**CHAPTER 17 ELECTRICAL CODE ORDINANCE FOR THE TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE**

ITEM # 04-19 ELECTRICAL CODE AMENDMENTS

**1. Adoption of National Electrical Code**

There is hereby adopted for the purpose of regulating all new design, construction and installation of electrical conductors, equipment and systems and all alterations to existing wiring systems within the Town of Freeport the ~~most current~~ 2017 edition of the National Electrical Code as amended by the State of Maine Electrician Examining Board, and as published by the National Fire Protection Association (the "Code"). One (1) copy of the Code will be kept on file in the office of the Town Clerk available for public use, inspection and examination during normal working hours. The provisions of the Code shall govern all electrical work within the Town of Freeport, except that the administrative provisions of this Ordinance shall control in the event of conflict with the Code. The Code is adopted by reference pursuant to ~~Section 2156 of~~ Title 30-A M.R.S.A. § 3003.

**2. Permit Required**

No person shall commence any electrical work of the type described in Section 1. above without first obtaining the required permit from the Codes Enforcement Officer and paying the permit fee ~~according to the schedule contained in Section 3 of this Ordinance~~ established by the Town Council. Application shall be made on a form provided by the Codes Enforcement Officer, and the applicant shall present his license to the Codes Enforcement Officer at the time the application and fee are tendered. ~~Where the Code permits a homeowner to do electrical work in his own home, no license need be presented, but a permit must be obtained and the fee paid.~~

In accordance with Title 32 M.R.S.A. § 1102-D, a person may make an electrical installation in a newly constructed single-family dwelling that is occupied by that person and used solely as a single-family dwelling, or will be occupied by that person as the person's bona fide personal abode and used solely as a single family home, as long as the electrical installations conform to the Code and as long as the person obtains a permit from the Codes Enforcement Officer and pays the permit fee established by the Town Council.

**3. Fees**

Upon application for a permit under the Code, the applicant shall pay a permit fee ~~according to the following schedule~~ in accordance with the fee schedule established by the Town Council, as such may be amended by the Town Council from time to time.

~~a. For residential work:~~

~~$.03 per square foot of floor area;~~

~~The minimum charge for residential work shall be $15.00.~~

~~b. For commercial work:~~

~~$.06 per square foot of floor area up to 5,000 square feet plus;~~

~~$.03 per square foot of floor area from 5,000 square feet to 10,000 square~~

~~feet, plus;~~

~~$.02 per square foot of floor area in excess of 10,000 square feet.~~

~~The minimum charges for commercial work shall be $25.00 up to 400 amp – three phase or;~~

~~$50.00 from 400 amp to 1,000 amp - three phase.~~

~~c. For temporary service if separate from Electrical Permit:~~

~~$15.00 for residential - 100 amp maximum~~

~~$15.00 for commercial - 100 amp single phase.~~

~~If an applicant has commenced work prior to making application for the required permit, the above fees are doubled. In the event the electrical inspector is required to reinspect work which was done in violation of the Code, then the applicant shall pay a reinspection fee of $10.00 before the reinspection can occur.~~

**4. Electrical Inspector**

Inspections under this Ordinance shall be performed by an E~~e~~lectrical I~~i~~nspector, appointed pursuant to Title 30-A M.R.S.A. § 4171 by the Town Manager and serving as an assistant to the Codes Enforcement Officer. The E~~e~~lectrical I~~i~~nspector shall hold a valid Masters Electrical License issued by the State of Maine. ~~and shall be compensated as follows:~~

~~a. For inspection of residential work, $.02 per square foot of floor area, with minimum payment of $15.00;~~

~~b. For inspection of commercial work, $15.00 per hour of time spent conducting the inspections, rounded to the nearest one half hour. The electrical inspector shall maintain contemporaneous records of time spent on commercial inspections and submit them to the Codes Enforcement Officer.~~

**5. Inspection Required**

No person shall install insulation over or otherwise cover any electrical work for which a permit is required under the Code until the E~~e~~lectrical I~~i~~nspector has inspected and approved the work. Upon inspection, the E~~e~~lectrical I~~i~~nspector shall either approve the work in writing or disapprove the work in writing with all violations of the Code noted. The E~~e~~lectrical I~~i~~nspector shall post the results of his inspection on the job site and submit copies to the Codes Enforcement Officer within twenty-four (24) hours after completing the inspection. Where the work is disapproved, the E~~e~~lectrical I~~i~~nspector shall advise the applicant that the work can be reinspected upon completion in accordance with the Code and upon the payment of ~~the $10.00~~ a reinspection fee in accordance with the fee schedule established by the Town Council.

**6. Connections Must Be Approved**

No person shall connect electrical service to or cause electrical service to be connected to any building, structure or property on which electrical work governed by the Code has been performed until the permit required by this Ordinance has been obtained, the E~~e~~lectrical I~~i~~nspector has inspected the work and the E~~e~~lectrical I~~i~~nspector has approved the work under the provision of this Ordinance.

The Electrical Inspector shall have the authority, whenever in his/her opinion the public safety requires it, to direct any person using or operating any wires to shut off the electric current for such period of time as he/she may deem necessary. The Electrical Inspector shall have authority in case of any emergency to have the current shut off in such wires that he/she knows or believes to be dangerous to life or property.

**7. Violation Penalties**

Any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance shall commit a civil violation and shall be subject to fines and penalties as provided in ~~Section 2156 of~~ Title 30-A M.R.S.A. § 4452 ~~Section 4966 of Title 30~~. Each day that a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

**8. Board of Appeals**

Appeals from any decision, order, or interpretation of the Codes Enforcement Officer or the Electrical Inspector under this ordinance may be taken to the Board of Appeals as an administrative appeal pursuant to the provisions of the Freeport Zoning Ordinance.