

City of Alexandria, Virginia

36
6-11-02

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 4, 2002

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO INCREASE FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM PERMIT FEES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION AND TESTING UNIT IN CODE ENFORCEMENT

ISSUE: Increase in Fire Protection System permit fees and establishment of a new Fire Protection Inspection Testing Unit in Code Enforcement.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) approve the addition of 3 full-time employees, two overhire positions and the upgrade of one position to staff a new Fire Protection Systems Inspection and Testing Unit within Code Enforcement; and
- (2) adopt the attached resolution (Attachment 1) authorizing the increase of Fire Protection System permit fees from 1.2 percent of total construction costs to 3.5 percent of total construction costs, and for fire alarm devices from \$75 minimum, plus \$2 per device, to \$75 minimum, plus \$9 per device.

DISCUSSION: At the March 20, 2002, budget work session, staff proposed the establishment of two fully fee supported programs within the Code Enforcement Bureau to improve and enhance the fire inspection and prevention programs within the City. The first, the approval of which is sought by this docket item, will be dedicated to fire protection systems inspection and testing for new construction in the City, and will be operated by a new unit within Code Enforcement. The proposal includes an increase in fire protection system permit fees to fully support the costs of this new unit. The second program is an inspection and retesting program which will ensure that fire protection systems in existing buildings are up to standard. This program, included in the Approved FY 2003 Budget, is planned for a mid-year FY 2003 start and will be brought forward to City Council for consideration in the fall after additional community outreach and discussion with apartment and condominium owners and managers has been completed.

A new Fire Protection System Inspection and Testing unit will be established as part of Code Enforcement's New Construction Section which is responsible for the structural, architectural, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, gas and fire protection systems inspections of all new

construction in the City. In FY 2001, this section conducted 57,356 inspections, compared with 35,519 inspections conducted in FY 2000. This represents an increase of over 61%. To meet this workload increase many of the staff inspectors are certified to perform inspections in more than one discipline and may perform a variety of inspections during a single workday. This increasing workload has had the greatest impact on fire inspections resulting in insufficient time for staff to properly conduct fire protection system inspections and tests based on industry standards, established inspection, testing and acceptance guidelines and mandated requirements. The implementation of a new Fire Systems Inspection and Testing Protocol will establish the minimum personnel, time commitments and equipment required to perform the inspection of newly installed fire protection systems as required by Section 36-39 of the Code of Virginia and the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, while meeting the City's requirement that all scheduled building and trade inspections be completed within two days. The new protocol will also establish uniform test procedures and standard operating procedures that will ensure all systems are functioning properly.

The inspection of fire protection systems generally requires more time and staff than other building and trade inspections since different systems must be operated and observed under simulated fire conditions, operated within specified time parameters, be observed for two-hour periods or require 100 percent device testing and verification. These tests require two to six people, while other trade and building inspections usually require only one person. Due to the unique nature and time required to perform fire protection systems testing and the increasing workload due to the significant increase in new construction in the City, current staff is unable to dedicate the time required to properly inspect and test these critical fire systems. The establishment of a special unit within the division's New Construction Section dedicated solely to fire protection systems inspection, plan review and acceptance testing we will help us address this issue.

The establishment of a new Fire Protection Systems Inspection and Testing Unit will require the upgrade and addition of the following six positions:

- (1) the upgrade of one Fire Protection Engineer to a management level position to administer the program and ensure that the process from plan review to final inspection is properly implemented and executed;
- (2) the addition of one Fire Protection Plan Reviewer dedicated to the plan review process to ensure proper scrutiny and timely turn around of all submitted fire protection system plans;
- (3) the addition of three Fire Systems Inspectors dedicated to fire protection system inspection and testing to help manage the projected workload and avoid the delays that are attributable to insufficient staffing levels. One position will be permanent, while two will be temporary overhire positions, as the current high level of residential construction will likely taper off at some time in the future; and

- (4) the addition of one Engineering Aide committed to fire protection systems inspection scheduling, database management, fire protection system plan submittal processing, permit processing, the prevention of inspection and test backlogs and other related duties.

Establishing a Fire Protection Systems Inspection and Testing Unit will help to ensure that fire protection systems are properly designed and installed. Establishing this unit will also result in a significant reduction (projected to be from 50% to 21%) in the number of electrical, mechanical, and plumbing inspections carried over to the next day because the current group of construction inspectors must perform both fire protection inspections and the inspection of other disciplines. While it is not possible to eliminate all carryover inspections, our goal is to reduce the number of carryover inspections.

The costs of these positions will be offset by revenues collected through the Fire Protection Permit process. Currently, the existing fee schedule does not cover the expenditures associated with the process. The proposed new fee schedule for Fire Protection Permits will increase the permit fee for fire suppression systems (sprinkler, standpipe, and restaurant hood) from 1.2 percent to 3.5 percent per \$1,000 of total construction costs. The permit fee for fire alarm devices of \$75 minimum, plus \$2 per device, will increase to \$75 minimum, plus \$9 per device. These permit fee changes will result in an increase in the average inspection cost from \$37 to \$109.

This proposal has been presented to representatives of the development and business community who felt that more timely plan review and inspections of fire protection systems, under the proposed protocol, would result in the reduction of inspection carry overs making the fee increase acceptable. The representatives noted that the development community did not wish to have the delays in the scheduling of fire protection system tests that are currently occurring in Fairfax County. The proposed fees will be higher than those of Arlington County but less than those in Fairfax County. The fees and the new inspection protocols will become effective on July 1, 2002.

