

## **CHAPTER 22 PLUMBING**

### **Sec. 22-1. Definitions.**

Plumbing for the purpose of this chapter is hereby defined as follows:

1. All piping, fixtures, appliances and appurtenances in connection with the water supply and drainage systems within a building and to a point from three (3) to five (5) feet outside of the building.
2. The construction and connection of any drain or waste pipe carrying domestic sewage from a point within three (3) to five (5) feet outside of the foundation walls of any building with the sewer service lateral or other disposal terminal including private domestic sewage treatment and disposal systems and the alteration of any such system, drain or waste pipe, except minor repairs to faucets, valves, pipes, appliances, and removing of stoppages.
3. The water service piping from a point within three (3) to five (5) feet outside of the foundation walls of any building to the water meter or other water utility property or other terminal and the connecting of domestic hot water storage tanks, water softeners, and water heaters with the water supply system.
4. Water pressure systems other than public utility systems.
5. A plumbing and drainage system so designed and vent piping so installed, as to keep the air within the system in free circulation and movement, and to prevent with a margin of safety unequal air pressures of such force as might blow, siphon or affect trap seals or retard the discharge from plumbing fixtures, or permit sewer air to escape into the building. (*Ord. No. 341, § 1, 8-21-52*)

### **Sec. 22-2. State Code.**

The provisions and regulation of the Arkansas State Plumbing Code currently adopted by the Arkansas State Board of Health, and as may be amended from time to time, are hereby made a part of this Chapter by reference, and shall extend over and govern the installation of plumbing installed, altered or repaired in the City of Searcy, Arkansas. Three (3) copies of said Code are and shall remain on file in the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Searcy. (*Ord. No. 341, § 2, 8-21-52; Ord. No. 485, § 1, 2-5-66; Ord. No. 536, § 1, 5-4-71; Ord. No. 548, § 1, 6-9-73; Ord. No. 2000-13, §1, 5-9-2000; Ord. No. 2004-33, § 1, 11-9-2004; Ord. No. 2008-29, §1, 9-12-08*)

### **Sec. 22-3. Inspection and Supervision.**

1. There is hereby created the position of Plumbing Inspector who shall be appointed

by the Mayor.

2. All plumbing inspection fees shall be paid over and become a part of the General Fund of The City.
3. The plumbing Inspector shall have received the relevant certification from the State of Arkansas as may be necessary to perform plumbing inspection in the State of Arkansas, as such qualifications may be modified from time to time. The Plumbing Inspector shall maintain any relevant certification that might be required by the State of Arkansas and maintain not less than the minimum continuing education requirements set by the State of Arkansas. The Plumbing Inspector shall be compensated at the rate or in such amount as may be provided by the Searcy City Council.
4. The Plumbing Inspector shall have those duties that might be set by the Mayor or the Department Head assigned to have direct supervisory oversight of the Plumbing Inspector and which may be modified from time to time.
5. It shall be the duty of the Plumbing Inspector to enforce all provisions of this chapter and the Plumbing Inspector is hereby granted authority to enter all buildings in the City of Searcy, in the performance of his duties between the hours of 8:00 o'clock a.m. and 5:00 p.m. daily. The Plumbing Inspector shall issue permits for plumbing work as herein provided and shall prepare suitable forms for applications, permits, and other reports.
6. It shall be the duty of the Plumbing Inspector to inspect and test all plumbing work for compliance with the Code. (*Ord. No. 341, § 3, 8-21-52; Ord. No. 88-05, 4-12-88; Ord. No. § 22-3*)

**Sec. 22-4. Applications, Permits.**

1. Before beginning any plumbing work in the City, the person installing same shall apply to the Plumbing Inspector, or other designated official and obtain a permit to do such work. Only those persons authorized to do plumbing may be issued permits. A permit may be issued to a property owner to install plumbing in a single family residence provided the property owner does the work himself and the building is owned and occupied by such owner as his home.
2. Application for permits shall be made on suitable forms provided by the Plumbing Inspector. The application shall be accompanied by fees which shall be established from time to time by Resolution of the City Council. (*Ord. No. 341, § 4, 8-21-52; Ord. No. 88-05, 4-12-88*)

**Sec. 22-5. Bond Required.**

Every master plumber doing business in the City shall execute and deliver to the City a bond with a surety bonding company in the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to indemnify the City or any citizen for any damage caused by the failure of such master plumber to comply strictly with the provisions of this chapter. No plumbing permit shall be issued to any master plumber unless the bond has been delivered to the City and is in full force and effect. (*Ord. No. 341, § 5, 8-21-52*)

