

**MINUTES**

**OMAHA PLUMBING BOARD**

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, December 9, 2015  
1:30 pm – City/County Building – 1819 Farnam Street  
Jesse Lowe Conference Room – Third Floor

**I. Roll Call**

**Members Present:**

Brian A. Barrett  
Jeff O. Estabrook, Vice-Chairman  
Brian Feyerherm  
David W. Miller, Chairman  
Christopher P. Reed  
Terry Salem  
Amy Schaap

**Others Present:**

Allen Brown, Douglas County Health Department  
Jim Wonder, City of Omaha Planning Department

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**II. Approval of Minutes from November 25, 2015**

Discussion regarding the Green Turtle Model GMC interceptor: Mr. Wonder stated that model and make does not meet the standard to be qualified as a certified interceptor.

Motion by Mr. Reed to amend the minutes from the November 25, 2015 Plumbing Board Minutes to change the Green Turtle Model GMC interceptor from an approved certified interceptor to an approved non-certified interceptor: Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

**III. \*Cases**

15-12-161

Trevor Wraight – Spears Mfg Co  
4205 Newpoint Pl Suite 100  
Lawrenceville GA 30043

REQUEST      Discussion as regards Interpretation of Section 49-806(b)  
49-806(b)

Mr. Trevor Wraight with Spears Mfg. Company appeared before the Board requesting interpretation of Section 49-806(b) in the 2015 Plumbing Code. Mr. Wraight is inquiring if his product is equal to the minimum standards listed in the plumbing code. Mr. Reed stated he is unfamiliar with the information provided today and suggested the Board take some time to research Mr. Wraight's information. The Board agreed.

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to hold case 15-12-161 over until the January 13, 2016 board meeting. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-162  
John Perlebach – Buck’s Inc  
7315 Mercy Road  
Omaha NE 68124

REQUEST Waiver as regards Grease interceptor  
Location: 3529 S 72 Street  
49-1103; 2015 Code

Mr. John Perlebach appeared before the Board requesting a waiver regarding a grease interceptor for Bucky’s at 3529 S 72 Street. Mr. Miller asked if there would be fried foods at this establishment. Mr. Perlebach stated there would not be any fried food sold at this location. Food will be warmed in a ventless oven. Mr. Perlebach stated it is plumbed to add a grease interceptor if the menu ever changes in the future.

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the waiver for a grease interceptor with the stipulation that the plumbing in the kitchen be installed to accommodate connection to a future interceptor if there is a change to the kitchen or menu. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-163  
John Perlebach – Buck’s Inc  
7315 Mercy Road  
Omaha NE 68124

REQUEST Waiver as regards Grease interceptor  
Location: 7660 Dodge Street  
49-1103; 2015 Code

Mr. John Perlebach appeared before the Board requesting a waiver regarding a grease interceptor for Bucky’s at 7660 Dodge Street. This is an identical building plan to the case 15-12-162 with the exception of a hallway in the back. Mr. Miller asked if there would be fried foods at this establishment. Mr. Perlebach stated there would not be any fried food sold at this location. Food will be warmed in a ventless oven. Mr. Perlebach stated it is plumbed to add a grease interceptor if the menu ever changes in the future.

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the waiver for a grease interceptor with the stipulation that the plumbing in the kitchen be installed to accommodate connection to a future interceptor if there is a change to the kitchen or menu. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-164  
Patrick Leddy – Plumbers Local Union #16  
4801 F Street  
Omaha NE 68117

REQUEST Approval of Continuing education instructor and class(es)  
49-218

Mr. Patrick Leddy and Mr. Bill Shadden appeared before the Board requesting approval of continuing education instructor and classes.

Mr. Bill Shadden will attend the Ann Arbor Apprentice Program next summer. He is currently teaching backflow to the third year class to get their grade VI certification. He maintains all the backflow devices for First National Bank branches.

