

CHAPTER 10

Electricity

Article I	In General	
	Sec. 10-1	Electrician's license required
	Sec. 10-2	Registration of license, expiration
	Sec. 10-3	Interference with radio and television reception prohibited; exception
	Sec. 10-4	Right of entry for inspection
	Sec. 10-5	Applicability of preceding sections
	Sec. 10-6	Free porch lights
	Sec. 10-7	Liability for installation generally
Article II	Electrical Inspector	
	Sec. 10-8	Office created
	Sec. 10-9	Qualifications
	Sec. 10-10	Appointment
	Sec. 10-11	Unlawful activities
	Sec. 10-12	Duties generally
	Sec. 10-13	Inspections; notification of unsafe condition
	Sec. 10-14	Power to discontinue service
	Sec. 10-15	Right of entry; emergency power cut
	Sec. 10-16	Time limit for repairs; penalty
Article III	Permits	
	Sec. 10-17	Required; application; issuance; expiration
	Sec. 10-18	License, registration and bond required
	Sec. 10-19	Employees to be registered electricians
	Sec. 10-20	Plans and specifications prerequisite to issuance
	Sec. 10-21	Electrical signs
	Sec. 10-22	Fees for permits and inspections
Article IV	Certificate of Inspection	
	Sec. 10-23	Required
	Sec. 10-24	Issuance generally
	Sec. 10-25	Addition to noncomplying old work
	Sec. 10-26	Construction requirements
	Sec. 10-27	Inspector to formulate additional rules
	Sec. 10-28	Appeal from findings of Inspector; City Council to decide
	Sec. 10-29	Approved materials and appliances required
	Sec. 10-30	Electrical service requirements
Article V	National Electrical Code	
	Sec. 10-31	<i>National Electrical Code</i>
	Sec. 10-32	Penalties

ARTICLE I

In General

Sec. 10-1. Electrician's license required.

No electrician, whether as master, journeyman, apprentice, trainee, helper or residential wireman, shall engage in the business of installation of electric wiring, apparatus or appliances in the City until he or she has received an appropriate license or permit from the State to do so and shall have registered such license in the City. (1949 Comp., §3.0208; Ord. 555, §1; Ord. 776, §1)

Sec. 10-2. Registration of license, expiration.

It is unlawful for any electrician to engage in any work in the City or to engage in the trade or calling of electrician without having previously registered his or her state license in the City in accordance with Section 10-1. The City registration of any Colorado journeyman electrician, or master electrician or residential wireman under the provisions of Section 10-1 shall expire at the same time as the expiration of the State license of the registrant. (Ord. 683, §2; Ord. 776, §2)

Sec. 10-3. Interference with radio and television reception prohibited; exception.

It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to operate or cause to be operated any wire for carrying electric energy or any machine, device, apparatus or instrument of any kind within the City, the operation of which shall cause reasonably preventable electrical interference with radio or television reception within the City; provided, however, that X-ray pictures, examinations or treatment may be made at any time if the machines or apparatus used therefor are properly equipped to avoid all unnecessary or reasonably preventable interference with radio or television reception and are not negligently operated. (1949 Comp., §3.0219; Ord. 555, §3)

Sec. 10-4. Right of entry for inspection.

The Electrical Inspector, or any person designated by him or her or by the City Council as inspector for such purpose, shall have the right, at any reasonable hour, to enter any place of business or other premises in the City for the purpose of inspecting, locating or attempting to locate any wire, machine, device, apparatus or instrument of any kind whatsoever which interferes with radio or television reception. Any person who shall prevent or attempt to prevent the Electrical Inspector or any person designated by the City Council for such person, from entering any premises in the City, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor in violation of this Section and may be punished as provided in Section 1-10 of this Code. (1949 Comp., §3.0219; Ord. 555, §4)

Sec. 10-5. Applicability of preceding sections.

Sections 10-3 and 10-4 shall not be held or construed to embrace or cover the regulation of any transmitting, broadcasting or receiving instrument, apparatus or device used or useful in interstate commerce or the operation of which instrument, apparatus or device is licensed or authorized by or under the provisions of any act of the Congress of the United States. (1949 Comp., §3.0219)

Sec. 10-6. Free porch lights.

(a) All wiring for free porch lights shall be installed in rigid conduit or metallic steel tubing throughout from meter to porch light and shall be equipped with a single pole switch at the front door or vestibule. The neutral wire shall be switched in this case only. This circuit shall be fused with a special fusetron which will blow when more than fifty (50) watts are used on the circuit. Free porch lights shall not burn in the daytime and no extension cords shall be used therefrom.

(b) Upon construction of new residences, porch lights shall be installed on the outside and on the street side of the building.

(c) Any person who shall use or attempt to use any free porch light circuit to obtain electric energy for any purpose other than for a free porch light shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. (1949 Comp., §3.0220)

Sec. 10-7. Liability for installation generally.

This Chapter shall not be construed to relieve or lessen the responsibility of any person owning, operating or installing any electrical wires, appliances, apparatus, construction or equipment for the damage to anyone injured by any defect therein. Nor shall the City, or any agent thereof, be held as assuming any such liability by reason of the inspection authorized by Section 10-4 or the certificate of inspection issued by the Electrical Inspector under Section 10-23. (1949 Comp., §3.0221)

ARTICLE II

Electrical Inspector

Sec. 10-8. Office created.

There is hereby created the office of Electrical Inspector. (1949 Comp., §3.0201)

Sec. 10-9. Qualifications.

An Electrical Inspector employed by the City shall possess the same qualifications required of a State electrical inspector under the provisions of the Colorado statutes; shall be registered with the State Electrical Board prior to the assumption of his or her duties; shall not inspect any electrical work in which such inspector has any financial or other personal interest; and shall not be engaged, within the City, in the electrical business by contracting, supplying material or performing work as an electrical contractor. (1949 Comp., §3.0201; Ord. 776, §3)

Sec. 10-10. Appointment.

The Electrical Inspector shall be appointed, and his or her compensation fixed, by resolution of the City Council. (1949 Comp., §3.0202)

Sec. 10-11. Unlawful activities.

It shall be unlawful for the Electrical Inspector to engage in the business of the installation and the maintenance of electrical wiring and appliances, either directly or indirectly, and he or she shall have no

financial interest in any concern engaged in such business in the City at any time while holding office as Electrical Inspector. Any violation of the provisions of this Section by the Electrical Inspector shall be sufficient cause for his or her dismissal. (1949 Comp., §3.0202)

Sec. 10-12. Duties generally.

The installation, maintenance or alteration of any and all electric wiring, connections, apparatus or equipment used in connection therewith, in, on or attached to any building and place within the City shall be under the supervision of the Electrical Inspector, who is hereby directed, authorized and empowered to enforce the provisions of this Chapter. He or she shall make and maintain a complete record of all business conducted by his or her office and personnel. (1949 Comp., §3.0203)

Sec. 10-13. Inspections; notification of unsafe condition.

The Electrical Inspector periodically shall make a thorough examination of all the electrical wires and appliances installed within the City, and when such wires or appliances are found to be in a dangerous or unsafe condition, he or she shall notify the person owning, using, operating or installing the same to place them in a safe condition. (1949 Comp., §3.0204)

Sec. 10-14. Power to discontinue service.

The Electrical Inspector is hereby empowered with authority to order the discontinuance of electrical service to wires or appliances found to be defective by him or her until they have been repaired, removed or changed as directed by the Electrical Inspector, subject to the limitations of this Chapter. (1949 Comp., §3.0204)

Sec. 10-15. Right of entry; emergency power cut.

The Electrical Inspector shall have the right during reasonable hours to enter any public or private buildings in the discharge of his or her official duties or for the purpose of making any inspection or test of the electrical wires and appliances contained therein, and shall have the authority to cause the turning off of all electrical currents and cut or disconnect in cases of emergency any wire where such electrical currents are dangerous to life or property. (1949 Comp., §3.0205)

Sec. 10-16. Time limit for repairs; penalty.

Any person failing or refusing to have the necessary repairs or changes required by the Electrical Inspector completed within five (5) days or any longer period which may be deemed reasonable by the Electrical Inspector after the receipt of notice from and pay unto the City a sum of five dollars (\$5.00) for each day which shall elapse after the expiration of the period. (1949 Comp., §3.0204)

ARTICLE III

Permits

Sec. 10-17. Required; application; issuance; expiration.

(a) Before any electrical construction work is started, either for the installation of apparatus or the repairing of apparatus already in use, the person responsible for such work shall file with the office of the Electrical Inspector an application for a construction and inspection permit describing in detail the material and appliances intended to be used. Such application shall give the location of the work by street and number and shall be signed by the person under whose supervision the work is to be done. If found proper and conforming to the rules and regulations of this Chapter, a permit shall be issued. No such work shall be permitted unless done under the supervision of a duly qualified person.

(b) A permit shall be valid for a period of twelve (12) months, and the Electrical Inspector shall cancel the permit at the end of the twelve-month period, except in the following circumstances:

(1) If an applicant makes a showing at the time of the application that the electrical work is substantial and is likely to take longer than twelve (12) months, then a permit valid for a period longer than twelve (12) months, but not more than three (3) years, may be issued.

