



County Technical Assistance Service
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

December 20, 2024

Code Inspections

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Code Inspections

Beer Inspector

Private Acts of 1949 Chapter 755

SECTION 1. That the Beer Committee created and appointed by the County Council of Hamilton County is hereby authorized to employ a person to be called Beer Inspector, to investigate all places in the County selling, storing or manufacturing beer, and applicants for original or renewal licenses and permits.

SECTION 2. That said inspector shall be under the control and direction of the Beer Committee and it shall be his duty to make all investigations and inspections required by said Committee and to make reports of same to said Committee as it directs.

SECTION 3. That before an application for an original or renewal beer permit or license be considered by the Beer Committee, the applicant shall be required to pay to the County Court Clerk the sum of \$25.00 as an inspection fee to cover cost of necessary investigation and inspection relative to such application, to be paid by him into the County Treasury.

SECTION 4. That no original or renewal beer license shall be issued by the County Court Clerk to any applicant until he has received an approval from said Beer Committee of his application.

SECTION 5. That the salary and necessary expense allowance of said inspector be determined and fixed by the Council and paid out of the general funds of the County.

SECTION 6. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 12, 1949.

Building Inspector

Private Acts of 1945 Chapter 232

SECTION 1. That the office of Building Inspector be and is hereby created for Hamilton County, Tennessee, whose jurisdiction shall extend to all territory in said County outside the corporate limits of Chattanooga. Said Inspector shall be employed by the County Council of Hamilton County, Tennessee and his compensation shall be fixed by said Council and he shall serve at the pleasure of the Council.

SECTION 2. That the County Council of Hamilton County, Tennessee is hereby authorized by resolution to adopt rules and regulations governing said office, defining its powers, duties and any other matters essential to the operation of said office.

SECTION 3. That from and after the establishment of such position and the filling of same by the Council, it shall be unlawful to erect, reconstruct or alter any building or other structure without obtaining a building permit from such County Building Inspector and such Building Inspector shall not issue any permit unless the plans of and for the proposed erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration fully conforms to the rules and regulations adopted by the Council, governing said office.

SECTION 4. That the amount of fees charged for permits shall be fixed by the Council and said Fee shall be paid directly to the Building Inspector and he shall turn over same to the County Trustee; and that all fees shall be certified monthly to the County Judge by said Inspector; and, he shall use a book of vouchers or certificates furnished by the County Council and regularly numbered and the certificates shall correspond by number with the number of certificates furnished to the County Judge.

SECTION 5. That the Building Inspector shall execute a solvent indemnity bond conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties and proper accounting of all fees coming into his hands as such Building Inspector in the amount of One Thousand and No/100 (\$1,000) Dollars to be paid for by the County.

SECTION 6. That the said Building Inspector is hereby empowered to inspect all buildings and structures in pursuance of the duties of his office.

SECTION 7. That any person or persons who shall violate any provisions of this Act or who shall fail to comply with its provisions or requirements, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor [sic] and on conviction thereof shall be subject to a fine of not less than Five Dollars or more than Fifty Dollars for each offense. Each and every day's continuance of any violation of a provision of this Act shall be deemed as a separate offense.

SECTION 8. That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 9. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 13, 1945.

Electrical Inspector

Private Acts of 1927 Chapter 617

SECTION 1. That in counties having a population of not less than 115,000, nor more than 116,000, inhabitants, according to the Federal Census of 1920, or any subsequent Federal Census, the office of Electrical Inspector be and is hereby created, whose jurisdiction shall be co-extensive with the County, except in corporate towns or cities having a population in excess of 50,000 inhabitants according to the Federal Census of 1920, or any subsequent Federal Census. He shall be a practical electrician, and shall be appointed by the County Judge and ratified by the County Court of said counties, at their July Term, 1927, and every four years thereafter, and shall receive the fees of the office, provided they are not in excess of Three Thousand (\$3,000.00) Dollars per annum, to be realized out of fees collected for work, permits, inspections, and fees collected from and through his Department, and shall in no event receive any compensation from the County. If there are not sufficient fees collected to amount to Three Thousand (\$3,000.00) Dollars, then he shall receive only the fees of the office. If the fees amount to more than Three Thousand (\$3,000.00) Dollars per annum, the balance shall be reported to the County Judge and paid to the County Trustee, to the credit of the school fund of the County. Said Electrical Inspector may be removed from office by the County Judge for misfeasance, malfeasance, or non-feasance, subject however, to the approval of the next ensuing term of the Quarterly County Court.

SECTION 2. That all fees shall be credited monthly to the County Judge by the Electrical Inspector; the said Electrical Inspector shall keep a copy of such certificate in a book, and the certificate shall correspond by number with the number of the certificate furnished to the County Judge. The fees shall be paid direct to the Electrical Inspector.

SECTION 3. That the Electrical Inspector shall proceed to make the proper inspection when notified by the contractor doing the work and he shall issue a certificate with his approval when the work is found by him to be in accordance with the rules and requirements hereinafter specified. No permit shall be granted for any electrical sign, picture machine, theatre booth, or similar structure, either interior or exterior, until the Electrical Inspector shall have examined, passed on, and approved the applications, plans and specifications, and shall also be prepared [sic] to give their certificates or approval, all of which shall be based on the conditions contained in this Act. If such applications, plans and specification do not appear to conform to the requirements hereinafter, adopted, no permit shall be issued until such applications, plans and specifications are made to comply with the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 4. That the Electrical Inspector shall use a book of vouchers or certificates in triplicate and regularly numbered, and shall assess and receive the fees for the inspection of all other works (such as the inspection of wiring, apparatus, machinery or structure previously erected or passed on but in need of other inspection) and issue his receipt therefor in triplicate. He shall report the said fees to the County Judge monthly, with the original certificate therefor, and present a copy to the owner or party whose premises or property has been served, and shall retain a copy for his own records; and the owners of all electric signs and similar structures, shall be entitled to a certificate from the Inspector, stating that such signs or structures comply with the provisions of this Act before final settlement with the contractor.

SECTION 5. That the Electrical Inspector shall execute a solvent indemnity bond to cover the security and all other liability that may accrue by reason of his office to the County, in the sum of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars, and it shall be executed by a Surety Company.

SECTION 6. That the Electrical Inspector is hereby empowered and directed to enter all buildings or structures in pursuance of the duties of his office, and to inspect all electrical wiring used for the transmission of current for light, heat and power purposes that is hereafter installed at the time of installation, or any such wiring now installed where repairs, changes or alterations are to be made. No person, firm or corporation shall attempt to do any electrical work, either new work or additions to old work, who has not first obtained a license to do electrical work, except that any person, firm or corporation regularly employing ten or more men, who have a regular electrician on their payroll, may do minor repairs and construction without obtaining said license. The National Electrical Code rules are hereby adopted as a standard by which all wires for light, heat and power purposes shall be installed. Said inspector shall make a semi-annual inspection of all electric signs and structure of similar character.

SECTION 7. That it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to place any furnace pipe,

water, gas, or sewer pipe, or any dangerous material in contact with any electrical apparatus or wires, or cause such apparatus or wires to be cut, disconnected, or disarranged in any manner without first notifying the Electrical Inspector in writing. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to furnish or connect electric current to the wiring on any building or structure, until said wires are first duly inspected and a written permit issued allowing current to be supplied.

SECTION 8. That all dynamos, motors, wires or other machinery, apparatus, or material used for electrical purposes which may at any time become so defective as to be likely, in the opinion of the Inspector, to cause fires, or accidents or to endanger persons or property, shall be condemned by the Inspector, and when in his opinion it is deemed necessary, in order to prevent such accident, or danger, said Inspector, is hereby authorized to disconnect such wires or apparatus, or to cause the same to be disconnected from service; and upon such condemnation the person or persons owning or using the same shall immediately cause the same to be put in a safe condition. In case any person or persons owning or using any electric wires, dynamos, or other electrical apparatus, structure or material of any nature whatsoever, which have been condemned by the Electrical Inspector shall fail to have the same put in safe condition and accepted by the said Inspector within forty-eight hours after the same has been condemned, or within such other reasonable length of time as shall be prescribed by the said Electrical Inspector, then it shall be the duty of the said Electrical Inspector, to remove the fuses, cut the wires or by other means completely disconnect or cause to be disconnected the condemned wires, apparatus, or material from the source of electrical energy and when any electric wires, dynamos, or electrical apparatus or material of any nature whatsoever have been in any manner disconnected and rendered inoperative by the Electrical Inspector, as set forth in the foregoing provisions, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to in any manner reconnect the same or cause the same to be reconnected to any source of electrical energy, or to use the same as a part of any electrical system until they have been put in safe condition and certificate of acceptance has been issued by the Electrical Inspector.

SECTION 9. That the schedule of fees for inspection of electric wiring for lights, motors, heaters and other electrical equipment shall be as follows:

Where wires are to be concealed (porcela in [sic] knob or tube, or installation of iron conduit) for equipment of ten outlets or less \$1.50. For each additional outlet, ten and twenty-five, 10c. For each additional outlet over twenty-five, 5c. For open or molding work for equipment of ten or less 26 C.P. lamps or equivalent, \$3.00. For each additional outlet up to and including twenty-five, 5c. For each additional outlet over twenty-five, 5c. Arc lamps and ceiling fans for equipments of 3 or less \$3.00. For each additional over ten, 5c. Wiring for motors, 2 horsepower or less, 50c. Motors over 2 horsepower and less than 5 horsepower, \$1.00. Motors 5 H. P. and less than 10 H.P., \$1.50. Motors 10 H.P. and less than 15 H.P., \$2.00. Motors 15 H.P. and over \$2.50. Heaters and other electrical equipment will be charged same as motors counting 748 watts as one horsepower. Electric signs and structures similar thereto, \$1.00. Picture machines, theatre booths, \$1.00. Moroury rectifiers each \$1.00. Combination or electric fixtures equipment of ten or less, 50c. Additional fixtures each 10c.

SECTION 10. That any person or persons who shall violate any provision of this Act, or who shall fail to comply with any of its requirements shall be subject to a fine of not less than five (\$5.00) Dollars, nor more than twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars, for each offense. Each and every day's continuance of any violation of a provision of this Act, shall be deemed a separate offense.

SECTION 11. That all expenses for certificates and receipts shall be paid out of the fees provided for in this Act.

SECTION 12. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 20, 1927.

Private Acts of 1928 Chapter 137

SECTION 1. That Chapter 617 of the Private Acts of the General Assembly of Tennessee, for the year 1927, the title to which is set out in the caption hereof, be and the same is hereby amended so as to provide as follows:

That no person, firm or corporation shall begin or do any electrical work without first applying for and obtaining from the Electrical Inspector a permit to do such work.

That no person, firm or corporation doing or having done any electrical work shall cover or conceal the same by any means such as lathing, plastering, plaster boards, or otherwise, until and after the Electrical Inspector has inspected and approved such work.

That out of the fees collected by the Electrical Inspector, in addition to his salary, he may deduct the necessary expenses required for the maintenance and upkeep of his automobile, including oil and gasoline, said expenses not to exceed \$50.00 per month, while the same is being used solely in his work as Electrical Inspector, all of which expenses shall be set out in detail, and sworn to, in the monthly report of said Electrical Inspector to the County Judge.

SECTION 2. That any violation of the provisions of this Act is hereby declared a misdemeanor and any persons found guilty thereof shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$25.00, for each offense.

SECTION 3. That in event of a vacancy by resignation or otherwise, in the office of said Electrical Inspector, such office shall be filled at the next succeeding meeting of the Quarterly County Court; and at the expiration of the term of the present Electrical Inspector and each succeeding term thereafter the said office of Electrical Inspector shall be filled by said Quarterly County Court.

SECTION 4. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act be and the same are hereby repealed; and that this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 14, 1929.

Plumbing Inspector

Private Acts of 1945 Chapter 231

SECTION 1. That the office of Plumbing Inspector be, and is hereby created for Hamilton County, Tennessee whose jurisdiction shall extend to all territories in said County outside the corporate limits of Chattanooga. Said Inspector may be employed by the County Council of Hamilton County, Tennessee and his compensation shall be fixed by said Council and he shall serve at the pleasure of the Council.

SECTION 2. That the County Council of Hamilton County, Tennessee is hereby authorized by resolution to adopt rules and regulations governing said office, defining its powers, duties, specifications and any other matters essential to the operation of said office.

SECTION 3. That from and after the establishment of such position and the filling of same by the Council, the Plumbing Inspector shall proceed to make the proper inspections when notified by the contractor, owner or other person doing the work, and he shall issue a certificate with his approval when the work is found by him to be in accordance with the rules and regulations hereinafter specified. No permit shall be granted for any plumbing in any resident or business house until the Plumbing Inspector shall have examined, passed on and approved the applications, plans and specifications of plumbing in said building, all of which shall be based on the conditions and specifications adopted and authorized by the County Council. If such application, plans and specifications do not appear to conform to the requirements adopted by the Council, no permit shall be issued under such applications, until plans and specifications are made to comply with the rules, regulations and specifications adopted by the Council.

SECTION 4. That the amount of fees charged for permits shall be fixed by the Council and said fee shall be paid directly to the Plumbing Inspector and he shall turn over same to the County Trustee; and that all fees shall be certified monthly to the County Judge by said Inspector; and, he shall use a book of vouchers or certificates furnished by the County Council and regularly numbered and the certificates shall correspond by number with the number of certificates furnished to the County Judge.

SECTION 5. That the Plumbing Inspector shall execute a solvent indemnity bond conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties and proper accounting of all fees coming into his hands as such Plumbing Inspector in the amount of One Thousand and No/100 (\$1,000) Dollars to be paid for by the County.

SECTION 6. That the Plumbing Inspector is hereby empowered and directed to enter all buildings or structures in pursuance of the duties of his office, and to inspect all plumbing being installed or repaired. No person, firm or corporation shall attempt to install any plumbing in any new building or make major repairs on plumbing in old buildings who has not first obtained a permit to do such work from said Plumbing Inspector; provided, however, that they shall not apply to minor repairs or cases of emergency where plumbing becomes defective from use and requires immediate attention.

SECTION 7. That all plumbing hereinafter installed within the territory covered by this Act shall be installed according to the standards and specifications as shall be adopted by the County Council and fees shall be paid for such inspection as shall be provided by said Council.

SECTION 8. That any person or persons who should violate any provisions of this Act, or who shall fail to comply with any of its provisions or requirements shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction

therefor shall be subject to a fine of not less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars nor more than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars for each offense. Each and every day's continuance of any violation of a provision of this Act shall be deemed a separate offense.

SECTION 9. That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 10. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 13, 1945.

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