

PLUMBING ADVISORY BOARD, THURSDAY, January 18, 2024

PRESENT: Board Members: Anthony DeLuca, Jesse Johnson, Jeff Mason, Tim Burgan, Michael Zepp, Bureau Chief; Bob Ridge, Chief Plumbing Inspector; Lee Mallick, Chief Building Inspector; Bob Kapfer, Plumbing Inspector; John Geisler, Plumbing Inspector; Tim Dixon, County Attorney; Karen Gartrell, Plumbing Board Secretary

ABSENT: Board Members: Zach Alford, Master Plumber, James Turnbaugh, Master Plumber; David Zicha, Master Plumber, Penny Wisner, Health Department

Notice of this meeting was provided to the public by emailing notice to members of the Carroll County Plumbing Board and posting notice electronically on the County's website.

The meeting was held at the Carroll County Government Office Building, 225 North Center St, Room 118 Westminster, and called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Mr. Bob Ridge, Chief Plumbing Inspector.

Old Business

Bob Ridge went over the code changes that are taking place on January 1, 2024. 2021 IBC and IRC Use of future ports on gas manifolds, must have plug or nipple and cap. Sewer replacement bursting method will remain in code. Bursting method must have photos taken before and after. Waste line stack testing on a case by case basis. Buried LP tanks must be completely open and filled with masonry sand. Missed shower pan inspections.

Having issues or problems with unlicensed workers on job. Must have a master or at least an apprentice on site. Defining the term laborer as to whether they should be performing certain types of work.

Discussion was made about 2 inch pipes in outside walls and insulation requirements.

Waste pipes in garages in bulkheads. Proper insulation is required on the cold side.

Windows in showers has to be 70 inches high from drain, 72 inches from floor, have to be properly flashed and tempered glass. Lee discussed flashing and window requirements.

Regulation of the health dept. Plumber is responsible for 5 ft from clean out.

Water heaters and furnaces with pans need to have sensors or switches.

All underslab fittings long term except for toilets.

Discharge of sump pumps is not allowed into a street or cause a nuisance.

Commercial kitchens are required to have a floor drain.

Self closing faucets are required in public restrooms.

Why electrical permit is required for replacement a/c units but not electric water heaters which are the same watts? Tom Harris explained why and the requirements.

Requirement of Showerpan inspection becoming responsibility of the builders. Form was passed around and reviewed. John Geisler discussed how the form is helping with missing showerpan inspections. Jeff Mason verified that the builder is able to call the showerpan inspection in. There was also a discussion about how the showerpan inspections work and what work can continue. Water requirement is 2 inches in showerpan for 15 minutes.

New Business

Mike Zepp discussed about the open chairperson position on the board. Tim Dixon discussed that the commissioners appoint plumbers to the board. Tony DeLuca nominated Jesse Johnson as acting chairperson. Jeff Mason 2nd the nomination. All voted in favor of Jesse Johnson serving as acting chairperson.

Tony DeLuca asked about new code vs. old code for construction. Mike Zepp discussed what conditions the new code vs old code is used. Existing vs new.

ASE 1081 boiler is now allowed with atmospheric vent. Information was passed around about the new boiler specifications.

Kitchen and island sink venting information was passed around due to problems arising when doing inspections for the venting.

Spray foam and pipe width requirements were discussed by Bob Ridge, Lee Mallick, Mike Zepp and Tony DeLuca. R10 is required between pipe and outside wall.

Discussion about minimum codes for garages. Issues with traps and exterior lines freezing. Lee recommending calling himself or Bob if there are any questions about the insulation requirements.

2045 all electric no gas was brought up by Bob Ridge as it was discussed at conference that he went to in Dec 2023.

Jesse brought up having at least journeyman or master on site. Underslab fitting requirements.

Discussion of National code book illustrations.

Lee asked about new energy code requirements for 2024. Maryland amendments to the energy code.

Mr. Jeff Mason made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Tony DeLuca seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:00am. The next scheduled Carroll County Plumbing Board meeting will be held on April 18, 2024.

Submitted by:

Approved by: