Journeyworker.

(7) MAINTENANCE ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE. (a) Any employee designated as the employee responsible for the maintenance, alteration or repair of electrical wiring, fixtures or equipment on the premises of his employer, shall obtain a maintenance electrician's license unless he has a master electrician's or a journeyman electrician's license. Applicants for a maintenance electrician's license shall pay an examination fee of \$15 and furnish written evidence of the following qualifications:

1. Four years practical experience in electrical work.
2. Affidavit of employer that applicant will be employed as a maintenance personnel.
3. Attained the age of 18 years.
4. Has satisfactorily passed the examination.

(b) The maintenance electrician's license is transferable from one employer to another subject to the approval of the Board of Electrical Examiners.

(8) STATE CERTIFIED BEGINNING ELECTRICIAN AND INDENTURED APPRENTICES. (a) Indentured Apprentices or State Certified Beginning Electricians are restricted to the employment of an Electrical Contractor licensed with the City of Fond du Lac.

(b) Every Apprentice or State Certified Beginning Electrician shall be supervised according to standards for the electrical industry adopted by the Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards or other appropriate agency of the State of Wisconsin. The licensed Electrical Contractor shall be responsible for maintaining proper supervision and shall be subject to fines as provided in this Chapter.

ELECTRICAL CODE 16.06(9)(a)

(9) **WORKING WITHOUT LICENSE.** (a) When Allowed. Employees of electrical telephone, telegraph and railway may perform the planning or superintending and installation, operation and maintenance of equipment and materials required for the operation of the business of such utilities without a license, but when such employees perform work on property or premises of other persons, except when making service connections and installing and testing transformers, meters and other equipment ordinarily furnished by and remaining the property of the utility, they shall be licensed in the manner provided for in this chapter.

(b) Homeowners. A homeowner may personally wire his own single family dwelling, but a permit must be procured and work inspected and approved in the same manner as for a licensed electrician. An owner must prove his competence to conform with all rules and regulations by furnished plans or drawings of a proposed work when requested by the Inspector. Homeowner is a person owning and occupying as his permanent address a single family dwelling.

(10) **APPLICATIONS.** Applications for a license or certificate shall be made to the Electrical Inspector on forms furnished by him and before such license shall be issued the application shall be approved by the Board of Electrical Examiners. The Board shall have the authority to recognize qualifications and experience in lieu of those required in determining the fitness of the applicant.

(11) **FEES.** Annual licenses and certificate fees shall be paid to the City Treasurer in an amount set by resolution of the City Council.

(12) **EXAMINATIONS.** Examinations shall be held during the months of March, June, September and December. They shall be practical, elementary in character but sufficiently strict to test the qualifications of the applicant. The examination fee shall be paid to the City Treasurer in an amount set by resolution of the City Council.

(13) **REVOCAION OF LICENSE.** Any license granted under this chapter may be revoked by the Board of Electrical Examiners if the licensee violates any ordinance or law relating to electrical work or is guilty of installing electrical construction which is a hazard to life or property. The contractor, master and industrial plant certificate holder are jointly and severally responsible for compliance with the Electrical Code. When a license is revoked a new license shall not again be granted to the same licensee for a period of 30 days nor until the licensee shall have corrected the faulty construction in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and shall have made application and paid the fees as required for the original license. The Board of Electrical Examiners shall have discretionary power to withhold the granting of a new license for cause for a period not to exceed 6 months.

ELECTRICAL CODE 16.06(14)

(14) **RENEWALS.** All licenses and certificates shall expire on the 30th day of June next after date of issuance, unless sooner revoked. Licenses and certificates may be renewed upon application, approval and payment to the City Treasurer of the renewal fee pertaining to that class of license not later than the 30th day of June in the year in which the license expires. If a license or certificate is permitted to expire and is not renewed within 30 days after date of expiration, the former holder shall have the same status as a person not previously licensed.

16.07 ELECTRICAL PERMITS. (1) **PERMITS REQUIRED; ISSUANCE.** (a) The Electrical Inspector shall issue permits for the execution of electrical installations for light, heat or power upon the filing of proper applications, which shall be made on forms furnished by the Inspector and shall describe the nature of the work as well as such other information as may be required for inspection. Permits shall be issued only to a licensed contractor, licensed industrial firm, corporation, or institution or to a home owner to personally do the work on his homestead, providing it is a single family residence.

(b) In no case shall any electrical work be done unless a permit has been obtained, unless the work is expressly exempt from the effect of this chapter.

(2) **PERMIT FEES.** (a) Electrical permit fees shall be paid to the City Treasurer upon issuance of a permit as required by this section. Permit fees shall be based on the cost of the job, including the cost of labor and material, and shall be paid in an amount set by resolution of the City Council. The schedule of fees shall apply to all electrical work, including light, heat and power in new construction and additional outlets, fixtures, appliances and all other electrical equipment on existing installations.

(b) In lieu of any individual permit for each installation or alteration, an annual permit may be issued to any person, certified firm or corporation regularly employing one or more licensed electricians for the installation, alteration and maintenance of electrical equipment in or on buildings or premises owned or occupied by the permit applicant. Application for annual permit shall be made in writing to the Electrical Inspector and shall contain a description of the premises on which work is to be done under the permit. The annual permit fee shall be set by resolution of the City Council. The annual permit shall be applicable only to work done by the licensed electricians working for the permit holder.

(c) The firm, corporation or institution to whom the annual permit has been issued shall keep a record of all electrical work done and the electrical Inspector shall have access to such record. The Electrical Inspector shall make periodic inspections in accordance with a schedule adopted by him.

(3) **WORK WITHOUT PERMIT.** When any electrical work is completed without first having obtained a permit as required, the permit fees specified above shall be tripled but the payment of such tripled fees shall not relieve any person from fully complying

with all of the regulations of this chapter, nor from any other penalties prescribed in this Code.

ELECTRICAL CODE 16.07(4)(a)

(4) **LAPSE OF PERMIT.** (a) When any electrical work for which a permit has been issued is not started within 6 months from the date of the issuance of the permit or if after starting there is a cessation of such work of more than 6 months, the permit shall lapse and be void and no electrical work shall be begun or resumed until a new permit is obtained and the fees as prescribed in sub. (2) are paid.

(b) No refund of any permit fees paid into the City Treasurer shall be made, except by action of the City Council.

(5) **TEMPORARY WORK.** On applying for a permit for temporary work, a specified period of time for which such wiring is to remain in service must be stated. Service shall be cut off at the end of this period and shall not again be connected without written permission from the Electrical Inspector.

16.08 CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS. At the time of the issuance of a permit the Electrical Inspector may require the manufacturer, owner, installer or user of electrical equipment to submit plans (drawings), data and specifications, schedules or literature, information, materials, samples or tests as may be necessary to determine the fitness of equipment for safe installation and use.

16.09 INSPECTION. Upon the completion of the wiring of any building or before any wiring is hidden from view, the person doing the same shall notify the Electrical Inspector and he shall inspect the installation within 24 hours of the time such notice is received. If, upon inspection, it is found that such installation is fully in compliance with this chapter and does not constitute a hazard of life or property, he shall approve the same and authorize concealment of such wiring or connections for electrical service. If the installation is incomplete or not strictly in accordance with this chapter, he shall issue orders to the person installing the same to remove all hazards and make the necessary changes or additions within 10 days. Concealment of electric work before inspection or failure to comply with such orders of the Electrical Inspector shall constitute a violation of this chapter.

16.10 CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION. (1) No certificate of inspection shall be issued unless the electric light, power or heating installation and all other electrical apparatus connected with it are in strict conformity with the provisions of this chapter and the rules and regulations of the State Electrical Code.

(2) Any person who shall install electric wires or appliances shall be responsible for such installation until approved by the Electrical Inspector. Any person who shall make any additions, corrections, alterations or connections to the installation after approval shall be responsible for the correct functioning of the installation.

ELECTRICAL CODE 16.11

16.11 **ARBITRATION.** When the Electrical Inspector condemns all or part of the electrical installation in any building, the owner within 5 days after receiving written notice from the Electrical Inspector may file a petition in writing for review of the action of the Electrical Inspector to the chairman of the Electrical Examining Board, upon receipt of which the Board shall at once proceed to determine whether the electrical construction complied with this chapter and within 3 days shall make a decision in accordance with its findings. Legal proceedings may thereafter be taken by any party aggrieved by such determination.

16.12 **APPEALS.** Where other provision is not made in this chapter for arbitration or other appeal from a determination of the Electrical Inspector, any determination so made by such office may be appealed by any party aggrieved as provided in Ch. 68, Wis. Stats.

16.13 **LIABILITY OF CITY.** This chapter shall not be construed as imposing any liability on the part of the City for damage to anyone injured or any property destroyed by any defect in any building or equipment or any plumbing or any electrical wiring or equipment or by reason of any inspection made by any City officer or employee.

16.14 **LIABILITY OF OTHER CRAFTS.** Persons associated with crafts other than electrical and functioning in their native pursuits shall in no way alter the approved character of an electrical installation by the placement of materials or equipment in too close proximity, by concealment, by making inaccessible or in any way affecting the approved electrical installation so as to render it in violation of this code.

16.15 **UNDERGROUND UTILITIES REQUIRED.** See ¶18.10 underground utilities: permits for utility service, and ¶18.06(3) underground utility requirements.

16.20 **PENALTIES.** Except as otherwise provided, any person found to be in violation of any provision of this chapter or any rule or order promulgated herein, shall be subject to a penalty as provided in ¶25.04 of this Code of Ordinances.

Historical Updates			
Page	Paragraph	Ordinance No.	Date Adopted