

## ARTICLE B

### Electrical Code

#### SEC. 15-1-30 STATE ELECTRICAL CODE ADOPTED.

- (a) Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter 324 is hereby adopted by reference and made a part of this Article and shall apply to the construction and inspection of new one- and two-family dwellings and additions or modifications to existing one- and two-family dwellings.
- (b) Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapters, SPS 316, and PSC 114 are hereby adopted by reference and made a part of this Chapter and shall apply to all buildings, except those covered in Subsection (a) above.
- (c) Wisconsin State Statutes §101 subchapter IV is hereby adopted by reference and made a part of this Article

#### SEC. 15-1-31 ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR.

- (a) **RIGHT OF ACCESS TO BUILDINGS.** The Electrical Inspector shall have the authority to enter at reasonable times to enter all buildings and premises and all parts thereof in order to in the discharge of official duties or to make an inspection, re-inspection, observations, examination or test of the electrical equipment or wiring contained therein or thereon, The Electrical Inspector shall be given prompt access to any building or premises upon notification to the proper authority and if access is denied may secure an inspection warrant pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes.
- (b) **AUTHORITY TO DISCONTINUE ELECTRICAL OPERATIONS.** The Electrical Inspector shall have the authority to order all electrical currents disconnected in case of emergency and where such electrical currents are dangerous to life or property or may interfere with the work of the Neenah-Menasha Fire/Rescue Department. No person, firm or corporation shall reconnect any equipment thus cut off until written permission is given by the Electrical Inspector.
- (c) **PERIODIC INSPECTION.** The Electrical Inspector periodically may make inspections and thorough examinations of all the electrical wires and appliances installed within the City of Menasha. When such wires or appliances are found to be in a dangerous or unsafe condition the Electrical Inspector shall notify the person, firm or corporation owning, using, operating or installing the same to place them in a safe condition. Any person, firm or corporation failing or refusing to make the necessary repairs or changes after reasonable notice shall be subject to a forfeiture as prescribed in this Article. The Electrical Inspector is hereby empowered with authority to order the discontinuance of electrical service to such defective wires or equipment until they have been repaired, removed or changed as directed by the Electrical Inspector, subject to the limitations of this Article.

## **SEC. 15-1-32 ELECTRICIAN LICENSES.**

- (a) No person or business shall install, alter, repair, remove, renew, replace, disturb, connect, disconnect or maintain any electrical equipment or accept any payments therefor in the City of Menasha unless such a person has a license as required by Wisconsin Statutes §101.862.
  - (1) Exception. Homeowner.
    - a. A homeowner may personally do the work described in this subsection in their own single-family dwelling and accessory structures such as a detached garage that is directly associated with the dwelling. The work shall be inspected and approved in the same manner as for a licensed electrician. A homeowner must prove their competence to conform to all rules and regulations. A “homeowner” is a person owning and occupying as their permanent address a single-family dwelling.
    - b. In the case of installing or replacing service equipment including the electrical service panel in a single-family dwelling and solar photovoltaic installations or electrical work performed on a residential property which is not a single family owner occupied dwelling, the electrical work shall be performed by a licensed electrical contractor, meeting all the requirements of SPS 305.41 as amended from time to time. The owner of the property must procure a permit prior to starting any electrical work. The property owner may not procure a permit on behalf of an electrical contractor or another individual.

## **SEC. 15-1-33 PERMITS.**

- (a) **PERMITS.** The Electrical Inspector shall issue permits for all electrical installations for light, heat or power upon the filing of proper application which shall be made on forms furnished by the Electrical Inspector, and shall describe the nature of the work as well as such other information as may be required for inspection. In no case shall any electrical work be started unless a permit has been obtained, unless the same is exempt. The Electrical Inspector may require the applicant to furnish plans and specifications covering the work to be done.
  - (1) No permit shall be required for repairs made necessary for the proper maintenance of an existing installation.
  - (2) On applying for a permit for temporary work, a specified period of time for which such wiring is to remain in service must be stated. Service shall be cut off at the end of this period and shall not again be connected without written permission from the Electrical Inspector.
  - (3) Upon emergency conditions, the necessary electrical wiring may commence, provided a permit application is submitted to the Electrical Inspector no later than the next business day. Failure to demonstrate an emergency condition

shall result in double fee per SEC. 15-1-5(j) of the Menasha Code of Ordinances.

#### **SEC. 15-1-34 INSPECTION.**

Upon completion of the wiring of any building or before any working is hidden from view, the person, firm or corporation doing the same to notify the Electrical Inspector. The Electrical Inspector shall inspect the installation within two (2) business days of the time such notice is received. If, upon inspection, it is found that such installation is fully in compliance with this Article and does not constitute a hazard to life or property, Electrical Inspector shall approve the same and authorize concealment of such wiring or connection for electrical service. If the installation is incomplete or not strictly in accordance with this Article, the Electrical Inspector shall issue orders to the person, firm or corporation installing the same to remove all hazards and make the necessary changes or additions as soon as practicable. Concealment of electric work before inspection or failure to comply with an order of the Electrical Inspector shall constitute a violation of this Article.

#### **SEC. 15-1-35 CERTIFICATES OF INSPECTION.**

Electrical current shall not be turned on for any electrical installation until a certificate of inspection has been issued by the Electrical Inspector. However, in occupied buildings where a permit for light fixtures has been issued, the Electrical Inspector may authorize the installation of meters for electric service after the wiring has been inspected and approved.

#### **SEC. 15-1-36 RECORDS OF PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS.**

Records of all permits and inspections shall be retained for a minimum of seven (7) years and the Electrical Inspector shall be provided with the necessary supplies to carry out the provisions of this Article.

#### **SEC. 15-1-37 INTERPRETATIONS OF CODE BY INSPECTOR.**

The Electrical Inspector shall have the discretion to fully interpret this ordinance, provided such interpretation does not conflict with state law.

#### **SEC. 15-1-38 LIABILITY.**

- (a) **LIABILITY FOR DEFECTS IN WORK.** This code shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility or liability of any party owning, operating, controlling or installing or repairing any electrical equipment for damages to anyone injured or any property destroyed by any defect therein.
- (b) **INSPECTOR NOT LIABLE.** In all cases where any action is taken by the Electrical Inspector to enforce the regulations of this Article such action shall be considered as done in the name of and on behalf of the City, and the said Electrical Inspector in so acting for the City shall not be held liable for any

damage that may accrue to persons or property as the result of any such action or act committed in the discharge of their duties, and any lawsuit or action brought against said Electrical Inspector by reason thereof shall be defended by the City Attorney of the City until final termination of the proceedings contained therein.

- (c) **CITY NOT LIABLE.** This Code shall not be construed to relieve or lessen the responsibility or liability of any person supplying electricity to, or selling, renting, leasing, owning, using, operating, controlling, installing, altering, repairing, removing, replacing, disturbing, connecting, disconnecting or maintaining, any electrical equipment, for damages to persons or property caused by any defect therein or therefrom; nor shall the City be held as assuming any such responsibility or liability by reason of the issuance or revocation, of any license, permit or certificate, or the inspection or re-inspection authorized by this Code, or by reason of the approval or disapproval of any electrical equipment, sales, rentals, drawings, plans, specifications, materials, samples, test reports, literature, information or schedules authorized in this Code; nor shall the City be held liable for any damages resulting from the enforcement of this Code.

**SEC. 15-1-39 THROUGH SEC. 15-1-49 RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE.**