



CITY OF RAPID CITY

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Growth Management Department

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MEMO

TO: Legal and Finance Committee

FROM: Brad Solon, Building Official

DATE: September 14, 2006

SUBJECT: Request for approval of first reading new ordinance amending the Rapid City Electrical Ordinance

The South Dakota Electrical Commission has adopted the 2005 National Electrical Code and made changes within the South Dakota Wiring Bulletin (SDCL 36-16). As a result of the statewide adoption of the 2005 National Electrical Code and the State Wiring Bulletin, the Rapid City Electrical Board recommends that the Rapid City Municipal Code be amended to reflect the same 2005 National Electrical Code and most of the State Wiring Bulletin. While the State Wiring Bulletin and the proposed Rapid City Electrical Ordinance are essentially the same, there are a few local amendments recommended by the Rapid City Electrical Board. The local amendments are:

- 1) 80.5 (C) Remove the requirement for apprentice electricians to be licensed by the City. This proposed amendment reduces the requirements relative to the current regulations. It is also less restrictive than the State requirements. The State requirements provide for the registration of apprentices and keeps track of hours worked.
- 2) Remove requirement for sign contractors to hold electrical licenses. The proposed ordinance reduces the requirements relative to the current requirement; however, there are similar requirements in the sign ordinance. Also, the State regulations do not require sign contractors to be licensed.
- 3) Require Class-B electrical contractors to license employees the same as electrical contractors. The ordinance proposal is new. This proposal would make the City ordinance the same as State law.

- 4) 80.5 (G) Increase license fees and remove fee for apprentice electrician. The proposed ordinance would make the license fees higher than State law. The purpose of the proposal is to raise the contractor fee, and eliminate the \$7.50 apprentice fee. This is a recommendation from the Finance Office.
- 5) 80.7 (B) Add requirement for electrical engineering. The proposed ordinance amendment is new, and is more restrictive than State law. The proposal is to require an engineered plan when an alteration otherwise exempted by SDCL36-18A exceeds \$50,000, or \$650.00 for an electrical permit.
- 6) 80.7 (C) Changed fees to be equal to State law. The proposed ordinance amendment would make the affidavit fee \$5.00, which is equal to State law.
- 7) 80.7 (C) (10) Defined when administrative fees could be imposed. The ordinance proposal defines when an administrative fee can be imposed for the improper supervision of apprentices.

Also, the Rapid City Electrical Board held a public hearing regarding the ordinance proposal January 18, 2006. Sixteen (16) people attended the meeting including staff.

Please call me if you have any questions.