

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 25-11 of Article I, and to amend and reordain Article III, both of Chapter 25 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended; which Chapter 25 relates to PLUMBING AND GAS FITTING, which Article I relates to IN GENERAL, which Section 25-11 relates to WHEN LAWFUL TO ENGAGE IN PLUMBING WORK AND GAS FITTING, and which Article III relates to CHANGES IN MODEL PLUMBING CODE FOR THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Section 25-11 of Article I, Chapter 25 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 25-11. When lawful to engage in plumbing work and gas fitting.

It shall be unlawful for any person to do any plumbing work or to engage in the work of plumbing or gas fitting in the city unless he is certified as a master plumber as hereinafter provided or unless he is a qualified journeyman plumber employed and paid by a master plumber and works according to the direction and under the personal supervision of a certified master plumber or unless he is a duly registered plumber's apprentice employed and paid by a master plumber and works under the direction and supervision of a certified master plumber or a certified journeyman plumber or unless he holds a valid certificate "A" provided for in Section 25-12(c).

It shall be lawful, however, for a master gas fitter, certified as hereinafter provided, or a journeyman gas fitter, qualified as hereinafter provided and employed by a master gas fitter and who works under the direction and personal supervision of a master gas fitter, or a duly registered gas fitter's apprentice employed by a master gas fitter and who works under the direction and personal supervision of a master gas fitter, or a qualified journeyman gas fitter, to engage in the work of gas fitting.

Section 2. That Article III, Chapter 25 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Article III. Changes in Model Plumbing Code for the
Washington Metropolitan Area.

Sec. 25-32. Changes in model plumbing code.

That the code known as the Model Plumbing Code for the Washington Metropolitan Area, prepared by the Washington Council of Governments, being particularly the September 13, 1971, Second Edition thereof, which is adopted and incorporated herein by Section 25-2 of Article I, Chapter 25 of the City Code, be and the same hereby is deleted, modified and amended in the following respects:

Section 108-3 entitled DEFINITIONS (page 12) is amended by changing the definition of "PRIVATE SEWER OR WATER MAIN" to read:

Private Sewer or Water Main -- a sewer or main built in a recorded easement or within the property lines of a parcel of land under one ownership, intended to serve separate units of warehouses, shopping centers or other commercial uses.

Section 108-3 entitled DEFINITIONS (page 13) is amended by changing the definition of "SEWER LATERAL" to read:

Sewer Lateral -- See "Building (House) Sewer"

Section 209 entitled DINING FACILITIES (page 20) is amended by changing subsection (b) thereof to read:

- (b) Cafeterias, Soda Fountains and other food handling operations. A hand basin shall be provided behind the bar where food is prepared. Each such area is to be provided with a floor drain properly vented.

Section 210 entitled DAY SCHOOLS, PRE-SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARTENS (page 20) is amended to read:

DAY SCHOOLS, PRE-SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARTENS

The requirements of Chapter 8 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, shall be complied with.

Section 306-2 entitled Shower Compartments (page 22) is amended to read:

Shower Compartments

Shower compartments, except those installed directly on the ground, or those having metal or approved precast enameled receptors, shall have a lead or copper shower pan or the equivalent thereof. The pan shall turn up at least 3 inches above the finished floor level and shall be securely fastened to the fixture waste outlet pipe at the seepage entrance, making a watertight joint between the pan and the outlet pipe.

Section 319-10 entitled Miscellaneous Interceptors (page 28 and 29) is amended by adding thereto the following subsection:

- (e) Coin operated Car Wash. No coin operated car wash may be permitted to be installed and used until plans have been submitted to and approved by the administrative authority. The plans must show the method of connection to an approved sanitary sewer system, disposal of rain and subsurface water and the protection of the potable water system.

Section 403-9 entitled Lawn Sprinkler and Irrigation Systems (page 34) is amended to read:

Lawn Sprinkler and Irrigation Systems

The supply pipe to a lawn sprinkler or irrigation system shall be equipped with an approved shut off valve and an approved backflow preventor properly installed.

Section 406-10 entitled Water-Tight Pan (Page 37) is amended by adding the following sentence:

The pan shall be adequately sized with a recessed depth of 2".

Section 501 entitled METHOD OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL (page 43) - sub-section (b) thereof is amended to read:

- (b) Public sewer shall be deemed to be available to a one or two family dwelling when such sewer abuts the premises on which the building is located, and any part of the building is within 300 feet of sewer and connection may be made lawfully thereto according to city requirements.

Section 501 entitled METHOD OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL (page 43) - sub-section (d) thereof is amended to read:

- (d) Septic tanks must comply with the provisions of Chapter 28 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended.

Section 501 entitled METHOD OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL (page 43) - sub-section (h) thereof is amended to read:

- (h) The drainage and plumbing system of each new building and of new work installed in an existing building shall be separate from and independent of that of any other building, except as provided below, and every building shall have an independent connection with a public or private sewer when available. Where two or more dwellings, stores, shops, establishments, tenements, warehouses, garages, or other structures or two or more of either of them are built upon the same lot or parcel of land even if under the same roof or a part of a larger structure, each shall be considered as a separate building and shall have a separate sewer and independent connection and shall not drain through the sewer of any other building or premises or under or through any other building.

Exceptions.

- (1) Where one building stands in the rear of another building on an interior lot and no public or private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, court, yard, or driveway, the house drain from the front building may be extended to the rear building, and the whole will be considered as one house drain.
- (2) In the case of multi-family apartment buildings under one ownership the word "building" shall be construed to mean a structure under one roof, whether or not divided vertically by solid firewalls. Any subsequent division, subdivision or resubdivision of such a building into separate ownerships shall require that the provisions of this section shall apply in full to such divided building; provided further, that such compliance must take place within one year of the date of such division.
- (3) Commercial buildings under one roof containing several different units where the landlord is responsible for the maintenance and repair of plumbing, may be served by one system upon written request by the owner so long as separate units within said building are not subdividable under both the Zoning and Building Codes.

Section 507 entitled METHODS FOR HANDLING SUBSOIL DRAINAGE (page 46) subsection (d) thereof is amended to read:

- (d) Area drains are prohibited from entering septic tanks or public or private sewer systems unless specifically approved in writing by the Administrative Authority having jurisdiction. Areaway drains are prohibited on any house or building sewer flowing or pumped into the Potomac Interceptor Sewer.

Section 509-2 entitled Trenching for Building Sewer and Water Service (page 47) is amended by adding thereto the following subsection:

- (e) All taps into a sanitary sewer shall be made under the supervision of a plumbing inspector. All material necessary for making the tap shall be furnished by the owner of property for which the tap is to be made. All taps must be made under the supervision of a licensed master plumber with a licensed journeyman plumber making the tap. The connection of a house sewer to a public sanitary sewer shall be made using an approved saddle. The tap shall be made with a 1/16 bend with the tap entering the upper air space of the trunk sewer, unless otherwise approved by the plumbing inspector.

The maximum size house sewer which may be connected to a ten inch or large public sanitary sewer is six inches. All other connections of a house sewer to a public sanitary sewer require the installation of an approved manhole, at the property owners' expense, except a wye (Y) connection may be permitted to be installed in the construction of a new public sewer if approved by the Plumbing Division and Department of Public Works before construction begins.

Taps shall be at least two feet apart. Taps into public manholes must be approved by the Plumbing Division and Department of Public Works before tap is made. Taps into public storm sewers shall be made as directed by the Department of Public Works and Plumbing Division. Trenches and excavations shall conform to the 1966 State Safety Code for construction, demolition and excavation, and shall be maintained in a safe condition and shall be kept free from water to permit adequate inspection. All sewer taps and laterals in public streets, roads, pavements, alleys, and utility rights-of-way must be free of jumps or grades in excess of 1/4 inch per foot until they reach the property line or the limit of the easement unless approved in advance by the Plumbing Division and the Department of Public Works.

Chapter 5 entitled DRAINAGE AND VENT SYSTEMS is amended by adding thereto (at page 72) a new subsection numbered 532-17 to read:

- 532-17 Tests for Industrialized Building or Mobile Home
No industrialized building or mobile home shall be connected to the onsite utilities until the system has stood an air test of 1 1/2" of water column for a period of fifteen minutes. This test shall be done by plugging the waste and vent openings and filling the traps with water.

Section 606-1 entitled Building Sewers (page 78) is amended to read:

Building sewers, except as provided in 606-1a shall be constructed of the following material: non-degradable material with a minimal load bearing capacity of 2,000 lb. per foot of pipe installed as provided in the following sections. The joints shall be water-tight and root-proof. Building sewers shall be tested with a ten (10) foot head of water.

- (a) Building sewers in public roads, streets, pavements, alleys, driveways, parking areas, rights of way or in areas subject to superimposed loads shall be cast iron of the grade known as extra heavy, or ABS, or PVC, Schedule 40 plastic pipe.
- (b) No building sewer shall be laid with less than eighteen (18) inches of cover except that when a building sewer terminates in a septic tank its minimum cover shall be twelve (12) inches. Building sewers in public streets or roads shall be laid at a depth and as specified by the Highway Department having jurisdiction.
- (c) Building sewers in filled or unstable ground shall be extra heavy cast iron pipe or ABS or PVC, Schedule 40 plastic pipe laid on a reinforced pad or approved equal.

Chapter 6 entitled MATERIALS is amended by adding thereto (at page 83) a new subsection numbered 617-11 to read:

617-11 Saddle Fittings

An approved saddle fitting may be used above ground for connection of tubing for humidifiers and similar low flow equipment to water supply pipe.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city not later than five days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The Clerk of the Council shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective the date of its final passage.

Charles E. Beatley, Jr.
Mayor

Final Passage: March 13, 1973