

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: December 23, 2013
	Agenda Item No. 43 Roll Call No. [_____] Communication No. <u>13-606</u> Submitted by: Phillip Delafield, Community Development Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Amend steam and power operating equipment operators licensing requirements in Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code.

SYNOPSIS:

Approval of this action clarifies licensing requirements in Chapter 26 of Municipal Code for steam or power operating equipment operators. The proposed amendments clarify when licenses are required and when licensed personnel must be on site to monitor the operation of boilers and other equipment.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The City of Des Moines Board of Power Engineer Examiners regulates the issuance of licenses for personnel who operate and maintain boilers and other equipment throughout the City. The Board has received communication from licensees indicating confusion associated with the current ordinance language. In response to this communication, the Board has proposed amending Municipal Code Chapter 26 to clarify when licensed operators are required and when licensed operators must be on site. The changes call for licensed operators to be employed for the operation of boilers in commercial buildings with equipment that exceeds 200,000 btu. The need for licensed operators comes from the potential hazards associated with pressure vessels of this size. The improper operation of a malfunctioning boiler has the potential to cause an explosion or injuries to building occupants. The proposed language clarifies that licensed operators are required to be on site during regular business hours and off hours when buildings are occupied at more than 10% of the rated capacity. For example, this will require operators to be on site for after hour school functions such as basketball games. The previous language indicated that licensed operators were required to be on site around the clock.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 25, 2005

Roll Call Number: 05-1011

Action: Amending Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code to adopt 2003 International Building Code, 2003 International Existing Building Code, portions of the 2003 International Residential Code, 2003

International Mechanical Code, 2003 International Fuel Gas Code, 2005 National Electric Code, 2003 Uniform Plumbing Code, and miscellaneous amendments and reorganization. ([Council Communication No. 05-219](#)) Moved by Hensley that this ordinance be considered and given first vote for passage as amended; Article V- Plumbing Code, shall be removed and forwarded to City staff and the Licensing and Appeals Board for review and recommendation. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Board of Power Engineer Examiners

Date: December 3, 2013

Action: Recommend amending City of Des Moines Municipal Code Chapter 26 Article VII as proposed.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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