

## CHAPTER IV. BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION

- Article 1. Reserved
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### ARTICLE 1. RESERVED

### ARTICLE 2. BUILDING CODE

- 4-201. DEFINITIONS. As used in this article, the words and phrases herein defined shall have the following meanings unless the context otherwise requires:
- (a) Whenever the word "municipality" is used in the building code, it shall be held to mean the City of Blue Rapids, Kansas;
  - (b) Whenever the term "corporation counsel" is used in the building code, it shall be held to mean the city attorney of the City of Blue Rapids;
  - (c) Whenever the term "building official" is used in the building code, it shall be held to mean the building inspector or his or her authorized designee.
- (Code 1988)
- 4-202. UNIFORM BUILDING CODE INCORPORATED. There is hereby adopted and incorporated by reference, for the purpose of establishing rules and regulations for the construction, alteration, removal, demolition, equipment, use and occupancy, location and maintenance of buildings and structures, the Uniform Building Code, 1988 Edition as recommended by the International Conference of Building Officials, such code being made as a part of the ordinances and code of the city as if the same had been set out in full herein, all as authorized and in the manner prescribed by K.S.A. 12-3009 through 12-3012 including any amendments thereto. One copy of the Uniform Building Code shall be marked or stamped "Official Copy as Incorporated by the Code of the City of Blue Rapids," and shall be filed with the city clerk to be open to inspection and available to the public at all reasonable hours of business. Any person violating any provision of such code shall be punished as provided in section 1-116 of this code. (Code 1988)
- 4-203. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS. The following sections of this article are in addition to the provisions of the standard code incorporated by reference in section 4-202. (Code 1988)
- 4-204. BUILDING OFFICIAL; POWERS; DUTIES. (a) This and other articles of the city relating generally to building and structures shall be administered and enforced by the building inspector. The building inspector shall act as chief building official and may assume the responsibilities of or with the consent and approval of the governing body appoint a building inspector and such other assistants as may be advisable for the

issuance of building permits and the inspection of building work.

(b) The building inspector shall prepare such application, permit, inspection and record forms as may be required for the purposes of the article. The building inspector may make and promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to obtain conformity with this article pertaining to the making of applications for building permits, issuing of building permits and inspecting of buildings and building works.  
(Code 1988)

4-205. BUILDING INSPECTOR; APPOINTMENT. The mayor may assume the responsibilities of or appoint some qualified officer or employee of the city to be and perform the duties of building inspector as may be required, subject to the consent and approval of the governing body. (Code 1988)

4-206. SAME; DUTIES. The building inspector shall have the following duties:  
(a) To enforce all regulations relating to construction, alteration, repair, removal and demolition of building and structures;  
(b) May permit, with the approval of the governing body, on the basis of duly authenticated reports from recognized sources, the use of new materials or modes of construction, not provided for in this article, and may, for the purpose of carrying out the intent of this article adopt an accepted standard of material or workmanlike practices of federal or state bureaus, national, technical organizations or fire underwriters;  
(c) To examine all buildings in the process of erection, construction, alteration or relocation in the city for the purpose of determining whether the work is in compliance with the permit given and in compliance with the regulations of the city pertaining to such work, including zoning regulations; and;  
(d) To keep comprehensive records of applications, of permits or certificates issued, of inspections made, of reports rendered, and of notices or orders issued. All such records shall be open to public inspection during stated office hours, but shall not be removed from the office of the building official without his or her written consent.  
(Code 1988)

4-207. SAME; POWERS. The building inspector shall have the following powers:  
(a) To enter any building or structure or premises at any reasonable hour, whether complete or in the process of erection, to perform the duties contained in this chapter;  
(b) To adopt and enforce all such prudent emergency measures as he or she may deem necessary and expedient for the public safety under the laws of the city;  
(c) May cause any work done in violation of this chapter to be discontinued until he or she shall have satisfactory evidence that the work will be done in accordance with the building regulations of the city, subject to the right of any builder or owner to appeal to the governing body.  
(Code 1988)

4-208. SAME; RIGHT OF ENTRY. The building inspector, or his or her agent, upon proper identification, shall have authority to enter any building, structure or premises at any reasonable hour to perform his or her duties as set out in this chapter. (Code 1988)

4-209. CLARIFICATION; MODIFICATION. (a) The governing body shall be the final determiner of the scope and meaning of all provisions of the building code which may be unclear, ambiguous, or requiring interpretation.

(b) The building inspector shall have power to modify any of the provisions of the building code upon application in writing by the owner or lessee or his or her authorized agent, when there are practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the strict letter of the code. In approving modifications, the building inspector shall see that the spirit of the code is observed, public safety secured and substantial justice done. The particulars of a modification when granted or allowed and the decision of the inspector thereon shall be entered upon the records of the building inspector and a signed copy shall be furnished to the applicant.  
(Code 1988)

4-210. BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED; APPLICATION; APPROVAL. It shall be unlawful for any person to hereafter erect or cause to be erected within the city any building or structure of any kind or enlarge or add to the outside dimension thereof, or relocate any building or structure already erected or which may hereafter be erected or remodel any building or structure within the city without a building permit being first obtained therefor from the city clerk, after approval by the chief building official or his or her duly authorized assistant. The application for such permit shall be made and the permit obtained before work is commenced upon any building or structure or the foundation thereof, or before the removal of any building begins. (Code 1988)

4-211. SAME; APPLICATION INFORMATION REQUIRED. (a) A building permit shall be issued upon an application in writing to the office of city clerk on a form or forms provided for the purpose. This application shall, among other things, disclose the following:

- (1) The name of the owner of the lot or tract of ground;
- (2) The location of the building or structure;
- (3) The building work proposed;
- (4) The outside dimensions of the building by floors and dimensions of the basement (if any);
- (5) The class of occupancy;
- (6) The class of construction;
- (7) The kind of materials to be used for walls, floors, ceilings, roofs, and foundations;
- (8) The estimated cost of the work;
- (9) The date work will commence;
- (10) Expected date of completion;
- (11) Name and address of contractor or contractors doing the work;
- (12) Such other information as may be pertinent to the issuance of the required permit.

(b) An application for a building permit shall be signed by the owner or his or her duly authorized agent, or a building contractor licensed by the city. If the application is made by the owner or his or her agent, it shall contain the name or names of the licensed contractor or contractors doing the work described, or a building permit may be issued to the owner upon his or her application disclosing satisfactory evidence that the proposed work will be performed by the owner, himself or herself and not by a licensed contractor, and likewise subject to the final approval of the building inspector for work performed.

(c) Upon approval of the completed application and a determination that a permit should be issued, the chief building official or his or her assistant shall issue a permit to the owner or contractor authorizing the building work covered by the application.

(d) Any permit issued under this section shall be valid and subsisting for a period of not more than six months from the date of issuance unless the permittee shall have

commenced, within the period so limited, the building work authorized by such permit. Building work commenced for the purpose of this section shall mean the beginning of building work other than the preparation of plans or the staking out of the building location or the letting of a building contract.  
(Code 1988)

- 4-212. SAME; PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. Whenever an application for a building permit is made, the chief building official may, if he or she finds it necessary to determine whether building work described in the application will comply with the laws pertaining to such work, require that the applicant file a written description or drawing of the proposed building as may be prepared for the purpose. If such drawing or description is insufficient for the purposes of determining whether a permit should be issued, the building official may require the applicant to file complete architectural and engineering plans and specifications for such building, or any part thereof, as may be necessary for the inspector to determine compliance with this article. The filing of such plans and specifications and the approval thereof in connection with an application for a permit shall not in any way affect the authority of the city to deny or issue a permit, or to inspect any building work for conformity with this article. (Code 1988)
- 4-213. SAME; FEES. The fee for a building permit shall be \$10, however no fee shall be required to obtain a permit where the total estimated cost, the reasonable value of all services, labor and materials required, is under \$20,000. The fee herein shall be paid to the city clerk upon obtaining a building permit and the same shall be credited to the general operating fund of the city. (Code 1988)
- 4-214. SAME; POSTING. A copy of the building permit shall be kept on the premises for public inspection during the performance of the work and until the completion of the same. The building inspector may require a certified copy of the approved plans to be kept on the premises at all times from the commencement of the work to the completion thereof. (Code 1988)
- 4-215. CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL. Upon the completion of any work under a building permit, the chief building official, the building inspector or his or her designee is authorized to issue a certificate of approval for the occupancy and use of the building or structure. The certificate shall show the number of inspections made and the orders and corrections required during the course of the work. A copy of such certificate shall be given the owner. (Code 1988)
- 4-216. INSPECTIONS OF BUILDING; LAYOUT OF BUILDING; FOUNDATIONS AND FOOTINGS; NOTICE TO INSPECTOR. (a) The contractor or builder having a permit for new construction, or additions to existing buildings, shall notify the chief building official or building inspector immediately upon the marking or laying out of the site and foundation for such work. The official or inspector shall inspect the layout for conformity with this article and with respect to lot lines, setbacks and location of the proposed buildings to determine conformity with the city zoning regulations. In case of doubt respecting the required location, the chief building official may require an official survey of the lot lines to determine conformity, at the expense of the permit holder.  
(b) Upon completion of the excavation for the building foundation and footings and the construction of the necessary forms thereof and before the foundation and footings are poured or laid, the official or inspector shall be notified as in the first case,

and it shall be his or her duty to inspect all such work for conformity with laws respecting location of the building foundations and footings.

(c) The building inspector shall during the course of all building make such other inspections as may be directed by the chief building official to be made during any successive stage of the construction or other work covered by a permit in order to secure compliance with laws pertaining thereto.

(Code 1988)

4-217. REQUEST FOR INSPECTION. Upon the completion of any building construction work covered by this article, it shall be the duty of the person doing such work to notify the building inspector and request that it be inspected; after which such work shall be inspected promptly as hereinafter provided. (Code 1988)

4-218. INSPECTION FEE. An initial inspection fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_, and an inspection fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for subsequent inspections required shall be paid before any building or construction work will be approved or a certificate of approval issued. (Code 1988)

4-219. BUILDER OR BUILDING CONTRACTOR DEFINED. (a) A builder or building contractor for purposes of this article shall be any person, firm, co-partnership, corporation, association, or any combination thereof, whether a resident or not of the city:

(1) Who or which undertakes with or for another, for a fixed sum, price, fee or any compensation other than wages, to build, construct, alter, repair, add to, wreck or move any building or structure (or any portion thereof), or any sidewalk, driveway entrance or structure in any street, or any advertising sign, panel poster or billboard, or any other structure, in the city, for which a building or construction permit may now or hereafter be required by the laws of the city; or

(2) Who or which advertises or represents himself, herself, or itself to the public to have the capacity or ability to undertake, or submit a bid or offer to build, construct, alter, repair, add to or wreck, remove, restore or replace any building, structure or construction work or any portion thereof; or

(3) Who or which builds, constructs, alters, adds to or wrecks any buildings or structures either on his or her own or other property for purposes of sale or speculation.

(b) A builder or building contractor as defined shall not mean or include:

(1) Any subcontractor working under the supervision of a general contractor; or

(2) Any plumbers, gas fitters, electricians, or other specialized occupation for which special licenses or bonds are required by other city laws; or

(3) Any owner or his or her authorized agents or employees making ordinary repairs to his, her or its own building or structure not involving the structural parts of the building for which a permit is not required or on which a contractor, as defined, is not required, employed or engaged to perform; or

(4) Any property owner personally performing any improvements, alterations or building construction within or upon his or her own residence and intended for his or her own personal use and permanent occupancy; provided, the owner shall satisfy the building official as to his or her ability to perform such work secure a permit, pay required fees, do work in accordance with this article, and apply for an inspection and receive approval. Personal building construction by an owner under this section shall be by himself, herself, for himself or herself on his or her own residence, without compensation and no person shall be employed to assist him or her in any way on such

work except a builder or building contractor licensed by the city;

(5) Any person engaged in construction work not involving a total cost of greater than \$ \_\_\_\_\_, exclusive of labor.

(Code 1988)

4-220. BUILDER'S OR BUILDING CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE REQUIRED; BUILDING PERMITS; UNLAWFUL ACTS. (a) Each builder or building contractor shall before entering upon any building or construction work subject to regulation by city laws, apply to the city clerk for a builder's or building contractor's license and receive the same as hereinafter provided and have in his or her possession a valid license authorizing him, her or it to engage in the trade or occupation of a builder or building contractor in the city.

(b) No permit for any building or construction work shall be issued for any such work to be performed by a builder or building contractor, as defined, who has not first obtained a license upon making a proper application and payment of the license fee as required.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, company, association or corporation to enter into a contract or agreement with another so as to bring himself, herself, or itself under the definition of builder or building contractor herein, or to perform any work as a builder or building contractor or any work under a contract for any work involving the construction, wrecking or moving of any building, without first having obtained a builder's or building contractor's license issued by the city.

(Code 1988)

4-221. SAME; APPLICATION; GRANTING. (a) Application for a builder's or building contractor's license shall be made upon a form to be supplied by the city which shall disclose the name of the applicant, his or her place of business in the city (and home office if a nonresident), the kind of contracting work engaged in (as general contracting, roofing, siding, masonry, plastering, lathing, excavating, waterproofing, metal work, foundation work, sign hanging, cement work and painting and paper hanging, house wrecking or moving and the like), the length of time engaged in such work and places where work has been performed within the past two years. The application shall be signed by the builder or building contractor or his or her authorized agent. The applications shall be, by the chief building official, referred to the governing body at its next meeting for action thereon. Such license shall be issued by the city clerk, upon payment of the fees hereinafter provided after approval of the governing body.

(Code 1988)

4-222. SAME; LICENSE FEES; CONDITIONS; RENEWAL; UNLAWFUL ACTS. (a) The following license fees shall be paid for the calendar year or major fraction thereof:

(1) General Builder or Building Contractor, who shall qualify to engage in more than one kind of contract work, except house moving, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_;

(2) Limited Builder or Building Contractor, who shall qualify to engage in not more than one kind of contract work, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_;

(3) House Wreckers or Movers, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_;

(4) Sign Hangers and Panel Posters, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Any license issued on or after July 1 of each year shall be issued upon payment of one-half the annual license fee.

(b) Each such license shall set forth the kind of contract work in which the licensee may engage. The licensee shall display his or her license at any place where he or she may be engaged in contract work or produce the same on demand of any city

officer. All licenses shall be renewable annually as in the case of an original license on or before the first day of January of the year for which issued.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to contract for any kind of work covered by this article without having a valid license issued by the city to perform such contracts.

(Code 1988)

4-223. BUILDER'S OR BUILDING CONTRACTOR'S BOND REQUIRED; CONDITIONS; APPROVAL; RIGHTS RESERVED. (a) Before any license shall be issued, to any builder or building contractor required by this article to obtain a license and pay a fee to the city, the builder or building contractor shall secure and file with the city clerk a good and sufficient corporate surety bond in the principal sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ conditioned that the principal named therein shall faithfully and fully observe all laws of the city relating to the business or occupation for which a license is desired and further conditioned to hold and save the city harmless and free of claims for loss or damage to persons or property, or from damage, injury or destruction of property belonging to the city, resulting from, or arising out of, the negligence or failure of the principal or any of his, her or its employees, agents, servants to use due care or diligence respecting any opening or excavation made in, or adjacent to any street, alley or public ground in the city, or any materials stored, placed or used in any such places, or the operation or use of any vehicle, machinery or equipment in the streets, alleys or public grounds in connection with the business or occupation licensed. Each such bond shall be issued by a company authorized to do business in the State of Kansas and shall be executed by an agent of the company residing in the County of Marshall, Kansas and further conditioned that in the event of cancellation or expiration that the company or agent will give 10 days notice of such fact to the city clerk. Each such bond shall be approved as to form by the city attorney and approved as to surety by the city clerk and the approval thereof shall be endorsed on the bond by the city attorney and by the chairperson of the council over their signatures.

(b) Each bond shall be dated to run from the first day of any license issued by the city to the principal and may cover a period of not to exceed two years. No bond shall be renewed by an extension certificate but a new bond shall be filed by the principal for each successive period following the renewal thereof. The city reserves the right to furnish the form of all surety bonds as may be required by this article.

(Code 1988)

4-224. SAME; INSURANCE EXCEPTION TO BOND. In lieu of obtaining a corporate surety bond as required by section 4-223 of this article, a builder or building contractor may fulfill this obligation if he or she shall procure and maintain a liability insurance policy in the amount of \$100,000 for the death or injury of any one person and \$300,000 for the death or injury of any number of persons in any one accident and \$50,000 for property damage in any one accident. Such policies of insurance shall be issued by some insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Kansas. A builder or building contractor may qualify as to the insurance requirements by filing a certificate with the city clerk executed by the resident agent of such company stating that the required policy of insurance has been issued by such company for the purpose required by this article and that such insurer will not cancel the policy except upon giving 30 days notice in writing to the city; and that the certificate shall be filed for an annual period beginning January 1 and ending December 31 of such year. (Code 1988)

4-225. LICENSE SUSPENSION; REVOCATION; APPEAL; UNLAWFUL ACTS. (a) The license of any builder or building contractor may be suspended temporarily, for a period of not to exceed 30 days at any one time, by the chief building official upon his or her own motion or upon a complaint of the city building inspector. Notice shall be given in writing to such builder or building contractor giving reasonable notice of a time of hearing of the complaint or the matter alleged against such builder or building contractor involving any one or more of the following:

- (1) Misrepresentation of a material fact by applicant in obtaining a license;
- (2) Use of license to obtain a building permit for another;
- (3) Failure or neglect to observe conditions of permit authorizing encumbering of streets or sidewalks for safety of public;
- (4) Performance of any building or construction work without a permit where one is required by law; or
- (5) Willful disregard of any violation of the building and construction laws, or failure to comply with any lawful order of the city building inspector.

(b) Any licensee may within 15 days appeal in writing to the governing body from any order of the chief building official suspending his or her license for its final decision thereon. The governing body may upon such hearing terminate such suspension within not more than 30 days thereafter, or may revoke such license. If any license shall be revoked, the builder or building contractor shall not be eligible for a new license during a period of six months thereafter. No fee shall be refunded in event of the suspension or revocation of any contractor's license.

(c) It shall be unlawful to engage in the occupation or trade of builder or building contractor during the time any license of such builder or building contractor has been suspended or revoked.

(Code 1988)

4-226. NUMBERING OF RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS. (a) For purposes of identification and as an assist to emergency personnel, all houses or buildings within the corporate limits of the City of Blue Rapids shall display numbers on the outside of the buildings as designated in their legal address.

(b) The numbering shall be done under and in accordance with the following system.

(1) The numbers shall be those numerals at the beginning of the legal address

(2) Numbers shall be placed on the outside front of the building, door, post or transom or other location so that they are conspicuous and easily seen and read from the street.

(3) Numbers shall be a minimum of three (3) inches in height.

(4) Numbers shall be made of any material but shall be of a color that contrasts with its background.

(5) All new structures shall have the numbers displayed prior to occupancy.

(c) Any owner, person, firm, corporation, association, organization or entity convicted of violating the provisions of the ordinance shall be fined a sum not exceeding Twenty-five and 00/100 dollars (\$25.00) for each day's offense. Each and every day's violation shall be construed a separate offense.

(Ord. 2136; Code 2013)

- 4-227.       WORK BY PROPERTY OWNERS. Nothing herein contained shall prohibit any property owner from personally performing any building or construction work within and upon his or her own residence and intended for his or her personal use and permanent occupancy; provided, the owner shall satisfy the building inspector as to his or her ability to perform such work, secure a permit, pay required fees, do work in accordance with this article, and apply for an inspection and receive a certificate of approval. Personal building or construction performed by an owner under this section shall be by himself, herself, for himself or herself on his or her own residence, without compensation and no person shall be employed to assist him or her in any way on such work except a builder or building contractor licensed by the city. (Code 1988)
- 4-228.       LIABILITY. This article shall not be construed to relieve from any liability or lessen the liability of any person performing any activity connected herewith, nor shall the city be held as assuming any liability by reason of any inspection authorized herein, by reason of any certificate of inspection issued by it or by reason of any permit or license granted herein. (Code 1988)
- 4-229.       SEVERABILITY. If any section of the Uniform Building Code or of this article shall be held unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, then such section shall be considered separate and apart from the remaining sections, the section to be completely severable from the remaining provisions which shall continue in full force and effect. (Code 1988)

### ARTICLE 3. ELECTRICAL CODE

4-301. DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this article, the words and phrases used herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, unless the context clearly indicates to the contrary.

(a) Approved shall mean approved by the chief building official, the electrical inspector or his or her designee.

(b) Authorized person shall mean any individual, firm or corporation who or which is licensed under the provisions of this article to do the work as permitted under the specified provisions of this article.

(c) City shall mean the territory within the corporate limits of this city.

(d) Conductor shall mean a wire or cable or other form of metal suitable for carrying the electric current or potential.

(e) Electrical construction or installation shall mean and include all work and materials used in installing, maintaining or extending a system of electrical wiring and all appurtenances, apparatus or equipment used in connection therewith, inside or attached to any building, structure, lot or premises, except industrial plants where fulltime maintenance is provided and other agencies providing inspections of installations and facilities. Electrical construction shall not be held to mean or include any of the following:

(1) The replacement of lamps, fuses, bulbs or the connection of portable electrical equipment to suitable permanently installed receptacles and replacement of receptacles and switches, lighting fixtures and apparatus where no changes or alterations are made to the wiring;

(2) Any work involved in the manufacturing, repair or testing of any electrical equipment or apparatus, but not including any permanent wiring; or

(3) Any work in industrial establishments where inspections come under the scope of other inspection agencies.

(f) Equipment shall mean conductors, materials, fittings, devices, appliances, fixtures, apparatus, motors and the like, used as a part of or in connection with an electrical installation.

(g) Inspector shall mean the chief building official or any individual who has been appointed by the city as electrical inspector.

(h) Person shall mean a natural person, his or her heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, and also includes a firm, partnership or corporation, its or their successors, assigns, or the agent of any of the aforesaid.

(i) Special permission shall mean the written consent of the chief building official or the electrical inspector.

(j) Special ruling shall mean a written ruling filed in the office of the chief building official or the electrical inspector.

(Code 1988)

4-302. ADOPTION OF ELECTRICAL CODE BY REFERENCE. The standard code known as the National Electrical Code of 1987, a publication of the National Fire Protection Association, the same being a standard code for the installation of electrical wiring and apparatus and available in book and pamphlet form is hereby incorporated by reference herein and made a part of this article as authorized and in the manner prescribed by K.S.A. 12-3009:3012. One copy of said document shall be marked or stamped "Official Copy as Incorporated by the Code of the City of Blue Rapids," and shall be filed with the city clerk to be open to inspection and available to the public at all reasonable hours of business.

Any person violating any provision of such code shall be punished as provided in section 1-116 of this code. (Code 1988)

- 4-303.        ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS. The following sections of this article are in addition to the provisions of the standard code incorporated by reference in section 4-302. (Code 1988)
- 4-304.        BUILDING OFFICIAL; AUTHORITY. The building inspector or his or her authorized designee shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this article and appointment of an electrical inspector in accordance with section 4-204 of this chapter, which shall apply in a like manner to this article. (Code 1988)
- 4-305.        ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR; APPOINTMENT. The mayor may assume the responsibilities of or appoint some qualified officer or employee of the city to be and perform the duties of electrical inspector as may be required, subject to the consent and approval of the governing body. (Code 1988)
- 4-306.        SAME; DUTIES. The electrical inspector shall have the following duties: (a) To enforce all regulations relating to electrical construction, alteration, repair or removal;  
                  (b) May permit, with the approval of the governing body, on the basis of duly authenticated reports from recognized sources, the use of new materials or modes of electrical construction, not provided for in this article, and may, for the purpose of carrying out the intent of this article adopt an accepted standard of material or workmanlike practices of federal or state bureaus, national, technical organizations or fire underwriters;  
                  (c) To examine all buildings requiring electrical construction in the process of erection, construction, alteration or relocation in the city for the purpose of determining whether the work is in compliance with the permit given and in compliance with the regulations of the city pertaining to such work, including zoning regulations; and  
                  (d) To keep comprehensive records of applications, of permits or certificates issued, of inspections made, of reports rendered, and of notices or orders issued. All such records shall be open to public inspection during stated office hours, but shall not be removed from the office of the building official or electrical inspector without his or her written consent.  
(Code 1988)
- 4-307.        SAME; POWERS. The electrical inspector shall have the following powers:  
                  (a) To enter any building or structure or premises at any reasonable hour, whether complete or in the process of erection, to perform the duties contained in this chapter;  
                  (b) To adopt and enforce all such prudent emergency measures as he or she may deem necessary and expedient for the public safety under the laws of the city;  
                  (c) May cause any work done in violation of this chapter to be discontinued until he or she shall have satisfactory evidence that the work will be done in accordance with the electrical regulations of the city, subject to the right of any installer or owner to appeal to the governing body.  
(Code 1988)
- 4-308.        SAME; RIGHT OF ENTRY. The electrical inspector, or his or her agent, upon proper identification, shall have authority to enter any building, structure or premises at any reasonable hour to perform his or her duties as set out in this chapter. (Code 1988)

- 4-309. CLARIFICATION; MODIFICATION. (a) The governing body shall be the final determiner of the scope and meaning of all provisions of the electrical code which may be unclear, ambiguous, or requiring interpretation.
- (b) The electrical inspector shall have power to modify any of the provisions of the electrical code upon application in writing by the owner or lessee or his or her authorized agent, when there are practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the strict letter of the code. In approving modifications, the electrical inspector shall see that the spirit of the code is observed, public safety secured and substantial justice done. The particulars of a modification when granted or allowed and the decision of the inspector thereon shall be entered upon the records of the electrical inspector and a signed copy shall be furnished to the applicant. (Code 1988)
- 4-310. ELECTRICAL PERMIT REQUIRED; APPLICATION; APPROVAL. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), it shall be unlawful for any person to engage in any electrical construction as defined in section 4-301 within the city without an electrical permit being first obtained therefor from the city clerk, after approval by the chief building official or his or her duly authorized assistant. The application for such permit shall be made and the permit obtained before any electrical construction work is commenced.
- (b) No electrical permit shall be required for any of the following:
- (1) The replacement of lamps, fuses, bulbs or the connection of portable electrical equipment to suitable permanently installed receptacles and replacement of receptacles and switches, lighting fixtures and apparatus where no changes or alterations are made to the wiring;
  - (2) Any work involved in the manufacturing, repair or testing of any electrical equipment or apparatus, but not including any permanent wiring; or
  - (3) Any work in industrial establishments where the issuance of electrical permits comes under the scope of other agencies.
- (Code 1988)
- 4-311. SAME; APPLICATION INFORMATION REQUIRED. (a) An electrical permit shall be issued upon an application in writing to the office of city clerk on a form or forms provided for the purpose. This application shall, among other things, disclose the following:
- (1) The name of the owner of the lot or tract of ground;
  - (2) The location of the building or structure;
  - (3) The electrical construction work proposed;
  - (4) The class of occupancy;
  - (5) The class of electrical construction;
  - (6) The kind of materials to be used;
  - (7) The estimated cost of the work;
  - (8) The date work will commence;
  - (9) Expected date of completion;
  - (10) Name and address of electrical contractor or contractors doing the work;
  - (11) Such other information as may be pertinent to the issuance of the required permit.
- (b) An application for an electrical permit shall be signed by the owner or his or her duly authorized agent, or an electrician or electrical contractor licensed by the city. If the application is made by the owner or his or her agent, it shall contain the name or names of the licensed electrician or electrical contractor or contractors doing the work described, or an electrical permit may be issued to the owner upon his or her application disclosing satisfactory evidence that the proposed work will be performed by the owner,

himself or herself and not by a licensed electrical contractor, and likewise subject to the final approval of the electrical inspector for work performed.

(c) Upon approval of the completed application and a determination that a permit should be issued, the chief building official or his or her assistant shall issue a permit to the owner, electrician or electrical contractor authorizing the electrical construction work covered by the application.

(d) Any permit issued under this section shall be valid and subsisting for a period of not more than six months from the date of issuance unless the permittee shall have commenced, within the period so limited, the electrical construction work authorized by such permit. Electrical construction work commenced, for the purpose of this section, shall mean the beginning of electrical construction work other than the preparation of plans or the letting of an electrical contract.

(Code 1988)

4-312. SAME; PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. Whenever an application for a electrical permit is made, the chief building official or the electrical inspector may, if he or she finds it necessary to determine whether electrical construction work described in the application will comply with the laws pertaining to such work, require that the applicant file a written description or drawing of the proposed electrical construction as may be prepared for the purpose. If such drawing or description is insufficient for the purposes of determining whether a permit should be issued, the building official may require the applicant to file complete electrical and engineering plans and specifications for such electrical construction, or any part thereof, as may be necessary for the inspector to determine compliance with this article. The filing of such plans and specifications and the approval thereof in connection with an application for a permit shall not in any way affect the authority of the city to deny or issue a permit, or to inspect any electrical construction work for conformity with this article. (Code 1988)

4-313. SAME; FEES. The fee for an electrical permit shall be \$10, however no fee shall be required to obtain a permit where the total estimated cost, the reasonable value of all services, labor and materials required, is under \$5,000. The fee herein shall be paid to the city clerk upon obtaining an electrical permit and the same shall be credited to the general operating fund of the city. (Code 1988)

4-314. SAME; POSTING. A copy of the electrical permit shall be kept on the premises for public inspection during the performance of the work and until the completion of the same. The electrical inspector may require a certified copy of the approved plans to be kept on the premises at all times from the commencement of the work to the completion thereof. (Code 1988)

4-315. REQUEST FOR INSPECTION. Upon the completion of any electrical work covered by this article, it shall be the duty of the person doing such work to notify the electrical inspector and request that it is inspected; after which such work shall be inspected promptly as hereinafter provided. (Code 1988)

4-316. INSPECTION; CONCEALMENT OF PRIOR WORK. (a) When any electric equipment is to be hidden from view by the permanent placement of parts of the building, the person, firm or corporation installing the equipment shall notify the building inspector and such equipment shall not be concealed until it has been inspected, approved or authorized by the electrical inspector or until 24 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays

and holidays, shall have elapsed from the time of such notification. On large installations, where the concealment of equipment proceeds continuously, the person, firm or corporation installing the electrical equipment shall give the electrical inspector due notice and inspections shall be made periodically during the progress of the work.

(b) The electrical inspector shall have the authority to require building contractors to open such work which, in any manner, conceals electrical wiring that has been closed without his or her knowledge or permission, and in no case shall the inspector issue a certificate of approval until satisfied that the work is in accordance with the provisions of this article. The inspector shall also have the right to refuse to issue a certificate of approval on any wiring, that is concealed in such manner that it cannot be fully determined that it has been done in accordance with this article.

(Code 1988)

4-317. INSPECTION FEE. An initial inspection fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_, and an inspection fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for subsequent inspections required shall be paid before any electrical installation will be approved or a certificate of approval issued. (Code 1988)

4-318. CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL. (a) When the electrical inspector finds an electrical construction or installation to be in conformity with the provisions of this article, he or she shall issue to the person, firm, or corporation performing the electrical construction work or making the installation, a certificate of approval, with duplicate copy for delivery to the owner, authorizing the use of the installation and connection to the supply of electricity.

(b) When a certificate of approval is issued authorizing the connection and use of a temporary installation, the certificate shall expire at a time to be stated therein and shall be revocable for cause by the electrical inspector.

(c) In no case shall certificates of approval be issued on electrical construction, installations or parts of installations where the work installed does not conform to the requirements of this article.

(d) If, upon inspection, the installation is not found to be fully in conformity with the provisions of this article, the electrical inspector shall immediately notify the person, firm, or corporation performing the electrical construction work or making the installation of the existing defects.

(e) No certificate of approval shall be issued unless the electric conductor or equipment has been installed in strict conformity with the provisions of this article and unless the electrical construction or installation is made in compliance with nationally approved methods of construction for safety to life and property as herein set forth.

(f) The electrical inspector shall be deemed the judge of whether the installation of electric conductors and equipment has been made in accordance with the requirements of this article.

(g) No certificate of approval shall be required for any of the following:

(1) The replacement of lamps, fuses, bulbs or the connection of portable electrical equipment to suitable permanently installed receptacles and replacement of receptacles and switches, lighting fixtures and apparatus where no changes or alterations are made to the wiring;

(2) Any work involved in the manufacturing, repair or testing of any electrical equipment or apparatus, but not including any permanent wiring; or

(3) Any work in industrial establishments where inspections come under the scope of other inspection agencies.

(Code 1988)

- 4-319. CONNECTION TO INSTALLATIONS. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to make connection to a supply of electricity to any building or electrical equipment for which an inspection is required, or which has been disconnected by the order of the electrical inspector, until a certificate of approval has been issued by the electrical inspector authorizing the connection and use of such electric supply. The electrical inspector may, at his or her discretion, authorize a temporary connection. (Code 1988)
- 4-320. REINSPECTION. The electrical inspector shall periodically re-inspect existing installations of electrical conductors and equipment. When the installation of any conductors or equipment is found to be in a dangerous or unsafe condition, the person, firm, or corporation owning, using, or operating the installation shall be notified in writing and shall make the necessary repairs or changes required to place the conductors or equipment in safe condition and have the work completed within the period specified by the electrical inspector. (Code 1988)
- 4-321. CONDEMNATION; APPEAL. (a) If in the judgment of the electrical inspector, after an inspection, any electrical conductors, appliances or equipment in any building are unsafe or dangerous to persons or property, the inspector shall have the power to cause the wires or appliances to be disconnected from the source of electrical energy supplying these conductors or equipment, and may, at his or her discretion, seal the control switches for the same in an open or disconnected position, whereupon he or she shall give notice to the owner, or his or her agent, or by posting such notice at the site and shall also notify the utilities serving the premises. Thereafter, it shall be unlawful for any person to cause or permit electric current to be supplied to the electrical conductors, appliances or equipment so sealed until they shall have been made safe and the inspector shall have issued a certificate of approval to that effect.
- (b) It shall be the duty of the electrical inspector to cause all dead wires, unused poles or electric apparatus on the outside of the buildings or in streets or alleys to be removed at the expense of the owners thereof by giving the owners written notice.
- (c) When the electrical inspector condemns all or part of any electrical installation, the owner may, within 10 days after receiving written notice thereof, file a petition in writing for review of the action of the building inspector by the governing body, upon the receipt of which the governing body shall at once proceed to determine the facts, and within 10 days from receiving the petition make a decision in accordance with their findings. (Code 1988)
- 4-322. INTERFERENCE BY UNAUTHORIZED PERSON. It shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person to, in any manner, change or alter electrical conductors or equipment in or on any building. If in the course of the erection of a building or structure, electrical conductors or equipment are in such position as to interfere with the erection or completion of the structure, notice shall be immediately given the authorized person or firm installing the electrical conductors or equipment, and the needed change shall be made by such authorized person or firm. (Code 1988)
- 4-323. ELECTRICIAN OR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS DEFINED. (a) An electrician or electrical contractor for purposes of this article shall be any person, firm, co-partnership, corporation, association, or any combination thereof, whether a resident or not of the city:

(1) Who or which undertakes with or for another, for a fixed sum, price, fee or any other compensation to install, construct, alter, repair, add to, or move any electrical installation or performs any electrical construction work in the city, for which an electrical construction permit may now or hereafter be required by the laws of the city; or

(2) Who or which advertises or represents himself, herself, or itself to the public to have the capacity or ability to undertake, or submit a bid or offer to install, construct, alter, repair, add to, remove, restore or replace any electrical installation or perform any electrical construction work; or

(3) Who or which installs, constructs, alters, adds to or removes any electrical installation or performs any electrical construction work either on his or her own or other property for purposes of sale or speculation.

(b) An electrician or electrical contractor as defined shall not mean or include:

(1) Any owner or his or her authorized agents or employees making ordinary repairs to his, her or its own building or structure not involving electrical construction and for which a permit is not required or on which an electrician or electrical contractor, as defined, is not required, employed or engaged to perform; or

(2) Any property owner personally performing any improvements, alterations or electrical construction within or upon his or her own residence and intended for his or her own personal use and permanent occupancy; provided, the owner shall satisfy the electrical inspector as to his or her ability to perform such work, secure a permit, pay required fees, do work in accordance with this article, and apply for an inspection and receive approval. Personal electrical construction by an owner under this section shall be by himself, herself, for himself or herself on his or her own residence, without compensation and no person shall be employed to assist him or her in any way on such work except an electrician or electrical contractor licensed by the city.

(Code 1988)

4-324. ELECTRICIAN'S OR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE REQUIRED; ELECTRICAL PERMITS; UNLAWFUL ACTS. (a) Each electrician or electrical contractor shall before entering upon any electrical construction work subject to regulation by city laws, apply to the city clerk for an electrician's or electrical contractor's license and receive the same as hereinafter provided and have in his or her possession a valid license authorizing him, her or it to engage in the trade or occupation of electrician or electrical contractor in the city.

(b) No permit for any electrical construction work shall be issued for any such work to be performed by an electrician or electrical contractor, as defined, who has not first obtained a license upon making a proper application and payment of the license fee as required.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, company, association or corporation to enter into a contract or agreement with another so as to bring himself, herself, or itself under the definition of an electrician or electrical contractor herein, or to perform any work as an electrician or electrical contractor or any work under a contract for any work involving electrical construction, without first having obtained an electrician's or electrical contractor's license issued by the city.

(Code 1988)

4-325. SAME; APPLICATION; GRANTING. (a) Application for an electrician's or electrical contractor's license shall be made upon a form to be supplied by the city which shall disclose the name of the applicant, his or her place of business in the city (and home office if a nonresident), the kind of contracting work engaged in the length of time

engaged in such work and places where work has been performed within the past two years. The application shall be signed by the electrician or electrical contractor or his or her authorized agent. The applications shall be, by the chief building official referred to the governing body at its next meeting for action thereon. Such license shall be issued by the city clerk, upon payment of the fees hereinafter provided after approval of the governing body. (Code 1988)

4-326. SAME; LICENSE FEES; CONDITIONS; RENEWAL; UNLAWFUL ACTS. (a) The following license fees shall be paid for the calendar year or major fraction thereof:

(1) General Electrician or Electrical Contractor, who shall qualify to engage in more than one kind of electrical construction work, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_;

(2) Limited Electrician or Electrical Contractor, who shall qualify to engage in not more than one kind of electrical construction work, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_;

Any license issued on or after July 1 of each year shall be issued upon payment of one-half the annual license fee.

(b) Each such license shall set forth the kind of electrical construction work in which the licensee may engage. The licensee shall display his or her license at any place where he or she may be engaged in contract work or produce the same on demand of any city officer. All licenses shall be renewable annually as in the case of an original license on or before the first day of January of the year for which issued.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to contract for any kind of work covered by this article without having a valid license issued by the city to perform such contracts.

(Code 1988)

4-327. ELECTRICIAN'S OR ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S BOND REQUIRED; CONDITIONS; APPROVAL; RIGHTS RESERVED. (a) Before any license shall be issued to any electrician or electrical contractor required by this article to obtain a license and pay a fee to the city, the electrician or electrical contractor shall secure and file with the city clerk a good and sufficient corporate surety bond in the principal sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ conditioned that the principal named therein shall faithfully and fully observe all laws of the city relating to the business or occupation for which a license is desired and further conditioned to hold and save the city harmless and free of claims for loss or damage to persons or property, or from damage, injury or destruction of property belonging to the city, resulting from, or arising out of, the negligence or failure of the principal or any of his, her or its employees, agents, servants to use due care or diligence respecting any opening or excavation made in, or adjacent to any street, alley or public ground in the city, or any materials stored, placed or used in any such places, or the operation or use of any vehicle, machinery or equipment in the streets, alleys or public grounds in connection with the business or occupation licensed. Each such bond shall be issued by a company authorized to do business in the State of Kansas and shall be executed by an agent of the company residing in the County of Marshall, Kansas and further conditioned that in the event of cancellation or expiration that the company or agent will give 10 days notice of such fact to the city clerk. Each such bond shall be approved as to form by the city attorney and approved as to surety by the city clerk and the approval thereof shall be endorsed on the bond by the city attorney and by the chairperson of the council over their signatures.

(b) Each bond shall be dated to run from the first day of any license issued by the city to the principal and may cover the period of not to exceed two years. No bond shall be renewed by an extension certificate but a new bond shall be filed by the principal for

each successive period following the renewal thereof. The city reserves the right to furnish the form of all surety bonds as may be required by this article.  
(Code 1988)

4-328. SAME; INSURANCE EXCEPTION TO BOND. In lieu of obtaining a corporate surety bond as required by section 4-327 of this article, an electrician or electrical contractor may fulfill this obligation if he or she shall procure and maintain a liability insurance policy in the amount of \$100,000 for the death or injury of any one person and \$300,000 for the death or injury of any number of persons in any one accident and \$50,000 for property damage in any one accident. Such policies of insurance shall be issued by some insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Kansas. An electrician or electrical contractor may qualify as to the insurance requirements by filing a certificate with the city clerk executed by the resident agent of such company stating that the required policy of insurance has been issued by such company for the purpose required by this article and that such insurer will not cancel the policy except upon giving 30 days notice in writing to the city; and that the certificate shall be filed for an annual period beginning January 1 and ending December 31 of such year. (Code 1988)

4-329. LICENSE SUSPENSION; REVOCATION; APPEAL; UNLAWFUL ACTS. (a) The license of any electrician or electrical contractor may be suspended temporarily, for a period of not to exceed 30 days at any one time, by the chief building official upon his or her own motion or upon a complaint of the city electrical inspector. Notice shall be given in writing to such electrician or electrical contractor giving reasonable notice of a time of hearing of the complaint or the matter alleged against such electrician or electrical contractor involving any one or more of the following:

- (1) Misrepresentation of a material fact by applicant in obtaining a license;
- (2) Use of license to obtain an electrical permit for another;
- (3) Failure or neglect to observe conditions of permit authorizing encumbering of streets or sidewalks for safety of public;
- (4) Performance of any electrical construction work without a permit where one is required by law; or
- (5) Willful disregard of any violation of the electrical construction laws, or failure to comply with any lawful order of the city electrical inspector.

(b) Any licensee may within 15 days appeal in writing to the governing body from any order of the chief building official suspending his or her license for its final decision thereon. The governing body may upon such hearing terminate such suspension within not more than 30 days thereafter, or may revoke such license. If any license shall be revoked, the electrician or electrical contractor shall not be eligible for a new license during a period of six months thereafter. No fee shall be refunded in event of the suspension or revocation of any electricians or electrical contractor's license.

(c) It shall be unlawful to engage in the occupation or trade of electrician or electrical contractor during the time any license of such electrician or electrical contractor has been suspended or revoked.

(Code 1988)

4-330. WORK BY PROPERTY OWNERS. Nothing herein contained shall prohibit any property owner from personally performing any electrical construction or installing electrical wiring or equipment within and upon his or her own residence and intended for his or her personal use and permanent occupancy; provided, the owner shall satisfy the electrical inspector as to his or her ability to perform such work or install such electrical

wiring, secure a permit, pay required fees, do work in accordance with this article, and apply for an inspection and receive a certificate of approval. Personal electrical construction or installation performed by an owner under this section shall be by himself, herself, for himself or herself on his or her own residence, without compensation and no person shall be employed to assist him or her in any way on such work except an electrician or electrical contractor licensed by the city. (Code 1988)

- 4-331. APPROVED MATERIALS. No electric materials for wiring of appliances or equipment shall be installed in the city unless they are in conformity with the provisions of this article and with the approved standards of construction for safety to life and property. Conformity of materials for wiring appliances and equipment to the standards of the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. shall be prima facie evidence that the materials, devices, appliances and equipment comply with the requirements of this article. (Code 1988)
- 4-332. LIABILITY. This article shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility or liability of any party owning, operating, controlling or installing any electrical equipment for damages to persons or property caused by any defect therein, nor shall the city be held as assuming any such liability, by reason of the inspection or re-inspection authorized herein, or the certificate of approval of any work or equipment authorized herein or by reason of any permit or license granted herein. (Code 1988)
- 4-333. SEVERABILITY. If any section of the National Electrical Code or of this article shall be held unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, then such section shall be considered separate and apart from the remaining provisions of the National Electrical Code or of this article, the section is to be completely severable from the remaining provisions which shall continue in full force and effect. (Code 1988)

## **ARTICLE 4. PLUMBING AND GAS-FITTING CODE**

- 4-401.        **DEFINITION OF PLUMBING.** The term "plumbing" as used in this article shall be construed to mean the installation of gas or water pipes, fixtures, apparatus and the necessary connections either for supplying gas or water to premises or for the removing of liquid and water-borne wastes from premises in the city, or both such purposes, and shall also denote installed fixtures, drainage and vent systems and gas or water distribution systems as the case may be. (Code 1988)
- 4-402.        **UNIFORM PLUMBING CODE INCORPORATED.** There is hereby adopted and incorporated by reference, for the purpose of establishing rules and regulations for the practice of plumbing and gas-fitting, including the installation, maintenance, extension and alteration of all pipes, fixtures, appliances and appurtenances in connection with sanitary sewers and public and private water and fuel gas systems, the Uniform Plumbing Code, 1988 Edition, as recommended by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, such code being made as a part of the ordinances and code of the city as if the same had been set out in full herein, all as authorized and in the manner prescribed by K.S.A. 12-3009 through 12-3012 including any amendments thereto. One copy of the uniform code shall be marked or stamped "Official Copy as Incorporated by the Code of the City of Blue Rapids," and shall be filed with the city clerk to be open to inspection and available to the public at all reasonable hours of business. Any person violating any provisions of such code shall be punished as provided in section 1-116 of this code. (Code 1988)
- 4-403.        **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.** The following sections of this article are in addition to the provisions of the standard code incorporated by reference in section 4-402. (Code 1988)
- 4-404.        **BUILDING OFFICIAL; AUTHORITY.** The building inspector or his or her authorized designee shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this article and appointment of a plumbing inspector in accordance with section 4-204 of this chapter, which apply in a like manner to this article. (Code 1988)
- 4-405.        **PLUMBING INSPECTOR; APPOINTMENT.** The mayor may assume the responsibilities of or appoint some qualified officer or employee of the city to be and perform the duties of plumbing inspector as may be required, subject to the consent and approval of the governing body. (Code 1988)
- 4-406.        **SAME; DUTIES.** The plumbing inspector shall have the following duties:
- (a) To enforce all regulations relating to plumbing construction, alteration, repair or removal;
  - (b) May permit, with the approval of the governing body, on the basis of duly authenticated reports from recognized sources, the use of new materials or modes of construction, not provided for in this article, and may, for the purpose of carrying out the intent of this article adopt an accepted standard of material or workmanlike practices of federal or state bureaus, national, technical organizations or fire underwriters;
  - (c) To examine all buildings in the process of erection, construction, alteration or relocation in the city for the purpose of determining whether the work is in compliance with the plumbing permit given and in compliance with the regulations of the city pertaining to such work, including zoning regulations; and

(d) To keep comprehensive records of applications, of permits or certificates issued, of inspections made, of reports rendered, and of notices or orders issued. All such records shall be open to public inspection during stated office hours, but shall not be removed from the office of the building official or plumbing inspector without his or her written consent. (Code 1988)

4-407. SAME; POWERS. The plumbing inspector shall have the following powers:

(a) To enter any building or structure or premises at any reasonable hour, whether complete or in the process of erection, to perform the duties contained in this chapter;

(b) To adopt and enforce all such prudent emergency measures as he or she may deem necessary and expedient for the public safety under the laws of the city;

(c) May cause any work done in violation of this chapter to be discontinued until he or she shall have satisfactory evidence that the work will be done in accordance with the plumbing regulations of the city, subject to the right of any plumber, plumbing contractor or owner to appeal to the governing body. (Code 1988)

4-408. SAME; RIGHT OF ENTRY. The plumbing inspector, or his or her agent, upon proper identification, shall have authority to enter any building, structure or premises at any reasonable hour to perform his or her duties as set out in this chapter. (Code 1988)

4-409. CLARIFICATION; MODIFICATION. (a) The governing body shall be the final determiner of the scope and meaning of all provisions of the plumbing code which may be unclear, ambiguous, or requiring interpretation.

