

ORDINANCE O-54-19

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 7-20, 7-21, 7-22 AND 7-23 OF THE CITY OF ATHENS CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADOPT THE 2015 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE AND RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS TO SAID CODE AND REPEALING CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE III ENTITLED VOLUNTEER RESERVE FIREMAN.

WHEREAS, the City of Athens, Texas seeks to regulate and govern the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings, and structures in order to ensure that such structures within the corporate boundaries of the city are safe, sanitary, and fit for occupation and use;

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2007, the City of Athens approved Ordinance O-49-07 to adopt the 2006 edition of the International Fire Code; and

WHEREAS, the City of Athens desires to update the adopted fire code to reflect current fire prevention standards of practice;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, TEXAS:

That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Athens, Texas is amended to reflect the changes made by this ordinance as shown below. For clarity, existing text to be deleted is stricken through and new text is shown in italics. All amended text is highlighted.

**Ch. 7, Art. II, Sec. 7-20. - International Fire Code—Adoption.**

~~There is hereby adopted the International Fire Code, current edition, with deletions, modifications or amendments, therefore creating the Athens Fire Prevention Code made a part hereof for all purposes, the same as if fully copied herein. If any conflict exists between or among any of the codes, standards or any other ordinance of the city, then the most restrictive code, standard or ordinance shall apply, and the city shall have the authority to resolve any such conflict or disputes.~~

*There is hereby adopted the 2015 International Fire Code including Appendix Chapters B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I and J, regulating and governing the safeguarding of life and property from fire and explosion hazards arising from the storage, handling and use of hazardous substances, materials and devices, and from conditions hazardous to life or property in the occupancy of buildings and premises in the City of Athens; providing for the issuance of permits; repealing Ordinance O-49-07 of the City of Athens; therefore creating the Athens Fire Prevention Code made a part hereof for all purposes, the same as if fully copied herein. Amendments to the 2015 International Fire Code are hereby adopted as shown in Appendix B of the City of Athens Code of Ordinances. If any conflict exists between or among any of the codes, standards or any other ordinance of the city, then the most restrictive code, standard or ordinance shall apply, and the city shall have the authority to resolve any such conflict or disputes.*

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**Ch. 7, Art. II, Sec. 7-21. - ~~Same~~—Revised. Permit fees.**

That the following sections are also hereby revised:

Section 101.1 Insert: City of Athens

Section 109.3 Insert: Misdemeanor; \$2,000.00; 90 days

Section 111.4 Insert: \$5.00 to \$2,000.00

*The fees for all permits required by this section are to be in accordance with City of Athens Development Fee Chart, Schedule A (see Ch. 5, Art. II, Sec. 5-2).*

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**Ch. 7, Art. II, Sec. 7-22. - ~~Same~~—Additions. License required.**

The International Fire Code is amended with the following addition:

Section 304.4 In certain circumstances, to wit, abandoned property or unknown owners, the City of Athens shall cause the property to be cleared of all hazards and all expenses and cost shall be charged against the property as prescribed by the Statutes of the State of Texas.

- a. *It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace a fire alarm or fire suppression system within the city limits of Athens unless such person, firm or corporation is registered as herein provided with the City.*
- b. *An applicant for registration under this section shall provide the following information:*
  1. *A copy of the applicant's Driver's License;*
  2. *A copy of the applicant's Fire Industry License issued or recognized under the Texas Department of Insurance;*
  3. *A certificate of general liability insurance which meets or exceeds the minimum requirements prescribed by the Texas Department of Insurance;*
  4. *Other pertinent information as deemed necessary by the Building Official.*

*Every registrant shall notify the office of the building inspector to ensure the accurate revision of registration information, including changes of address or telephone number, within ten (10) days from when previous information supplied if his application is made invalid for any reason.*
- c. *Building Official Shall Respond. After application for registration has been received by the building official, he/she shall act promptly to issue the registration or to determine on what basis the registration may not be issued. The building official shall so respond not later than two (2) weeks following application.*
- d. *Expiration and Renewal of Registration. Registration shall expire annually and shall be routinely reactivated by payment of the annual registration fee if application information remains accurate. A registration may be renewed, as herein provided, at any time from sixty (60) days preceding the date of expiration through thirty (30) days following the date of expiration. A registration not renewed for thirty (30) days beyond the date of expiration shall require resubmittal of registration information and payment of registration fee.*
- e. *Transfer of Registration Prohibited. No registrant under this section shall allow his registration, by name or other identification, to be transferred or assigned to, or in any*

*manner directly or indirectly used by, any person, firm or corporation other than the one to whom issued by the building inspector for any purpose.*  
*f. Registration Fee. There is no fee to register as a fire contractor.*

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**Ch. 7, Art. II, Sec. 7-23. - ~~Same—Geographic limits.~~**

(The section is hereby repealed in its entirety and reserved for future use.)

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**Ch. 7, Art. II, Sec. 7-24 through Sec. 7-40.**

(These sections are to remain as is.)

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**Ch. 7, Art. III – ~~VOLUNTEER RESERVE FIREMEN~~**

(The article is hereby repealed in its entirety and reserved for future use.)

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First reading this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2019.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of **May, 2019** at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Athens, Texas, with the following record vote:

Monte Montgomery, Mayor	Aye
Ed McCain, Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tem	Aye
Aaron Smith, Councilmember	Aye
Toni Clay, Councilmember	Aye
Robert Gross, Councilmember	Aye

5 voted in favor of the motion and  
0 voted against the motion.

Motion carried 5-0

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Monte Montgomery, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary