CHAPTER 25

ELECTRICAL COMMISSION AND LICENSED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

(Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022)

1. **BUILDING OFFICIAL AND INSPECTION DIVISION.** Whenever the words "Inspection Division" are used in this chapter, it shall refer to the Building Inspections Division of the Economic and Community Development Department of the City of Decatur, Illinois.

(Amended, Ordinance No. 2017-07, February 6, 2017) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2010-03, February 1, 2010) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2000-11, March 13, 2000)

- 2. **DEFINITIONS.** As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings set out herein:
- A. ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR means any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of installing, altering, or servicing of electrical equipment as herein defined. "Electrical Contractor" does not include employees employed by such contractor to do or supervise such work. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2009-65, September 8, 2009)
- B. ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT means conductors and other equipment installed for the utilization of electricity for lights, heat or power, but does not include radio apparatus or equipment for wireless reception of sound and signals, or apparatus, conductors or other equipment installed for or by public utilities, including common carriers, which are under the jurisdiction of the Illinois Commerce Commission, for use in their operation as public utilities. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022)

- C. COMMISSION means the Electrical Commission of the City of Decatur, as established by this Chapter. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2010-03, February 1, 2010) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2009-65, September 8, 2009)
- 3. **LICENSE REQUIRED**. (A) All electrical work in the City shall be done by a licensed electrical contractor or its employees except as otherwise provided in this chapter. Before any person, firm or corporation shall engage in the business of electrical contracting in the City, said entity shall be required to have a license and pay a license fee.

(Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2009-65, September 8, 2009)

- (B) The license requirements of subsection A above shall not apply to persons residing, or intending to reside, in a single-family dwelling owned by such person or persons and who install, alter or service electrical equipment therein provided that, said owner/occupant must submit to a minimum written test and pass said test with a satisfactory score of 70% and such person or persons must reside in said residence for not less than six (6) months after completion of such work, and that such work is subject to all other requirements of applicable Code or ordinance. If applicant does not pass said first test on first attempt, the test can be retaken after 90 days. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2009-65, September 8, 2009)
- 4. **APPLICATION FOR LICENSE.** Any person, firm or corporation desiring a license as an electrical contractor in the City of Decatur shall make application on form provided by the Economic and Community Development Department, Building Inspections Division stating the name and place of business of the applicant and the name of an employee of the

applicant who will act as Supervising Electrician responsible for the performance of and/or supervision of any and all electrical work to performed as authorized by a permit obtained by the applicant. The City Building Official, Electrical Inspector or the Building Official's designee shall then review and approve this application if all qualifications and examination requirements are met. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2017-07, February 6, 2017) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2010-03, February 1, 2010) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2009-65, September 8, 2009) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2008-43, June 16, 2008) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2004-73, September 20, 2004) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2000-11, March 13, 2000) (Amended, Ordinance No. 99-31, April 5, 1999)

- 5. **CHANGES IN LICENSE.** If during a license period there is any change pertaining to shareholders individually holding in the aggregate more than 5 percent of the corporate shares, or pertaining to the officers or managers, of a license, such change shall be reported to the Building Inspections division within 10 days of such change. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2008-43, June 16, 2008)
- 6. **APPROVAL OF THE SUPERVISING ELECTRICIAN.** Each applicant shall name a Supervising Electrician responsible for the performance of and/or supervision of any and all electrical work to performed as authorized by a permit obtained by the applicant.
 - (A) The supervising electrician shall meet the following qualifications:
 - 1. Provide proof of one of the following:
 - a. Professionally Licensed Electrical Engineer
 - b. Not less than four years practical experience in the field of electrical construction for power, light, and heat or related work, which can be verified, under the direction of a licensed electrician or licensed electrical contractor.

- 2. Provide proof of a passing score of the International Code Council Master Electrician exam.
- (B) The Supervising Electrician shall be employed with the electrical contractor, and should be available if necessary for any and all inspections if requested by the Building Inspections Division
- (C) In the event of any change or termination of the Supervising Electrician, the licensed electrical contractor must have another named Supervising Electrician who meets the qualifications of Subsection 5 of this Chapter apply within 10 days for review and re-license.

(Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2010-03, February 1, 2010) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2008-43, June 16, 2008)

- 7. **LICENSE FEE.** Licenses shall be issued annually for the period of January 1 through December 31 of the next succeeding year with an annual fee of \$100.00. Licenses fee shall be received before the 1st day of February renewal. Renewal means any person, firm or corporation having received a City of Decatur Electrical Contractor License as provided for in this Chapter has the right, without examination, to have that license renewed annually upon presentation of required documents and payment of license fee. If, however, the aforementioned license has not been renewed for one year or more then that person, firm, or corporation will be subject to requirements as provided in this Chapter for a new license applicant. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2009-65, September 8, 2009)
- 8. **REVOCATION OF LICENSE(S).** Licenses provided for herein may be suspended or revoked by the Commission for cause and after public hearing held upon reasonable notice to the licensee. Causes for revocation of license or suspension thereof include the following: (a) failure of a licensee to comply with the provisions of this Chapter or any reasonable direction of

the Building Inspections Division; (b) failures of the licensee to complete permitted jobs in a workmanlike manner; (c) transferring or loaning license to an unlicensed individual, that is, allowing an unlicensed individual to use license to obtain permits or perform work without being employed by the licensee; or (d) other just cause. No electrical contractor having had a license revoked shall again be licensed except after approval by the Commission and with the consent of the City Manager. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2008-80, October 20, 2008) (Amended, Ordinance No. 99-31, April 5, 1999)

- COMMISSION ESTABLISHED. There is hereby created the Electrical 9. Commission of the City of Decatur, Illinois which shall consist of seven (7) residents of the City to be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council. To the extent practically possible, the Commission shall include one (1) employee of a licensed electrical contractor, one (1) officer of Local IBEW, one (1) licensed professional engineer, one (1) representative of an electrical utility, one (1) representative of an electrical equipment distributor and the Chief of the Decatur Fire Department or his representative; however, no action or decision of the Commission shall be invalid for failure to have on the Commission, or in attendance at the meeting or hearing whereat the action or decision was taken or made, any person meeting any of the criteria listed herein. Commission members shall serve for a term of three years, said terms to commence the first day of December. Vacancies shall be filled by the Mayor with advice and consent of the Council for the unexpired terms. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2005-15, March 7, 2005) (Amended, Ordinance No. 99-31, April 5, 1999)
- 10. **RULES AND REGULATIONS.** The Commission shall meet and elect a Chairperson. The Commission shall meet on a regular basis as necessary to perform its duties.

The Commission shall review all new Code changes, jointly with the Building Inspections Manager, prepare revisions to this Chapter 25 (Electrical Commission and Licensed Electrical Contractors) and Chapter 69 (City Electrical Code) (excluding permit fees) and consult with the Building Inspections Manager and Electrical Inspectors. The Commission shall promulgate and adopt such necessary reasonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with statute, code or ordinance as may be required to carry out the purposes and intent of this Chapter and its duties and responsibilities under the provisions hereof and shall keep a record of such rules and regulations along with the minutes of all its acts and doings. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2022-11, April 4, 2022) (Amended, Ordinance No. 2010-03, February 1, 2010) (Amended, Ordinance No. 99-31, April 5, 1999)

- 11. **SEVERABILITY.** If any section, sub-section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Chapter should be declared invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Chapter which shall remain in full force and effect and to this end the provisions of this Chapter are declared to be severable.
- 12. **PENALTY.** Any person, firm or corporation who violates any provision of this Chapter shall be fined not less than One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for each offense and every day that such violation continues may be deemed to be a separate offense. (Amended, Ordinance No. 2011-66, October 31, 2011)