ORDINANCE NO. 915

An Ordinance Supplementing Chapter 7, Code of Ordinances, City of Slidell, Louisiana, Relative to the Southern Standard Mechanical Code.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SLIDELL, LOUISIANA, IN LEGAL SESSION CONVENED.

Chapter 7, Article 11 of the Code or Ordinances of the City of Slidell, Louisiana, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

The Southern Standard Mechanical Code, 1973 Edition, published by the Southern Building Code Congress, is hereby adopted as the mechanical code of the City subject to the following amendments:

CHAPTER 1 - ADMINISTRATION

Section 101 - Title and Scope

101.1-Title
An ordinance regulating the installation, removal, replacement, conversion and maintenance of any air conditioning, heating, mechanical, refrigeration, and ventilating system in the City of Slidell, State of Louisiana; providing for and creating the Board of Mechanical Examiners, providing for a city inspector, providing for issuance of permits, collection of fees, examination for licenses, issuance of licenses therefor; providing certain restrictions and standards; providing penalties for violation thereof and repealing all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict therewith.

This ordinance shall be known as the Air Conditioning, Heating, Mechanical, Refrigeration and Ventilation Code, hereafter, referred to as ACHMRV, and repeals all ordinances in conflict herewith.

101.3-Scope
The purpose of this code is to provide minimum standards to safeguard life or limb, health, property and public welfare by regulating and controlling the design, installation, quality of materials, use and maintenance of all air conditioning, heating, mechanical, refrigeration and ventilation systems. No provision of this code shall be held to deprive any Federal or State agency of any power of authority which it had on the effective date of this code or of any remedy there existing for the enforcement of its orders. Where in any specific case different sections of this code specify different materials, methods of installation or other requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.

Section 102 - Organization

102.1-Board Members
There is hereby created a Board of Air Conditioning, Heating, Mechanical, Refrigeration and Ventilation. The Board shall consist of six (6) members, to-wit: The City Inspector, one (1) licensed building contractor and three (3) licensed central air conditioning and heating contractors, and one (1) layman. At the first Board meeting the members shall elect a chairman and any other necessary officers. The Board shall meet once each quarter of the calendar year.

102.2-Term of Office
The City Inspector shall serve throughout his term of employment by the City.

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The term of office for the five (5) other members shall be staggered, one being appointed for one year, one for two years, one for three years and two for four years. They may be reappointed by the City Council if they so desire. All of the Board members shall be a resident of the Parish of St. Tammany, his membership shall automactically be vacated if he moves outside the limits of the Parish. Any member may be removed for cause by the City Council.

Section 103 - Licenses and Examinations

103.1-Application for Licenses

1. All applications for examination shall be taken by the City Inspector. The examination itself will be given in the presence of at least a simple majority of the Board members and also graded under the same conditions.

2. Application for examination must be submitted fifteen (15) days prior to date of examination.

3. The examination shall consist of three (3) parts rated as follows:
   a. 40% Installation
   b. 40% Mechanical
   c. 20% Practical business knowledge

Applicants shall be required to obtain a minimum of 70% to pass the examination.

4. Any person may apply for a license who meets the following requirements:
   a. applicants must be at least 21 years of age.
   b. An applicant for license shall have at least 4 years experience in the occupation or business governed by the license for which he is applying, or shall be a graduate of any licensed trade school with 3 years experience, or an accredited college with one year experience in that class of occupation or business governed by the license for which he is applying. Three letters of reference shall be submitted from 3 licensed ACHMRV contractors attesting to the applicant's experience and character.
   c. Applicants who pass the examination and receive the ACHMRV license must within 30 days after receiving the license, establish a place of business in conformity with the zoning regulations of the City of Slidell and have someone in attendance during regular business hours.
   d. Person or persons in employ by a licensed ACHMRV firm are not required to have an ACHMRV license. Their installations and duties are the responsibility of the employer (or holder of the license) and he is subject to any penalties or fines for any deficiency in workmanship by his employees.

103.2-Examination Fees

1. The fee for each initial examination shall be $25.00 if it is conducted at a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting. Special examination fees will be $100.00.

103.3-License Fees, Expiration and Renewal

1. The yearly renewal fee for a license shall be $25.00 due by December 31st of each calendar year. If a license is not secured by February 1st the fee will be $35.00
2. License shall be renewed without further examination. Exceptions: If license is not renewed by March 1st, re-examination will be required.

103.4-Payment of Fees

The examination and re-examination fees and renewal fees shall be paid to the City Permit Office.

103.5-Failure to Pass Examination

In the event the applicant fails to pass the examination, he shall be permitted

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to apply for further examination after ninety (90) days have expired from the date of the previous examination. There shall be no limit as to the number of examinations a person shall be allowed to undergo.

103.6-Exclusion of Existing License

1. Any person having an established business of installing air conditioning, heating, mechanical, refrigeration and ventilation systems in the City of Slidell since January 1, 1973, and holding a Class A Gas Fitters license prior to the adoption of this code shall not be required to take the examination but must pay his prorated renewal fee as stated in Article IV and receive his new license. The licensee must have installed all of the above mentioned systems and must apply for the new license within thirty (30) days after the adoption of this code.

2. Any person having a Class A Gas Fitters license can install a gas heating system without the ACHMRV license, but the system must conform to this code and pass the inspection thereof. Installation of expansion ceils, refrigerant lines and condensing units requires an ACHMRV license.

Section 104 - Application for Permit

104.1-When Required

It shall be unlawful to proceed with the installation of any ACHMRV system, with the alteration or extension of such a system, or the connection to such a system of any appliance without having previously obtained a permit from the City. Applications for permits shall be made in person or in writing to the City, giving such information as may be required to show that the work will be performed in accordance with the provisions of this Code. It shall be the duty of theACHMRV inspector to see that the work which is being done and which required a permit under theprovisions of this Code is authorized by such a permit, and where such work is being done without a permit, to promptly stop all such work and report the fact to the City Hall. Any person or firm replacing existing air conditioning, mechanical, refrigeration, or heating system must be licensed by theACHMRV Board and shall file a request for a permit and pay fees as stated.

104.2-Permits Not Required

Normal maintenance and repair required on ACHMRV shall not require a permit so long as responsibility for the work is assumed by the owner or person performing the work. However, in all cases the work shall be performed by a person so licensed to do so in the City of Slidell.

Section 106 - Fees

106.1

Before a person, firm or corporation shall proceed with a ACHMRV installation or repair, he shall file a request for a permit with the City and pay the following fees which are due and payable upon application for permits.

106.2

These fees shall cover all inspections of the work for which a permit is issued, as well as the issuance of the certificate of approval. If, however, the inspector is forced to make an additional trip or trips to the work by reason of the fact that the work is not ready for inspection at the time he calls in compliance with the notice hereinabove referred to, then an additional special inspection fee, as indicated, shall be paid for each trip so made.

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106.3-Permits and Inspection Fees

Installation of warm air furnace not over 400,000 BTU output	$2.50
Installation of warm air furnace over 200,000 BTU output	5.00
Installation of warm air furnace in conjunction with air conditioning system up to 5 Hp.	10.00

Air Conditioning or Mechanical Refrigeration

1	to	5 HP	$ 5.00
6	to	10 HP	15.00
11	to	100 HP	25.00
101	to	500 HP	40.00
Over 500 HP			50.00

Floor Furnaces	$2.50
Panel Heaters	2.50
Unit Heaters	5.00
Gas Dryers - Commercial	5.00
Commercial Space Heaters	5.00
Commercial Ranges	5.00
Commercial Ovens	5.00

Section 107 - Inspections

107.1-Notification

Upon completion of the installation of ACHMRV system, the alteration or extension of such a system, or the connection of such a system of any appliance, it shall be the duty of the person, firm or corporation to notify in writing the ACHMRV Inspector who shall inspect the same within forty-eight (48) hours of the time such notice shall have been given, Sundays and holidays not included.