(2) If a permittee notifies the office of the Electrical Inspector prior to the expiration of the twelve-month period, the permit may be extended for a period not to exceed the original twelve (12) months, and not more than an additional six (6) months.

(3) If, after a permit has expired or has been cancelled, the work remains incomplete and one (1) or more electrical inspections is required to be performed, a new permit must be applied for and granted before the work can proceed and inspections performed. (1949 Comp., §3.0209; Ord. 776, §4)

Sec. 10-18. License, registration and bond required.

No person shall be granted a permit to do work or engage in the business of installing electric wiring, appliances or electrical apparatus of any nature, kind or description, inside of or on any building or buildings within the City, except central station, power houses or substation, for the purpose of transmitting or utilizing electric current unless such person shall have been registered by the City and given bond as provided in Sections 10-1 and 10-2. (1949 Comp., §3.0206; Ord. 555, §5)

Sec. 10-19. Employees to be registered electricians.

It shall be unlawful for any person to allow any person not registered as a journeyman electrician or helper under Section 10-1 to work on any permit obtained by any licensed electrician. (1949 Comp., §3.0209)

Sec. 10-20. Plans and specifications prerequisite to issuance.

Electrical contractors shall furnish such plans and specifications of proposed work as may be deemed necessary by the Electrical Inspector before any permit for the same shall be issued. (1949 Comp., §3.0209)

Sec. 10-21. Electrical signs.

(a) Any person desiring to erect or hang any electric sign in, on or over any building within the City shall secure a permit from the Electrical Inspector and shall furnish the Inspector such information as he or she may desire regarding size and weight of sign, method of supporting and securing, etc. All electric signs must bear the Underwriters' Laboratories label of approval and be grounded to permit system ground. All such signs must be passed and approved by the inspector of the Municipal Light and Power Department for power factor correction of transformers.

(b) Neon signs shall be properly equipped to avoid all unnecessary and reasonably preventable radio interference and shall have the latest corrective devices for correction of lagging power factor. (1949 Comp., §3.0218)

Sec. 10-22. Fees for permits and inspections.

For the issuance of a permit and inspection of wiring and apparatus and for making such inspections as are required by the provisions of this Chapter, the Electrical Inspector shall charge such fees as, from time to time, shall be promulgated and established by resolution of the City Council; provided that the City shall, at all times, post a schedule of such fees in a conspicuous public place in or about the City Hall. (1949 Comp., §3.0225; Ord. 555, §6)

ARTICLE IV

Certificate of Inspection

Sec. 10-23. Required.

It shall be unlawful for any person to make any electrical connection or supply electric current to any wiring system or portion thereof, hereafter installed in or on any building within the City without first securing written permission or an inspection certificate from the Electrical Inspector. (1949 Comp., §3.0217)

Sec. 10-24. Issuance generally.

On completion of the work covered by a permit issued under this Article to the satisfaction of the Electrical Inspector, the Electrical Inspector shall issue a certificate of inspection. In this certificate the Electrical Inspector shall certify that the work is in accordance with the rules covering the respective class to which it belongs as set forth in this Chapter. (1949 Comp., §3.0211)

Sec. 10-25. Addition to noncomplying old work.

Whenever a permit to undertake electrical work under Section 10-17 is issued for an addition to old work which does not conform to the rules as laid down in this Chapter, the Electrical Inspector shall issue a statement that the new work complies with the rules, but that a certificate of inspection cannot be issued owing to its connection with the old work, which does not comply with the rules. (1949 Comp., §3.0211)

Sec. 10-26. Construction requirements.

(a) Certificates of inspection shall not be issued for any new electrical construction unless all materials, apparatus and devices used in connection with such construction are approved and listed by the Underwriters' Laboratories or other electrical testing laboratory satisfactory to the Electrical Inspector, and unless all electrical construction, wiring methods and workmanship are in strict conformity with the provisions in this Chapter, the statutes of the State and unless they are in conformity with the approved methods of construction for safety to life and property.

(b) The regulations as laid down in the National Electrical Code and in the National Electrical Safety Code, as these Codes may, from time to time be approved and published and as subsequently updated, revised, reapproved and republished by the American Standards Association, as well as other applicable electrical installation and safety regulations and standards, from time to time approved by the American Standards Association, shall be legally presumed to set forth approved methods of wiring and construction in the City. (1949 Comp., §3.0212; Ord. 776, §5)

Sec. 10-27. Inspector to formulate additional rules.

The Electrical Inspector is hereby authorized to make such additional working rules and regulations for the guidance of electrical contractors and wiremen as he or she may deem necessary. (1949 Comp., §3.0213)

Sec. 10-28. Appeal from findings of Inspector; City Council to decide.