**Sec. 22-6. Street Openings.**

1. All openings made in the public streets or alleys to install plumbing must be made as carefully as possible and all materials excavated from the trenches shall be removed or placed where the least inconvenience to the public will be caused.
2. All openings made must be replaced in precisely the same condition as before the excavation started and all rubbish and material must be removed at once, leaving the street or sidewalks clean and in perfect repair.
3. All openings shall be marked with sufficient barriers. Flares or red lamps shall be maintained around the opening at night and all other precautions shall be taken by the plumber or excavator to protect the public from damage to person or property. (*Ord. No. 341, § 6, 8-21-52*)

**Sec. 22-7. Same - Deposit Required.**

Before any opening is made in the pavement of the streets of the City, the person desiring to make the opening shall deposit with the City a sum of not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), and in addition thereto shall deposit with the City a sum of money to be determined by the Plumbing Inspector to cover the necessary expenses incurred by the City in repairing the said pavement and restoring it to its former condition. After the plumbing work has been completed and the hole refilled, all excess rubbish and material shall be removed leaving the street or sidewalk clean. (*Ord. No. 341, § 6(b), 8-21-52*)

**Sec. 22-8. Sanitary Sewers - Regulations.**

- a. The sewage system of the City of Searcy, including collection, treatment facilities, operation and equipment, and the authority of the Board of Public Utilities relative to said sewage system shall be as prescribed in the Specification Requirements for Sanitary Sewers as adopted by the City Council by Ordinance No. 598, as amended, and as may be amended from time to time; provided, however that the provisions of Ordinance No. 598 may be modified from time to time by the operator of the sewer system in and for the City of Searcy and any such modification shall be provided to the City Clerk for the City of Searcy, three copies of which shall be maintained in the records of the City of Searcy.

- b. If any person shall violate any of the provisions and/or requirements hereinabove provided for relative to the construction, operation or maintenance of the said sewer system, notice thereof shall be given to the person, firm, or corporation responsible for such violation. If said violation be not corrected within thirty days after the date of said notice, then such person being in violation thereof shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as hereinafter provided in Section 3. If, however, said violator within five (5) days after receipt of said notice shall demand a hearing before the Board of Public Utilities relative to said violation then said period of thirty (30) days shall be extended until such hearing, if the same be not held prior to thereto, and, if after hearing, said violator shall then be dissatisfied with the decision of said Board of Public Utilities they may, within five (5) days after receipt of the decision of said Board file an appeal to the City Council of the City of Searcy, and who shall hear said appeal at the next regular meeting of the Board occurring more than ten days after receipt of said notice, or at any regular or special meeting thereafter set by said Council to hear said appeal. If said violator shall not appeal from the decision of said Board of Public Utilities within said five (5) days then said notice of violation shall become final. Likewise, the same shall be final within five (5) days after notification to the violator of the hearing by the City Council of the City of Searcy, provided, however, either the said Board of Public Utilities or the City Council of the City of Searcy may continue said five (5) day period for an additional period of not to exceed thirty (30) days if, in the opinion of either of said bodies, it appears just and equitable to do so. Thereafter, however, said violator shall be considered as in violation as hereinbefore set forth.
  
- c. Violations of the requirements herein shall be heard by Municipal Court of the City of Searcy, Arkansas, and if the violator is found to be guilty, then shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$100.00 for each day that said violation continues after the final date as set forth in Section 2 above, and in addition thereto, said Court may assess and require the violator to pay all expenses incurred by the Board of Public Utilities, where in its discretion it is required to make the repairs necessary to cure the violation in order to protect public or private property, and/or to protect the public health and welfare, provided, however, if such expenses exceed the sum of \$300.00, then the City of Searcy, acting through the Board of Public Utilities shall be entitled to recover the same by action in the Circuit Court of White County, Arkansas.
  
- d. In addition, the Board of Public Utilities after the time for appeals as provided in Section 3, have expired and said violation has not been cured

may discontinue all water and sewer service to the premises involved without further notice. (*Ord. No. 598, 8-9-77; Ord. No. 670, 8-14-84; Ord No. 2020-42 §1(a)*)

**Sec. 22-9. Penalties.**

Any person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to a fine of not less than ten dollars (\$10.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), together with the costs of such prosecution, or by imprisonment not to exceed ninety (90) days. Each day during which such violation continues shall be a separate offense. (*Ord. No. 341, § 7, 8-21-52*)

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