Thursday, May 27, 2010

Public Hearings and Possible Actions RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 98

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and consider second/third readings of an ordinance repealing and replacing Article 6 of City Code Chapter 25-12 to adopt the 2009 Uniform Plumbing Code and local amendments.

For More Information: Dan McNabb, 974-2752; Leon Barba 974-7254; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Mechanical, Plumbing and Solar Board.

Prior Council Action: October 18, 2007 - City Council adopted the amended 2003 regulations regarding water conservation, permitting, reclaimed water systems, and gas piping.

March 11, 2010 - City Council set the public hearing for April 8, 2010.

April 8, 2010 - City Council approved first reading

On April 8, 2010, the City Council approved first reading of an ordinance to adopt the 2009 Uniform Plumbing Code and local amendments. The Council also directed that the code revisions to be written to address the issue of reactivation of expired building permits.

The Uniform Plumbing Code establishes minimum requirements to provide safe and sanitary plumbing systems for the protection of public health and welfare.

The proposed amendments include water conservation initiatives mandated by the State of Texas for plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems. It also provides many allowances and regulations for uses of auxiliary waters such as gray water, reclaimed water, rainwater harvesting and condensate.

The proposed ordinance will be amended to address the following:

- a) New water saving requirements for residential uses;
- b) New water saving requirements for commercial uses;
- c) New auxiliary water allowances and regulations for their uses for both residential and commercial applications.

The proposed ordinance will also remove the requirement for a fee to be paid by a Master Plumber at the time of a license registration as mandated by the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners.

The proposed Plumbing Ordinance addresses the use of an auxiliary water system, allows for a variety of different water savings opportunities along with cross connection control requirements for the protection of the potable water supply and the citizens that we serve.