The Electrical Inspector shall be deemed the judge of what constitutes proper compliance with the provisions of this Chapter, but should any person disagree with the findings of the Electrical Inspector, such person will have the right to submit to the City Council, in writing, any exception he or she may have to the findings of the Electrical Inspector. The City Council shall arbitrate such matters and its findings shall be final. (1949 Comp., §3.0213)

Sec. 10-29. Approved materials and appliances required.

All electrical materials and appliances used in the installation of electric wiring systems or in connection with such systems and all electrical materials and appliances sold or offered for sale either in person or by agents, clerks or employees in the City shall be approved and listed by the Underwriters' Laboratories or by some other disinterested and properly equipped electrical testing laboratory satisfactory to the Electrical Inspector. It is not the intent of this provision to require that ordinary motors, meters and such devices which are not included in the list of inspected appliances issued by the Underwriters' Laboratories shall be approved; but it is the intent of this Section to require that wiring materials and devices such as those included in the list of "Inspected Electrical Appliances" issued by the Underwriters' Laboratories shall be approved. (1949 Comp., §3.0214)

Sec. 10-30. Electrical service requirements.

All electrical services installed for buildings located within the City shall be as follows:

- (1) In approved as described in the preceding Section rigid conduit, equipped at the outer end with an approved as described in the preceding Section waterproof conduit fitting and shall be continuous

without pull or junction box, to an approved as described in the preceding Section enclosed externally operated switch, and cutout with meter trim and sealed service fuses.

(2) The service device shall be located within the building or within an enclosed back porch so constructed and arranged as to afford adequate protection from the weather.

(3) The service cabinet shall be in a readily accessible place as near as possible to the point where the service conduit enters the building, but in no place where it will require over fifteen (15) feet of conduit from point of entrance to the service device.

(4) The service cabinet shall be so located that the handle of the service switch shall not be over seven (7) feet above a permanent floor. (1949 Comp., §3.0215; Ord. 776, §6)

ARTICLE V

National Electrical Code

Sec. 10-31. *National Electrical Code.*

(a) That certain *Code*, a copy of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk, being marked and designated as NFPA 70, hereinafter known as *National Electrical Code*, 2002 edition, published by the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., as adopted by the Colorado State Electrical Board, Rule 2.1, effective August 1, 2002, be and is hereby adopted as the *Electrical Code* of the City, adopted as the minimum standards governing the planning, laying out and installing or the making of additions, alterations and repairs in the installation of wiring apparatus and equipment for electric light, heat and power in the City; providing for the issuance of permits and collection fees therefor; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said *Electrical Code* on file in the office of the City Clerk are hereby referred to, adopted and made a part hereof as if fully set out in this Article, with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes, if any, hereinafter prescribed.

(b) This Article shall include any and all amendments to the *National Electrical Code* as may be adopted from time to time by the Colorado State Electrical Board, including future editions of said *National Electrical Code* as adopted and made effective by the Colorado State Electrical Board. (Ord. 802, 1994; Ord. 921, §1; Ord. 989, §§1, 2)

Sec. 10-32. **Penalties.**

(a) It shall be unlawful for a person, firm or corporation to erect, construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, improve, remove, convert or demolish, equip, use, maintain or make electrical installations or cause or permit the same to be done in violation of the *National Electrical Code*.

(b) Upon notice from the Building Official that work on any electrical system is being done contrary to the provisions of the *Electrical Code* or in a dangerous or unsafe manner, such work shall immediately cease. Such notice shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of the property, to the owner's agent or to the person doing the work. The notice shall state the conditions under which work is authorized to resume. Where an emergency exists, the Building Official shall not be required to give a written notice prior to stopping the work. Any person who shall continue any work in or about the structure after having

been served with a Stop Work Order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be liable for a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).

(c) Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any of the provisions of the *National Electrical Code*; who shall fail to comply therewith; who shall violate or fail to comply with any order made thereunder; who shall make an electrical installation in violation thereof; who shall fail to comply with such an order within the time fixed therein, shall severally for each and every such violation and noncompliance, respectively, be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or by both such fine and imprisonment. The imposition of a penalty for any violation shall not excuse the violation or permit it to continue; all such persons shall be required to correct or remedy such violations or defects within a reasonable time; and when not otherwise specified, each day that a violation occurs or that a prohibited condition is maintained shall constitute a separate offense.

(d) The application of the above penalty or penalties shall not be held to prevent the enforced removal of any prohibited condition. (Ord. 921, §2; Ord. 989, §§1, 2; Ord. 1055)