



**ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
LOCAL AMENDMENTS
TO
STATE ELECTRICAL CODE**

Wray Street and by Wray Street projected; and on the west by Pulaski Street and by Pulaski Street projected.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1)

Secs. 7-1-40--7-1-55. Reserved.

ARTICLE 3. ELECTRICAL CODE

Sec. 7-1-56. Athens-Clarke County Electrical Code.

(a) *Title.* This code shall be known and may be cited as "The Athens-Clarke County Electrical Code Update," hereinafter referred to as "this code."

(b) *Purpose.* The purpose of this code is to provide minimum standards and/or regulations to safeguard life, limb, health, property, and public welfare of citizens of Athens-Clarke County.

(c) *New work to conform.* New electrical work performed in Athens-Clarke County shall conform to the following provisions:

(1) No equipment, appliance, or system as specified in this code shall be installed, altered, or repaired unless in compliance with the provisions of this code.

(2) No equipment, appliance or system as specified in this code shall be altered in any manner that would be in violation of the provisions of this code.

(3) The provisions of this code shall apply to any equipment, appliance, or system installed, altered, repaired, maintained, or used in Athens-Clarke County, including that located in Athens-Clarke County owned buildings, except as may be otherwise specifically provided for by statute or ordinance, and except that this code shall not apply to property owned by the Georgia State Board of Regents or the United States of America.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1)

Sec. 7-1-57. Powers and duties of the chief building official.

(a) *Duties.* It shall be the duty of the chief building official to receive applications required by this code, issue permits, and furnish the prescribed certificates. He shall make necessary inspections to see that the provisions of this code are met. He shall, when requested by proper authority, or when the interest of Athens-Clarke County so requires, make investigations in connection with matters referred to in this code and render written reports on the same to enforce compliance with this code. He shall issue such notices or orders as may be necessary to remove illegal or unsafe conditions or to secure the necessary safeguard.

(b) *Inspections.* Inspections of work performed shall conform to the following provisions:

(1) Inspections required under the provisions of this code shall be made by the chief building official. Upon presentation of proper credentials, he may enter, at reasonable hours, any building, structure, or premises in Athens-Clarke County to perform any duty imposed upon him by this code.

(2) All installations of any equipment, appliance or system for which a permit has been issued as prescribed in this code shall be subject to inspection by the chief building official.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation, their agents or employees to conceal any electrical wiring until it has been inspected and approved.

(4) Electrical power shall not be turned on until a final inspection has been made and approval is granted by the chief building official. This section shall not prevent the issuance of temporary approvals. Where electrical power has been turned on to any installation which violates this code, the chief building official may cause such electrical power to be immediately terminated.

(c) *Records.* The chief building official shall keep complete records of applications or permits issued, of inspections made, of reports rendered, and of notices or orders issued, as required by this code. A complete report shall be made to the manager on or before December fifteenth of each year.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1)

Sec. 7-1-58. Application for permit.

(a) *Permit required.* It shall be unlawful to install, alter, or repair any equipment, appliance, or system provided for in this code without first filing an application in writing with the chief building official and obtaining a formal permit.

(b) *Application forms.* An application for permit shall be submitted in such form as the chief building official may prescribe. The following provisions apply to the application for permit:

(1) *Names and addresses.* Such application shall contain the full names and addresses of the applicant, contractor, and owner of property.

(2) *Description of work.* Such application shall describe the proposed work and shall give such information as may be required by the chief building official.

(3) *Plans and specifications.* Before any work is started, a complete set of plans and specifications must be submitted to the chief building official for his approval except for one- and two-family dwellings. Once approval is given, a permit may be issued and work may begin. All such plans and specifications shall bear the name and address of the designer.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1)

Sec. 7-1-59. Permits.

(a) Application for permit shall be examined within a reasonable time after filing. If, after examination, no objection is found to same and if it appears that the work will be in compliance with the code, the application shall be approved and a permit issued. If examination reveals otherwise, such application shall be rejected and applicant notified by a written report or otherwise.

(b) No partnership or corporation engaged in the business of electrical contracting, installation, or repairing shall be issued a permit under this code unless there is a person or persons actually engaged in the performance of such business who holds a valid State of Georgia Electrical Contracting License regularly connected with such partnership or corporation and whose name is on the local business license.

(c) *Condition of permit.* All work for which the permit was issued shall conform to the approved application, plans, and this code. All work shall be performed by the contractor whose name appears on the permit or his bona fide, full-time employees.

(d) *Expiration of a permit.* A permit under which no work has commenced within six months after the permit has been issued, or where work is abandoned for six months, shall expire and all fees shall be forfeited. Before work begins again, another permit must be approved and issued. It shall be the responsibility of the electrical contractor to notify the chief building official when an electrical installation is ready to be inspected.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1)

Sec. 7-1-60. Violations and penalties.

(a) *Violation.* When a person, firm or corporation violates a section of this code, the chief building official may order that no additional permits be issued to such person, firm, or corporation until such violation has been corrected and approved.

(b) *Penalties.* Any person, firm or corporation who violates any of the provisions of this code or fails to comply therewith or who violates or fails to comply with any order made hereunder, or who builds in violation of any detailed statement of specification or plans submitted and approved hereunder, or any certificate or permit issued hereunder, shall for each and every such failure, violation, or noncompliance, be punished as provided in section 1-1-5. Where any offense continues from day to day, each day's continuance thereof shall be deemed a separate offense. The application of the above penalty shall not be held to prevent the enforced removal of

prohibited conditions.
(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1)

Sec. 7-1-61. Temporary service.

(a) Temporary electrical service may be installed at a location when proper forms have been submitted to the chief building official for the following purposes:

(1) To supply power for the purpose of hoisting material used in building under construction or remodeling and for the purpose of lighting such building or structure during the construction of such building.

(2) The lighting of tents or buildings used for temporary gatherings or performances where such tents or buildings will only be used for a short duration. In addition, temporary service may be installed where lighting is to be used for decorative purposes for a short duration.

(3) To allow electrical service to be part of wiring installations which have been made safe to the satisfaction of the chief building official so that testing of certain electrical equipment may occur and in order to allow tenants, lessees, or owners the use of certain completed parts of buildings before all the work is completed.

(b) *Time allowed for temporary service.* The application for temporary service shall state the period of time the service is required and the necessity for same. No temporary approval shall be issued for a period of more than 90 days except when specifically authorized by the chief building official. Requests for extensions shall be made in writing to the chief building official by the person, firm, or corporation holding the permits:

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1)

Sec. 7-1-62. Special rules.

The following rules are in addition to and shall take precedence over the National Electrical Code, 1990 Edition:

(1) *Branch circuits/residential.* Branch circuits shall serve only one room and no circuit shall extend into another room except for control purposes, unless approved by the chief building official.

(2) *Electrical fences.* So called "electrical fences," consisting of an electrically charged conductor or other electrically charged devices, intended to enclose, exclude, or restrict persons or animals by electric shock, shall not be installed or used regardless of its source of supply except by special permission granted after written application to the chief building official.

(3) *Reserved.*

(4) *Wiring method:*

a. All wires installed for electric lights, heat, or power in or on buildings or structures shall be installed in iron conduits, electric metallic tubing, steel covered cables, nonmetallic tubing, or metal raceways. Nonmetallic wiring may be installed in single family residences, duplexes, apartments, and for temporary purposes.

b. Open wiring on insulators shall not be permitted in or on the building except by special permission from the chief building official.

c. Concealed knob and tube wiring shall not be permitted.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1; Ord. of 4-3-2001, § 1)

Sec. 7-1-63. Definitions.

The following defined terms shall apply to this article:

(1) *Chief building official:* The person duly appointed to fill that position or such person's authorized representative.

(2) *Licensed electrician:* The term "licensed electrician," as used herein, shall mean any person who shall have a current business license from Athens-Clarke County to engage in electrical

contracting. A licensed electrician is also defined as a person who holds a current electrical contractor Class 1 or Class 2 certificate from the State of Georgia. A licensed electrician is also defined as a person who assumes the responsible charge, either for himself or directing of other persons, in the installation of wiring for light, heat, and power.

(3) *Electrical contractor*: The term "electrical contractor" shall mean any person, firm, or corporation engaging in the business of electrical installation, altering, and repairing.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1)

Sec. 7-1-64. Appeals.

Appeals may be made from the chief building official to the construction board of adjustment and appeals.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1)

Secs. 7-1-65--7-1-74. Reserved.

ARTICLE 4. FIRE PREVENTION CODE; LIFE SAFETY CODE

Sec. 7-1-75. Bureau of fire prevention.

(a) The Fire Prevention Code and the Life Safety Code, adopted in section 3-7-1 shall be enforced by the bureau of fire prevention, which shall be operated under the supervision of the chief of the fire department.

(b) The fire marshal shall be the head of the bureau of fire prevention and the other members or inspectors of the bureau of fire prevention shall be such members of the fire department as may from time to time be designated for such duty by the chief of the fire department.

(c) A report of the bureau of fire prevention shall be made annually and transmitted to the manager of Athens-Clarke County; it shall contain all proceedings under this article and the codes referred to herein, with such statistics as the chief of the fire department may wish to include therein. The chief of the fire department shall also recommend any amendments to such codes, which, in his judgment, shall be desirable.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1; Ord. of 3-2-93, § 2)

Sec. 7-1-76. Amendments.

The Fire Prevention Code adopted in section 3-7-1 is amended by adding section 3101.8 to read as follows:

"No owner or operator of any motion picture theater or any movie house shall sell, offer for sale, display or keep on hand any books, newspapers or magazines constructed of paper or other combustible material in any hallway, lobby, corridor, passageway or other means of egress and ingress therein, place of assembly or other portion of such premises where patrons may use or enter. This provision shall be applicable to any concessionaire or any other business operation conducted on the premises of any motion picture theater and all who aid, advance, abet or assist in the violation hereof shall be punished as provided in section 7-1-2 of this Code."

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1; Ord. of 3-2-93, § 2)

Secs. 7-1-77--7-1-115. Reserved.

ARTICLE 5. HOUSING CODE

Division 1. Generally

Secs. 7-1-116--7-1-125. Reserved.

Division 2. Amendments