Whenever any work for which a permit is required under the provisions of this Chapter has been commenced without the authorization or in violation of a code an investigation fee shall be collected. When the final permit fee is less than ten dollars ($10.00) the minimum investigation fee shall be ten dollars ($10.00). When the final permit fee is above ten dollars ($10.00) the investigation fee shall be ten dollars ($10.00) plus 50% of the final permit fee.

107.2-Insepction Deposit Fund

a. Whenever, in pursuance of any of the provisions of this Code, it shall become necessary to deduct from the deposit made by any person, firm, or corporation the amount of any fee or other charges which shall be due and owing to the City resulting from assessments for additional fee for work not covered by installation permits and for any other charges which shall be due and owing to said City that are not paid within ten (10) days.

b. After presentation of bills for such additional assessments or fees by such person, firm or corporation, the City of Slidell shall draw a requisition against the said deposit.

c. No permits shall be issued to any person, firm or corporation failing to make said payments within the ten (10) days prescribed or while the cash deposit of said person, firm or corporation is less than the specified minimum amount of twenty-five dollars ($25.00).

d. When any person, firm or corporation doing work under the provisions of this Code, having made deposits as aforementioned, shall have ceased to carry on all business and whenall work under permits issued shall have been

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completed, inspected and approved and when all fees and other charges due and owing to the City by said person, firm or corporation shall be paid, and if no charges be then pending against said person, firm or corporation for any violation of any ordinance, rule or regulation of the City pertaining to installations, then said person, firm or corporation shall be entitled to have returned to him the amount on deposit or such portion thereof as may remain to his credit after deduction therefrom as herein specified.

107.3-Referred Re-Inspection
1. When any part of or all of a mechanical installation is condemned by the Inspector, the owner, within five (5) days after receiving written notice thereof may file a petition in writing, for a review of said action, with the Inspector. Upon receipt of such petition, the Inspector shall proceed at once to reinspect the installation and determine whether or not the mechanical installation conforms with this Code.

107.4-General Re-Inspection
1. If, upon inspection, any dangerous installations are discovered, a written notice shall be served on the owner or occupant to have same corrected in accordance with the requirements of this Code. On failure of the owner or occupant to comply withsuch notice, the Inspector shall have the authority to give written notice to the Utility Company to cut off or disconnect utility services, or otherwise cause the operation to be discontinued, until the defects are corrected.

Section 108 - Certificate of Approval

If the said installation, alteration, extension, or connection shall be found to be fully in compliance with the provisions of this Code, and all electrically controlled appliances have been inspected and approved, the City shall issue to such person, firm or corporation a certificate of inspection and approval. This certificate shall be taken as evidence that the work has been done and completed in accordance with the provisions of this Code.

Section 109 - Violations and Penalties

109.1-Revocation of License
Any licenses granted under this Code may be revoked by the City Council of Slidell if the holder of the license violates any ordinance orlaw relating to the rules and regulations or is guilty of any act or in any installation work which is dangerous to life or property, or for transferring or allowing directly or indirectly persons, firms or corporations other than the lawful holder to operate or to obtain permits to do work under said license, provided the holder of the license be found guilty of such violations.

109.2-License Re-issued
When a license is revoked, a new license will not be granted to the same person, firm or corporation for a period of thirty (30) days or more, nor until such person, firm or corporation shall have corrected the faulty work or other violations of these regulations. Licenses will be re-issued after applicant has taken an examination and paid the fees required for the original license.

The Board shall have discretionary power to withhold the granting of a new license subsequent to revocation of the original license for cause, for a period not to exceed three (3) calendar months.

109.3-Appeal
Appeal from the decision of the Board may be taken within thirty (30) days to the City Council.

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