Mr. Estabrook made a motion to approve Bill Shadden as a continuing education instructor for backflow for the City of Omaha. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

Mr. Bill Shadden requests to teach Grade VI Backflow – Testing and Repair; Pressure Vacuum Breakers and Hose Connection Vacuum Breakers for 2016. Classes will count for two continuing education credit hours.

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to approve the two-hour credit class on pressure vacuum breakers, backflow preventer devices for City of Omaha for 2016. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

Mr. Leddy requested a waiver for the 49 class size for backflow. There will be some hands-on training, but they will split the classes up.

Mr. Estabrook made a motion to approve the 49 people waiver for continuing education. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-165  
Kidder Heights LLC  
1886 S 126 Street  
Omaha NE 68144

REQUEST      Waiver as regards Fixture requirements  
  
Location: 4502 S 60 Street  
49-720; 2015 Code

Applicant withdrew this waiver request.

Motion by Mr. Reed to file case 15-12-165. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-166  
Kidder Heights LLC  
1886 S 126 Street  
Omaha NE 68144

REQUEST Waiver as regards PVC pipe and fittings in Group R-1 and R-2 occupancies containing accessory occupancies

Location: 4502 S 60 Street  
49-553; 2015 Code

Applicant withdrew this waiver request.

Motion by Mr. Reed to file case 15-12-165. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-167  
Travis Brodersen – TRB Architecture  
450 Regency Pkwy Suite 300  
Omaha NE 68114

REQUEST Waiver as regards Type I interceptor

Location: 4801 S 72 Street  
49-1140; 2015 Code

Mr. Travis Brodersen appeared before the Board requesting a waiver regarding a Type I interceptor at 4801 S 72 Street. Mr. Wonder stated the City opposes this waiver due to no hardship. This will be a Hertz rental car business. Mr. Brodersen stated there will be no maintenance performed on the vehicles, nor washing of the vehicles at this site. There will be detailing performed only. Mr. Miller asked what the hardship is, and Mr. Brodersen did not have a definite hardship. Mr. Reed inquired about a drain. Mr. Brodersen stated there is no drain in the building. Mr. Estabrook inquired if it is possible for vehicles to be stored inside overnight. Mr. Brodersen stated, "It is possible." Mr. Barrett inquired about a contract from the company stating there would be no washing of the vehicles on site. Mr. Brodersen stated that could be arranged if needed.

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to deny this waiver. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Miller, Salem, Schaap

NAYS: Reed

ABSTAIN: Feyerherm

Motion carried to deny: 5-1-1

15-12-168

Travis R Brodersen – TRB Architecture  
450 Regency Pkwy Suite 300  
Omaha NE 68114

REQUEST Waiver as regards Fixture requirements

Location: 321 N 76 Street  
49-720; 2015 Code

Mr. Travis Brodersen appeared before the Board requesting a waiver regarding fixture requirements at 321 N 76 Street. Mr. Brodersen stated the Asian Market grocery store is expanding from 14,500 square feet to 23,500 square feet. As a result of the expansion, the owners are installing additional restrooms. Due to the size of the total facility, a family restroom is now required. New restrooms will be private men's and women's facilities which could be used as a family room if ever required. Mr. Brodersen stated they are providing the appropriate quantity of fixtures for men's and women's but wish to not provide the family restroom. The additional men and women's fixtures that need to be added would be in a separate part of the building away from the rest of the restrooms which would essentially be like a private restroom. Amy Schaap stated she is opposed to having a women's restroom and a family restroom on one end of the building but no men's. Mr. Estabrook inquired about travel distance. Mr. Wonder stated the plans meet the code regarding travel distance.

Mr. Estabrook pointed out there will be demolition and does not see a hardship to meet the code. Amy Schapp and Mr. Barrett agreed.

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to deny this waiver. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

ABSTAIN: Feyerherm

Motion carried to deny: 6-0-1

15-12-169

Matt Rabalais – CSRS Architects  
6767 Perkins Rd Suite 200  
Baton Rouge LA 70808

REQUEST Waiver as regards Exterior grease interceptor

Location: 10000 California St Suite 3148  
49-1104; 2010 Code

Mr. Matt Rabalais with CSRS Architects and Mr. Terry O'Brien with Westroads Mall appeared before the Board requesting a waiver regarding a grease interceptor at the new food court of the Westroads Mall Suite 3148. Mr. Rabalais stated there is no utility/mechanical space below the proposed restaurant in which to install a below-floor grease interceptor. The space below is a retail store with open ceiling. Mr. Rabalais proposed to use a floor-mounted grease interceptor to serve the dish sink. The location is on the third floor of the mall. Mr. Reed inquired if this will be a full kitchen. Mr. Rabalais stated it will be a full kitchen with frying and cooking equipment. Mr. Rabalais stated currently the plans are showing a grease interceptor at the three compartment sink but upon further review of the plumbing code after making the application, an automatic grease removal device might be the preferred option for the dish sink. That would still leave the mop sink and floor drains without a grease removal system. Mr. Rabalais inquired if a floor-elevated mop sink would be approved with another grease removal device under it to catch the grease.

Mr. Wonder inquired about a hallway between JC Penney's and Dick's that could possibly be accessed. Mr. O'Brien stated there is no feasible way to get it outside. Michel Mason, City MEP Plans Examiner, stated that there seems to be room internally to do a grease removal device not located in the kitchen. The hardship is that would not work because the location is over a shoe store. Mr. O'Brien stated each space in the current food court has their own grease interceptor which is tied directly into the sewer not indirectly through a floor sink.

Mr. Rabalais inquired if would it help to provide an air gap between the sink and the grease removal device. Mr. Wonder stated there are a number of air gap fittings but they do not work because they splatter a lot.

The Health Department does not want to hook directly. Mr. Brown stated the Health Department wants an air gap upstream. The Board discussed waiving the grease interceptor entirely and letting Westroads Mall handle the situation if it arises. Mr. O'Brien stated they do auger all the mains quarterly.

Mr. Barrett asked Mr. O'Brien if Westroads Mall is prepared to deal with any grease problems they may have in the future by waiving this grease interceptor. Mr. O'Brien stated, "Yes, we will handle it." Mr. Wonder stated as long as it doesn't make it to the City mains, the City would be okay with it. The Board agreed that it would not make it to the City mains due to the distance.

Mr. Reed made a motion to approve this waiver for the grease interceptor at 10000 California Street, Suite 3148. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-173

Lisa Peterson - Dan D Auto & Ski  
4669 Leavenworth Street  
Omaha NE 68106

REQUEST Waiver as regards Type I interceptor required

Location: 4671 Leavenworth Street  
49-1141 ; 2010 Code

Ms. Lisa Peterson appeared before the Board requesting a waiver regarding a Type I interceptor at 4671 Leavenworth Street. Ms. Peterson stated this is a storage garage that would be used to store and park seasonal-use items and vehicles year round. They had storage rented at 708 S Saddle Creed Road that Nebraska Medical Center purchased. They are trying to replace lost storage space and free up the existing garage at 4669 Leavenworth St. The new garage offers covered, dry, and secure storage at the business location.

Mr. Wonder stated this is an auto dealership. The City noted that it would have cars stored. It was then brought to the City's attention that it was to be storage for ATV with plow, snowmobiles, jet skis, motorcycles, etc. The City then tagged this business for a Type I interceptor. Ms. Peterson stated this was built on an adjacent lot where the cars are parked. This is a 30x24 garage which will house some new inventory and some of their own motorized vehicles. There is no electricity or water, no drains or restrooms in this building. They will not be servicing anything in this building. There is a lot of crime in the area and the building will help give a perimeter to their property. Mr. Barrett inquired if there is a sewer around this building. Ms. Peterson did not know the answer to that question. Ms. Peterson said the building is already up and that no one mentioned drains were required.

