

City of Auburn Plumbing Board

Wednesday, May 11 at 4:00 PM, Memorial City Hall

Present: Seth Jensen, Greg Gallinger, Joe Sliwka

Seth Jensen: Alright we will open up to the Public to be heard. No. Lets approve the meeting minutes. All those in favor, approved. On to Old Business, what do you got Joe for exam reviews?

Joe: We have Graeme at 70 which is passing and we got Greg at 67 ½ which is not passing. Looking over the tests and answers I feel like the test is out dated. We should sit down as a Board and revamp these tests. Whether we eliminate some questions or have the pointing system changed. Another thing that needs to be changed is that online states the passing grade was 75 and we dropped it down to be 70. Also, the front of the exam will need to be updated as well as the date is incorrect. There are a few discrepancies within this exam so I want to get these taken care of as soon as we can. I will be sending letters out to both of these gentlemen. We can move forward with voting for Graeme.

Seth: Can we get a motion to approve Graeme for passing and being qualified to be a licensed plumber in Auburn? All those in favor. Approved

Seth: Old business. Did you get letters sent out to HVAC businesses?

Joe: I have not yet, but I did speak to a HVAC business in Auburn about the rules regarding permits and how they need a licensed plumber.

Seth: Another thing with Old Business, grease trap training.

Joe: Yes, I have grease trap training in a few weeks. I also talked to the DEC about the oil separators for the car dealerships and basically the DEC stated it falls back to the city. I want to find out if there is a program for that. That way we can add them to the FOG program.

Seth: New Business, fee schedule.

Joe: I have been comparing fees to other counties. I noticed a lot of our fees are way underpriced compared to towns around us.

Seth: Definitely keep this in mind for next year's budget as this year's budget is coming to an end. We need to create a resolution from the Board which will be supportive of the new fee schedule. Then I can it take to Council for approval.

Seth: Stacy DeForrest wanted to be with us today but she sent an email that states "All members of such board shall be citizens and actual residents of the cities in which they are appointed, except in the city of Niagara Falls where such members shall be citizens and actual residents of the county wherein the city is situated, the city of Middletown where such members shall either be citizens and actual residents of the county wherein the city is situated or anywhere within a twenty-five mile radius of such city within this state, and except in the city of Corning where such members shall be citizens and actual residents of the county wherein the city is situated or in an abutting or adjacent county, and except in the city of Rochester

where such members shall be citizens and actual residents of the county wherein the city is situated, and except in the city of Watertown where such members shall be citizens and actual residents of the county wherein the city is situated. Provided however, in any city with a population of less than twenty-five thousand, or in any city which has less than four master plumbers, such members may be residents of the county or counties wherein the city is situated.” So we are hovering around that 25,000 population so we aren’t covered with population but we qualify Master Plumber total wise. As a result, we could potentially make the recommendation that we change the language that we state all members of the plumbing board of the COA shall be citizens unless the city has a fewer than four Master Plumbers.

I am ok with a Master Plumber living in the City of Auburn but I prefer that they hold their business in the City of Auburn and not be outside the city. That way there is more invested into the COA.

Greg: I agree with that.

Seth: Next step will be to go to City Council and present a Resolution so they can adopt the alteration to our current Plumbing Code.

Joe: That sounds good to me.

Seth: Lets talk about the fee schedule. I believe if you are a homeowner that wants to change a faucet their fine should not be \$1,000. People that are stating they are a plumber they should be fined \$1,000.

Joe: I receive multiple complaints of people doing their own work. Also, I think we need to look into Drain Layers pulling permits for their work they do.

**Motion to adjourn made by Joe, seconded by Greg. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion Carried**

Recorded by Crystal Nevidomsky