(b) The plumbing inspector shall have power to modify any of the provisions of the plumbing code upon application in writing by the owner or lessee or his or her authorized agent, when there are practical difficulties in the way of carrying out the strict letter of the code. In approving modifications, the plumbing inspector shall see that the spirit of the code is observed, public safety secured and substantial justice done. The particulars of a modification when granted or allowed and the decision of the inspector thereon shall be entered upon the records of the plumbing inspector and a signed copy shall be furnished to the applicant. (Code 1988)

4-410. PLUMBING PERMIT REQUIRED; EXCEPTION. (a) It shall be unlawful to install, alter or reconstruct any plumbing or plumbing system, as defined by the plumbing code and section 4-401, in any building in the city without first making application to and receiving a permit therefor from the city clerk, after approval by the chief building official or his or her authorized assistant. The application for such permit shall be made and the permit obtained before any plumbing work is commenced.

(b) No permit shall be required for making minor repairs of any plumbing including repair of leaks in water pipes, traps or cocks, opening up stoppage in waste or supply pipes, traps or drains, replacing fixtures when waste pipes are not disturbed, or replacing frozen pipes inside the building, and like repair work not involving original installation or reconstruction. (Code 1988)

4-411. SAME; APPLICATION INFORMATION REQUIRED. (a) A plumbing permit shall be issued upon an application in writing to the office of city clerk on a form or forms provided for the purpose. This application shall, among other things, disclose the following:

(1) The name of the owner of the lot or tract of ground;

(2) The location of the building or structure;  
(3) The plumbing work proposed;  
(4) The class of occupancy;  
(5) The class of construction;  
(6) The kind of materials to be used;  
(7) The estimated cost of the work;  
(8) The date work will commence;  
(9) Expected date of completion;  
(10) Name and address of plumber, plumbing contractor or contractors doing the work;

(11) Such other information as may be pertinent to the issuance of the required permit.

(b) An application for a plumbing permit shall be signed by the owner or his or her duly authorized agent, or a plumber or plumbing contractor licensed by the city. If the application is made by the owner or his or her agent, it shall contain the name or names of the licensed plumber, plumbing contractor or contractors doing the work described, or a plumbing permit may be issued to the owner upon his or her application disclosing satisfactory evidence that the proposed work will be performed by the owner, himself or herself and not by a licensed plumber or plumbing contractor, and likewise subject to the final approval of the plumbing inspector for work performed.

(c) Upon approval of the completed application and a determination that a permit should be issued, the chief building official or his or her assistant shall issue a permit to the owner or contractor authorizing the plumbing work covered by the application.

(d) Any permit issued under this section shall be valid and subsisting for a period of not more than six months from the date of issuance unless the permittee shall have commenced, within the period so limited, the plumbing work authorized by such permit. Plumbing work commenced for the purpose of this section shall mean the beginning of plumbing work other than the preparation of plans or the letting of a plumbing contract.  
(Code 1988)

4-412. SAME; PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. Whenever an application for a plumbing permit is made, the chief building official or the plumbing inspector may, if he or she finds it necessary to determine whether work described in the application will comply with the laws pertaining to such work, require that the applicant file a written description or drawing of the proposed plumbing construction as may be prepared for the purpose. If such drawing or description is insufficient for the purposes of determining whether a permit should be issued, the chief building official or the plumbing inspector may require the applicant to file complete architectural and engineering plans and specifications for such building or construction, or any part thereof, as may be necessary for the inspector to determine compliance with this article. The filing of such plans and specifications and the approval thereof in connection with an application for a permit shall not in any way affect the authority of the city to deny or issue a permit, or to inspect any plumbing work for conformity with this article. (Code 1988)

4-413. SAME; FEES. The fee for a plumbing permit shall be \$10; however no fee shall be required to obtain a permit where the total estimated cost, the reasonable value of all services, labor and materials required, is under \$5,000. The fee herein shall be paid to the city clerk upon obtaining a plumbing permit and the same shall be credited to the general operating fund of the city. (Code 1988)

- 4-414. SAME; POSTING. A copy of the plumbing permit shall be kept on the premises for public inspection during the performance of the work and until the completion of the same. The plumbing inspector may require a certified copy of the approved plans to be kept on the premises at all times from the commencement of the work to the completion thereof. (Code 1988)
- 4-415. REQUEST FOR INSPECTION. Upon the completion of any plumbing work covered by this article, it shall be the duty of the person doing such work to notify the plumbing inspector and request that it be inspected; after which such work shall be inspected promptly as hereinafter provided. (Code 1988)
- 4-416. INSPECTION; CONCEALMENT OF PRIOR WORK. (a) When any plumbing is to be hidden from view by the permanent placement of parts of the building, the person, firm or corporation installing the plumbing shall notify the plumbing inspector and such equipment shall not be concealed until it has been inspected, approved or authorized by the plumbing inspector or until 24 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, shall have elapsed from the time of such notification. On large installations, where the concealment of plumbing proceeds continuously, the person, firm or corporation installing the plumbing shall give the plumbing inspector due notice and inspections shall be made periodically during the progress of the work.
- (b) The plumbing inspector shall have the authority to require owners or contractors to open such work which, in any manner, conceals plumbing that has been closed without his or her knowledge or permission, and in no case shall the inspector issue a certificate of approval until satisfied that the work is in accordance with the provisions of this article. The inspector shall also have the right to refuse to issue a certificate of approval on any plumbing, that is concealed in such manner that it cannot be fully determined that it has been done in accordance with this article. (Code 1988)
- 4-417. INSPECTION FEE. An initial inspection fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_, and an inspection fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for subsequent inspections required shall be paid before any plumbing will be approved or a certificate of approval issued. (Code 1988)
- 4-418. CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL. (a) When the plumbing inspector finds plumbing construction to be in conformity with the provisions of this article, he or she shall issue to the person, firm, or corporation performing the plumbing construction, a certificate of approval, with duplicate copy for delivery to the owner, authorizing the use of the plumbing system and connection to the supply of gas or water, as the case may be.
- (b) When a certificate of approval is issued authorizing the connection and use of a temporary gas or water supply, the certificate shall expire at a time to be stated therein and shall be revocable for cause by the plumbing inspector.
- (c) In no case shall certificates of approval be issued on plumbing or plumbing systems or parts of systems where the work installed does not conform to the requirements of this article.
- (d) If, upon inspection, the plumbing or plumbing system is not found to be fully in conformity with the provisions of this article, the plumbing inspector shall immediately notify the person, firm, or corporation making the installation of the existing defects.
- (e) No certificate of approval shall be issued unless the plumbing or plumbing system has been installed in strict conformity with the provisions of this article and unless the plumbing or plumbing system is made in compliance with nationally approved

methods of construction for safety to life and property as herein set forth.

(f) The plumbing inspector shall be deemed the judge of whether the plumbing or plumbing system has been made in accordance with the requirements of this article.

(g) No certificate of approval shall be required for making minor repairs of any plumbing including repair of leaks in water pipes, traps or cocks, opening up stoppage in waste or supply pipes, traps or drains, replacing fixtures when waste pipes are not disturbed, or replacing frozen pipes inside the building, and like repair work not involving original installation or reconstruction.

(Code 1988)

4-419. CONNECTION TO GAS OR WATER SUPPLY. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to make connection to a supply of gas or water for which an inspection is required, or which has been disconnected by the order of the plumbing inspector, until a certificate of approval has been issued by the plumbing inspector authorizing the connection and use of such plumbing or plumbing system. The plumbing inspector may, at his or her discretion, authorize a temporary connection. (Code 1988)

4-420. CONDEMNATION; APPEAL. (a) If in the judgment of the plumbing inspector, after inspection, the plumbing or plumbing system in any building are unsafe or dangerous to persons or property, the inspector shall have the power to cause the plumbing or plumbing system to be disconnected from the supply of gas or water and may, at his or her discretion, seal the control valves for the same in a closed or disconnected position, whereupon he or she shall give notice to the owner, or his or her agent, or by posting such notice at the site and shall also notify the utilities serving the premises. Thereafter, it shall be unlawful for any person to cause or permit gas or water to be supplied to the plumbing or plumbing system so sealed until they shall have been made safe and the inspector shall have issued a certificate of approval to that effect.

(b) When the plumbing inspector condemns all or part of any plumbing system, the owner may, within 10 days after receiving written notice thereof, file a petition in writing for review of the action of the plumbing inspector by the governing body, upon the receipt of which the governing body shall at once proceed to determine the facts, and within 10 days from receiving the petition make a decision in accordance with their findings. (Code 1988)

4-421. PLUMBER OR PLUMBING CONTRACTOR; DEFINED. (a) A plumber or plumbing contractor shall mean:

(1) Any person engaged in the business of installing, altering, maintaining, or repairing plumbing, which shall include all materials and plumbing fixtures, water pipes, portable water treatment equipment, traps, drainage and vent piping, and building drains, including their respective points, connections, devices, receptacles and appurtenances located within the property lines of any premises or in any building.

(2) Any gasfitter or person engaged in the business of installing, altering, or repairing fuel gas piping, gas systems or fixtures.

(b) A plumber or plumbing contractor as defined in subsection (a) of this section shall not mean or include the owner of a residence who personally installs plumbing piping or equipment within and upon his or her own residence and intended for his or her own personal use and permanent occupancy; provided, the owner shall satisfy the plumbing inspector as to his or her ability to install such piping or equipment, secure a permit, pay required fees, do work in accordance with this article, and apply for an inspection and receive approval. Personal installation by an owner under this section

shall be himself, herself, for himself or herself on his or her own residence, without compensation and no person shall be employed to assist him or her in any way on such work except a plumber or plumbing contractor licensed by the city.

(Code 1988)

4-422. PLUMBER'S OR PLUMBING CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE REQUIRED; PLUMBING PERMITS; UNLAWFUL ACTS. (a) Each plumber or plumbing contractor shall before entering upon any plumbing work subject to regulation by city laws, apply to the city clerk for a plumber's or plumbing contractor's license and receive the same as hereinafter provided and have in his or her possession a valid license authorizing him, her or it to engage in the trade or occupation of a plumber or plumbing contractor in the city.

(b) No permit for any plumbing work shall be issued for any such work to be performed by a plumber or plumbing contractor, as defined, who has not first obtained a license upon making a proper application and payment of the license fee as required.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, company, association or corporation to enter into a contract or agreement with another so as to bring himself, herself, or itself under the definition of a plumber or plumbing contractor herein, or to perform any work as a plumber or plumbing contractor or any work under a contract for any work involving plumbing construction, without first having obtained a plumber's or plumbing contractor's license issued by the city. (Code 1988)

4-423. SAME; APPLICATION; GRANTING. (a) Application for a plumber's or plumbing contractor's license shall be made upon a form to be supplied by the city which shall disclose the name of the applicant, his or her place of business in the city (and home office if a nonresident), the kind of contracting work engaged in, the length of time engaged in such work and places where work has been performed within the past two years. The application shall be signed by the plumber or plumbing contractor or his or her authorized agent. The applications shall be, by the chief building official referred to the governing body at its next meeting for action thereon. Such license shall be issued by the city clerk, upon payment of the fees hereinafter provided after approval of the governing body. (Code 1988)

4-424. SAME; LICENSE FEES; CONDITIONS; RENEWAL; UNLAWFUL ACTS. (a) The following license fees shall be paid for the calendar year or major fraction thereof:

(1) General Plumber or Plumbing Contractor, who shall qualify to engage in more than one kind of plumbing work, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_;

(2) Limited Plumber or Plumbing Contractor, who shall qualify to engage in not more than one kind of plumbing work, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_;

Any license issued on or after July 1 of each year shall be issued upon payment of one-half the annual license fee.

(b) Each such license shall set forth the kind of plumbing work in which the licensee may engage. The licensee shall display his or her license at any place where he or she may be engaged in plumbing work or produce the same on demand of any city officer. All licenses shall be renewable annually as in the case of an original license on or before the first day of January of the year for which issued.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to contract for any kind of work covered by this article without having a valid license issued by the city to perform such contracts. (Code 1988)

4-425. SAME; INSURANCE. A plumber or plumbing contractor may fulfill this obligation if he or she shall procure and maintain a liability insurance policy in the amount of \$100,000 for the death or injury of any one person and \$300,000 for the death or injury of any number of persons in any one accident and \$50,000 for property damage in any one accident. Such policies of insurance shall be issued by some insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Kansas. A plumber or plumbing contractor may qualify as to the insurance requirements by filing a certificate with the city clerk executed by the resident agent of such company stating that the required policy of insurance has been issued by such company for the purpose required by this article and that such insurer will not cancel the policy except upon giving 30 days notice in writing to the city; and that the certificate shall be filed for an annual period beginning January 1 and ending December 31 of such year. (Code 1988)

4-426. LICENSE SUSPENSION; REVOCATION; APPEAL; UNLAWFUL ACTS. (a) The license of any plumber or plumbing contractor may be suspended temporarily, for a period of not to exceed 30 days at any one time, by the chief building official upon his or her own motion or upon a complaint of the city plumbing inspector. Notice shall be given in writing to such plumber or plumbing contractor giving reasonable notice of a time of hearing of the complaint or the matter alleged against such plumber or plumbing contractor involving any one or more of the following:

(1) Misrepresentation of a material fact by applicant in obtaining a license;

(2) Use of license to obtain a plumbing permit for another;

(3) Failure or neglect to observe conditions of a permit authorizing encumbering of streets or sidewalks for safety of public;

(4) Performance of any plumbing work without a permit where one is required by law; or

(5) Willful disregard of any violation of the plumbing laws, or failure to comply with any lawful order of the city plumbing inspector.

(b) Any licensee may within 15 days appeal in writing to the governing body from any order of the chief building official suspending his or her license for its final decision thereon. The governing body may upon such hearing terminate such suspension within not more than 30 days thereafter, or may revoke such license. If any license shall be revoked, the plumber or plumbing contractor shall not be eligible for a new license during a period of six months thereafter. No fee shall be refunded in event of the suspension or revocation of any plumber's or plumbing contractor's license.

(c) It shall be unlawful to engage in the occupation or trade of plumber or plumbing contractor during the time any license of such plumber or plumbing contractor has been suspended or revoked. (Code 1988)

4-427. EXCAVATIONS. When it appears that the laying or repairing of any water or sewer pipes or the making of any connection therewith shall require excavation in any street, alley or public way of the city or the cutting or removal of any pavement, curb or gutter or any sidewalk, during the course of such work, the application for a permit shall so state and describe the location and extent of the excavation, cutting or removal. Before the city clerk shall issue any permit for such work, the applicant shall pay any fee required by this code. All excavations shall be barricaded and guarded as provided by the appropriate sections of this code. Before any such excavation shall be backfilled, new plumbing work therein shall be inspected and the bottom of the excavation holding any sewer, drain or water pipe shall be so filled, leveled and tamped as to properly support the pipe and

permit proper drainage when carrying sewage, and the excavation shall be backfilled and all paving, curbing, guttering or sidewalks shall be restored as near as possible to their last condition, subject always to the approval of the plumbing inspector or the superintendent of streets. (Code 1988)

- 4-428.       **WORK BY PROPERTY OWNERS.** Nothing herein contained shall prohibit any property owner from personally installing plumbing piping or equipment within and upon his or her own residence and intended for his or her personal use and permanent occupancy; provided, the owner shall satisfy the plumbing inspector as to his or her ability to install such piping or equipment, secure a permit, pay required fees, do work in accordance with this article, and apply for an inspection and receive approval. Personal installation by an owner under this section shall be by himself, herself, for himself or herself on his or her own residence, without compensation and no person shall be employed to assist him or her in any way on such work except a plumber or plumbing contractor licensed by the city. (Code 1988)
- 4-429.       **APPROVED MATERIALS.** No plumbing materials, appliances or equipment shall be installed in the city unless they are in conformity with the provisions of this article and with the approved standards of construction for safety to life and property. Conformity of materials for plumbing materials, appliances and equipment to the standards of the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. shall be prima facie evidence that the materials, devices, appliances and equipment comply with the requirements of this article. (Code 1988)
- 4-430.       **LIABILITY.** This article shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility or liability of any party owning, operating, controlling or performing any plumbing construction for damages to persons or property caused by any defect therein, nor shall the city be held as assuming any such liability, by reason of the inspection or re-inspection authorized herein, or the certificate of approval of any work or equipment authorized herein or by reason of any permit or license granted herein. (Code 1988)
- 4-431.       **SEVERABILITY.** If any section of the Uniform Plumbing Code or of this article shall be held unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, then such section shall be considered separate and apart from the remaining provisions of the Uniform Plumbing Code or of this article, the section is to be completely severable from the remaining provisions which shall continue in full force and effect. (Code 1988)

## ARTICLE 5. MOVING BUILDINGS

- 4-501. BUILDING OFFICIAL; AUTHORITY. The building inspector or his or her authorized designee shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this article and appointment of an inspector in accordance with sections 4-204 and 4-205:209 of this chapter, which apply in a like manner to this article. (Code 1988)
- 4-502. PERMIT REQUIRED. No person, firm or corporation shall move, haul, or transport any house, building, derrick, or other structure of the height when loaded for movement of 16 feet or more from the surface of the highway, road, street or alley, or a width of eight feet or more or which cannot be moved at a speed of four miles per hour or faster, upon, across or over any street, alley or sidewalk in this city without first obtaining a permit therefor. (K.S.A. 17-1914; Code 1988)
- 4-503. SAME: APPLICATION FOR PERMIT. All applications for permits required under the provisions of this article shall be made in writing to the city clerk specifying the day and hour said moving is to commence and the route through the city's streets over which the house, building, derrick or other structure shall be moved and stating whether it will be necessary to cut and move, raise, or in any way interfere with any wires, cables or other aerial equipment of any public or municipally-owned utility, and if so, the application shall also state the name of the public or municipally-owned utility, and the time and location that the applicant's moving operations shall necessitate the cutting, moving, raising or otherwise interfering with such aerial facilities. (K.S.A. 17-1915; Code 1988)
- 4-504. SAME; BOND, INSURANCE REQUIRED. (a) It shall be the duty of any person at the time of making application for a permit as provided in this article to give a good and sufficient surety bond to the city, to be approved by the governing body, indemnifying the city against any loss or damage resulting from the failure of any such person to comply with the provisions of this article or for any damage or injury caused in moving any such house or structure. The bond herein shall be in the sum of \$5,000, or cash may be deposited in lieu of such surety bond.  
(b) A public liability insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Kansas, in the amount of \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per accident as to personal injury, and \$50,000 property damage may be permitted in lieu of a bond. (Code 1988)
- 4-505. SAME; FEE. Before any permit to move any house or structure is given under the provisions of this article, the applicant shall pay a fee of not less than \$5 to the city clerk; plus the additional cost for the time for any city crews involved in such moving. (Code 1988)
- 4-506. CONTRACTOR; LICENSE REQUIRED; FEE. The provisions of sections 4-219:225 of this chapter shall apply in a like manner to this article. (Code 1988)
- 4-507. ROUTE; DUTIES OF BUILDING OFFICIAL. The city clerk shall, upon filing of the above application, refer the same to the chief building official or his or her authorized designee to check the proposed route and determine if it is practical to move such house or other structure over the route proposed. If it shall appear that such route is not practical and another route may be used equally well with less danger to street and travel,

then he or she may designate such other route as the one to be used and shall notify the applicant of the same. The building official may also require the planking of any street, bridge or culvert or any part thereof to prevent damage thereto. It shall also be the duty of the chief building official or his or her authorized designee to inspect the progress of moving any house or other structure to see that the same is being moved in accordance with the provisions of this article. (Code 1988)

4-508. NOTICE TO OWNERS. (a) Upon issuance of a moving permit the applicant shall give not less than 15 days written notice to any person owning or operating any wires, cables or other aerial equipment along the proposed route of the intent to move the structure, giving the time and location that the applicants moving operation shall necessitate the cutting, moving, raising or interfering of any wires, cables or other aerial equipment.