Mr. Michel Mason, City of Omaha MEP Plans Examiner stated that it was noted on the plans that were submitted. Mr. Mason did look at the City approved plans today that Ms. Peterson brought with her and read his notation on the plans stating, "No occupancy; storage only; no repair of motorized vehicle or machinery is permitted under this permit. No mechanical or plumbing work is permitted at this time. Electrical should comply with 2014 MEC." Mr. Mason stated he conditionally made it so none of that work could be performed there.

The Board discussed the types of vehicles with oils and gases that will be stored there. Ms. Peterson stated all of that information was in the letter she submitted before the plans were approved. Ms. Peterson stated there was miscommunication with her builder. She came to a Plumbing Board meeting on 1/14/2015 but was not on the agenda. Her builder told her the plans wouldn't have been approved if there wouldn't have been a waiver passed. Ms. Peterson never applied for a Plumbing Board waiver until present.

Motion by Mr. Reed to hold over case 15-12-173 until January 13, 2016 Plumbing Board meeting. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-170 Frank J Kostka 420 Bryan Street Gretna NE 68028-7940	REQUEST	Waiver of continuing education credits for 2015  49-218
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Mr. Wonder spoke on behalf of Mr. Kostka. He stated that due to Mr. Kostka's medical issues with radiation and chemo, he is requesting a waiver of 2015 continuing education credit hours.

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to grant the waiver for 2015 continuing education credit hours for Mr. Frank Kostka. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-171 John Wonder 6016 Maple Street Omaha NE 68104-4104	REQUEST	Waiver of continuing education credits for 2015  49-218
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Mr. Jim Wonder spoke on behalf of Mr. John Wonder. He stated that due to Mr. John Wonder's medical issues with chemo, he is requesting a waiver of 2015 continuing education credit hours.

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to grant the waiver for 2015 continuing education credit hours for Mr. John Wonder. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

15-12-172 Robert Newton PO Box 8663 Omaha NE 68108	REQUEST	Approval of Apprenticeship Program  49-252
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Mr. Robert Newton is requesting approval for City of Omaha Apprenticeship Program. Mr. Miller stated that the files are in order.

Mr. Estabrook made a motion to approve Robert Newton for the Omaha Apprenticeship Program. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

**IV. Apprenticeship Agreements**

Paul CR Keener II  
1317 South 25 Street  
Omaha NE 68105

Robert Newton  
PO Box 8663  
Omaha NE 68108

Mr. Paul Keener is requesting approval of 11/09/2015 start date as an apprentice. He has been employed by Robert Newton. Ratio sheet submitted is in order.

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to approve Paul Keener with a start date of 11/09/2015 with the stipulation that documentation from Bob Newton regarding payroll records be received by the Board secretary. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

**V. Approval of Apprenticeship Renewals (2)**

William Birge  
Andrew J Harford

Big Birge Plumbing Co  
Local 16

ABC  
Local 16

Mr. Estabrook made a motion to approve the two apprentice renewals for 2015. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

**VI. Discussion**

Practice tests with the schools will be shared at a later date.

Clarification on Green Turtle interceptor

**VII. Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to adjourn. Second by Mr. Salem. Meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

Mr. Estabrook made a motion to reopen the meeting. Second by Mr. Reed.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to cancel the 12-23-2015 Plumbing Board meeting. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to adjourn. Second by Mr. Salem. Meeting adjourned at 3:12 pm.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried: 7-0

**\*APPLICANT MUST BE PRESENT AT MEETING.\***

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A full, continually current agenda is available for public inspection in Room 1110 of the Omaha/Douglas Civic Center during normal business hours.

The Omaha Plumbing Board reserves the right to modify the agenda at the public meeting. If alternative (tape) to the agenda is needed, please advise Jim Wonder. A 72-hour notice is required.

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Visit the Planning Department's Site on the Internet at  
<http://www.cityofomaha.org/planning/boards/plumbing-board>