(b) The notice provision of subsection (a) shall not apply where the person owning or operating any wires, cables or other aerial equipment has waived their right to advance notice.

(c) Should the moving operation be delayed, the applicant shall give the owner or his or her agent not less than 24 hours advance notice of the actual operation. (K.S.A. 17-1916; Code 1988)

4-509. DUTY OF OWNERS. (a) It shall be the duty of the person or the city owning or operating such poles or wires after service of notice as provided herein, to furnish competent lineman or workmen to remove such poles, or raise or cut such wires as will be necessary to facilitate the moving of such house or structure. The necessary expense which is incurred thereby shall be paid by the holder of the moving permit.

(b) The owner of any wires, cables or other aerial equipment, after service of notice as provided in section 4-508, shall be liable to the permit holder for damages in an amount not to exceed \$100 per day for each day the owner shall fail or refuse to accommodate the permit holder's moving operations. (K.S.A. 17-1917; Code 1988)

4-510. INTERFERING WITH POLES; WIRES. It shall be unlawful for any person engaged in moving any house or other structure to raise, cut or in any way interfere with any wires or poles bearing wires or any other aerial equipment. (K.S.A. 17-1918; Code 1987)

4-511. DISPLAY OF LANTERNS. It shall be the duty of any person moving any of the structures mentioned in this article upon or across any street, alley or sidewalk or other public place, in this city, to display red lanterns thereon in such a manner as to show the extreme height and width thereof from 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise. (Code 1988)

## ARTICLE 6. DANGEROUS AND UNFIT STRUCTURES

- 4-601. PURPOSE. The governing body has found that there exist within the corporate limits of the city structures which are unfit for human use or habitation due to dilapidation, increasing the hazards of fire or accidents or other calamities, lack of ventilation, light or sanitary facilities or other conditions, including those set forth hereinafter, which render such structures unsafe, unsanitary or detrimental to the health and safety or otherwise inimical to the welfare of the residents of the city; and it is hereby deemed necessary by the governing body to require or cause to repair, closing or demolition or removal of the structures in the manner hereinafter provided. (Ord. 1621, Sec. 1)
- 4-602. DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this article certain terms and words are hereby defined as follows:
- (a) Structures. Anything constructed or erected which requires location on the ground or attached to something having a location on the ground.
  - (b) Residential structures. Any building, dwelling or structure, or part thereof used and occupied for human habitation or intended to be so used and including any appurtenances belonging thereto or usually enjoyed therewith.
  - (c) Nonresidential structures. Any structure which is used for other than residential purposes or a part of the structure, or a structure, a part of which is used for other than nonresidential purposes, and where applicable, the premises on which the structures are situated.
  - (d) Public officer means the building inspector or his or her authorized representative.  
(Ord. 1361, Sec.1; Ord. 1621, Sec.2; Code 1988)
- 4-603. MINIMUM STANDARDS. That for the purpose of this article, the following minimum standards are hereby fixed and adopted:
- (a) Every structure shall be kept in good repair and structurally sound by the owner.
  - (b) The exterior surfaces of every structure shall be maintained free of broken glass, loose shingles, lumber, siding, crumbling bricks or stone, excessive peeling paint or other conditions reflective of deterioration to the end that adjoining properties and neighborhood be protected from blighting influences.
  - (c) Every foundation, exterior wall, exterior, door, basement hatchway, window and roof shall be kept substantially weather tight, watertight, and rodent proof.
  - (d) Every basement or cellar window or opening which might provide an entry for rodents shall be supplied with the screen or other device as shall effectively prevent their entrance.  
(Ord. 1621, Sec. 3)
- 4-604. HEARING. Whenever a written complaint is filed with the city clerk by at least three property owners of the city charging that any structure is unfit for human use or habitation, the city council shall, if the preliminary investigation by the public officer discloses a basis for the charges, issue and cause to be served upon the owner, every mortgage of record, and all parties with interests in the structure (including persons in possession), a complaint stating the charges in that respect. The complaint shall contain a notice that a hearing shall be held before the city council at a place therein fixed not less than 10 days nor more than 30 days after the serving of the complaint; that the owner, mortgagee and parties in interest shall be given the right to file an answer to the

complaint and to appear in person, or otherwise, and give testimony at the place and time fixed in the complaint, and that the rules of evidence prevailing in courts of law or equity shall not be controlling in hearings before the city council. (Ord. 1621, Sec. 4)

4-605.       TERMINATION. The city council may determine that a structure is unfit for human use or habitation if the city council finds a condition, such as enumerated herein, in the structure which is dangerous and injurious to the health or safety of the occupant of the building or any other resident of the city, or which have a blighting influence on the properties in the area. The conditions may include the following, without limitations: defects therein increasing the hazard of fire, accident or other calamities; lack of adequate ventilation; air pollution; light or sanitary facilities; dilapidation; disrepair; structural defects; uncleanliness; overcrowding; inadequate ingress and egress; dead and dying trees, limbs or other unsightly natural growth; unsightly appearances that constitute a blight to adjoining property, the neighborhood, or the city; walls, sidings, or exteriors of a quality and appearance not commensurate with the character of the properties in the neighborhood; unsightly stored or parked material, equipment, supplies, machinery, trucks or automobiles, or parts thereof; vermin infestation; inadequate drainage; failure to meet the minimum housing standards established by this article; or any violation of health, fire, building or zoning regulations or any other laws or regulations relating to the use of land and the occupancy of buildings or improvements. (Ord. 1621, Sec.5)

4-606.       FINDINGS OF FACT. If, after the notice and hearing, the city council determines that the structure under consideration is unfit for human use or habitation, it shall state in writing the findings of fact in support of the determination. (Ord. 1621, Sec. 6)

4-607.       ORDER TO REPAIR OR REMOVE STRUCTURE. If, after notice and hearing, the city council determines that the structure can be repaired or improved to make the structure fit for human habitation, it shall direct the owner of the structure to repair, alter, or improve the structure to render it fit for human use or habitation or the city council shall vacate and close the structure. If the structure shall not be made habitable for human use within the time set by the order, the owner thereof shall remove or demolish the structure within the time set by the order. (Ord. 1621, Sec. 7)

4-608.       FAILURE OF OWNER TO COMPLY. If the owner fails to comply with an order to repair, alter, or improve or vacate and close the structure, the city council may cause the structure to be repaired, altered or improved, or to be vacated and closed. If the owner fails to comply with an order to remove or demolish the structure, the city council may cause the structure to be removed and demolished. (Ord. 1621, Sec. 8)

4-609.       CITY TO REPAIR OR ABATE; COSTS TO BE ASSESSED. The amount of the cost of repairs, alterations, or improvements or vacating and closing or removal or demolition, shall be a lien against the real property upon which the cost was incurred, and the lien, including as part thereof allowance of the costs of the action, necessary attorney's fees, may be foreclosed in judicial proceedings in the manner provided or authorized by law for loans secured by liens on real property, or shall be assessed as a special assessment against the lot or parcel of land on which the structure was located and the city clerk shall at the time of certifying other city taxes, certify the unpaid portion of the aforesaid costs and the county clerk shall list the same on the tax roles of the county against the lot or parcel of land. If the structure is removed or demolished by the

city or its agents, the city shall sell the materials of the structure and shall credit the proceeds of the sale against the costs of the removal or demolition and if there be any balance remaining, it shall be paid to the parties entitled thereto as determined by proper judicial proceedings, after deducting the costs of the judicial proceedings, including necessary attorney's fees incurred therein as determined by the court.

(Ord. 1621, Sec. 9)

4-610. COMPLAINTS; ORDERS TO BE SERVED PERSONALLY. Complaints or orders issued pursuant to this article shall be served upon the persons involved either personally or by certified mail, but if the whereabouts of the persons be unknown and the same cannot be ascertained in the exercise of reasonable diligence, then the serving of the complaint or order upon the persons may be made by publishing the same once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official city newspaper. A copy of the complaint or order shall also be posted in a conspicuous place on the premises affected by the complaint or order, and another copy of the complaint or order shall also be filed with the clerk of the county district court and the filing of the complaint or order shall have the same force and effect as other lis pendens orders provided by law. (Ord. 1621, Sec.10)

4-611. APPEAL TO DISTRICT COURT. Any person affected by an order issued by the city council may petition the county district court for an injunction restraining the provisions of the order, and the court upon the petition, may issue a temporary injunction pending the final disposition of the cause; provided, however, that the persons shall petition the court within 30 days after the posting and service of the order. Hearings shall be had by the district court on the petitions as provided by statute. The remedies herein provided shall be exclusive remedies, and no person affected by an order hereunder shall be entitled to recover any damages for action taken, pursuant to this article. (Ord. 1621, Sec. 11)

4-612. POWERS. The city council is hereby authorized to exercise the powers as may be necessary or convenient to carry out and affectuate the purposes and provisions of this article, including the following powers in addition to others herein granted:

(a) To designate an agent or employee to investigate the structure conditions in the municipality in order to determine which structures therein are unfit for human use or habitation;

(b) To administer oaths, affirmations, examine witnesses, and receive evidence;

(c) To designate an agent or employee to enter upon premises for the purpose of making examinations, provided that the entry shall be made in such manner as to cause the least possible inconvenience to the person in possession and to obtain an order for this purpose from a court of competent jurisdiction in the event that entry is denied or resisted;

(d) To appoint and affix the duties of the officers, agent and employees as it deems necessary to carry out the purposes of the article;

(e) To make the determination and perform the duties as shall be necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this article.

(Ord. 1621, Sec. 12)