FISCAL IMPACT: Annual direct operating costs of \$383,382, which include salaries, benefits and vehicle depreciation costs, will be offset by approximately \$400,000 in fees collected through the issuance of fire protection system permits under the recommended new fee structure.

The costs of the program are projected to be fully funded by the associated fees making the program cost neutral in FY 2003 and beyond.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment 1. Proposed Resolution
- Attachment 2. Code Enforcement Fee Schedule

STAFF:

Thomas Hawkins, Fire Chief

Arthur Dahlberg, Director of Code Enforcement

Mark Jinks, Assistant City Manager

Gene Swearingen, Director, OMB

Alfred Coleman, Budget/Management Analyst, OMB

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, section 8-1-29(a) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, provides that all fees for permits, inspections and certificates required by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code shall be as established by resolution of the city council; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 1935, adopted by city council on September 28, 1999, which incorporated an attached fee schedule, is the most recent establishment of such fees by the council; and

WHEREAS, city council has determined that the fee schedule set forth in Resolution No. 1935 is in need of amendment and adjustment to change the fees charged for permits that authorize the installation or alteration of fire protection systems, and to implement charges for the annual reinspection and retesting of existing fire protection systems;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE
CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:**

1. That the fee schedule attached hereto, entitled "City of Alexandria, Virginia, Code Enforcement Bureau, Fee Schedule," dated June 11, 2002, is deemed to contain fair and appropriate fees to be paid by persons seeking various permits, inspections and certificates, and other services, from the city's Code Enforcement Bureau;
2. That said fee schedule shall be, and hereby is, approved and incorporated by reference in this resolution, and shall, until amended or rescinded, set forth the fees to be charged for various permits, inspections and certificates that are required by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code and are issued by the city's Code Enforcement Bureau, as well as for other services that are performed by the bureau;
3. That Resolution No. 1935, adopted on September 28, 1999, shall be, and hereby is, rescinded; and
4. That this resolution shall be effective July 1, 2002, and the attached fee schedule shall, from that date on, be in full force and effect.

ADOPTED: _____

KERRY J. DONLEY MAYOR

ATTEST:

Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

CODE ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

FEE SCHEDULE

June 11, 2002

The following is a description of the fees to be charged for various permits and certificates issued by, and for various services performed by, the Alexandria Code Enforcement Bureau. No permit or certificate may be issued, nor service rendered, until the applicable fee has been paid in full. Permits remain the property of the City of Alexandria from time of issuance until time of expiration.

1. **CONSTRUCTION FEES:**

- a. **BASIS OF FEES:** The fee for each permit for new construction shall be six tenths per cent of (0.6%, or .006 times) the estimated total construction costs. The total construction cost shall **include all involved labor and material** valued at the current retail market value **plus overhead and profit.**

Total construction costs for new construction shall be computed by multiplying the total gross square footage of the structure by the figure in Table 1 of the current "Building Valuation Data Report" as published by Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Incorporated, corresponding to the appropriate use group and type of construction. Total gross square footage is defined as the gross area of each floor, including basement and garage, in addition to the horizontal projection of the roof area including roof overhangs. Separate permits are required for specialty items as described below.

EXCEPTION: Modular/factory-built single family homes.

- b. **MODULAR OR FACTORY-BUILT HOMES:** The permit fee for modular or factory-built homes shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- c. **MINIMUM BUILDING PERMIT FEE:** The minimum building permit fee shall be \$40.00.
- d. **ALL OTHER STRUCTURES:** The permit fee for non-residential tenant improvements (alterations, repairs) shall be calculated at .12 per square foot of gross floor area. The gross floor area shall be the floor area within the perimeter of the outside walls of the building or space under construction. The permit fee for specialty items and residential alterations and repairs shall be calculated at one and two-tenths percent (1.2%) of the total construction cost.
- (1) construction of footings and foundations (when special approval is obtained from the Building Official) prior to issuance of a permit for full construction,
 - (2) installation of retaining walls, signs and other miscellaneous structures, and
 - (3) any other construction or installation not mentioned above.

EXCEPTION: Minimum permit fee for non-residential tenant improvements for spaces 1500 square feet and less is \$75.00 unless construction affects structural members, structural loads or arrangement of means of egress, in which case, the

fee shall be calculated at \$0.12 per square foot. Category to be determined by the Building Official.

- e. **EXTENSION OF PERMIT:** The fee to extend the life of a permit shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).
- f. **AMENDMENT OF PERMIT:** The fee to amend a permit to reflect a change in property ownership and/or contractor shall be ten dollars (\$10.00).
- g. **BUILDING CODE MODIFICATION FEE:** The fee to process an application for a modification to the Uniform Statewide Building Code shall be \$100.00.
- h. **CERTIFICATE OF USE AND OCCUPANCY:** The fee for a Certificate of Use and Occupancy for a one or two family dwelling shall be \$125. The fee for a Certificate of Use and Occupancy for a commercial tenant space 500 square feet and less is \$100; for a tenant space between 501 and 1500 square feet shall be \$125 and any space greater than 1500 square feet shall be \$150. A Certificate of Use and Occupancy for the shell and core areas of any building shall be \$500 and the Master Certificate of Use and Occupancy shall be \$150.
- i. **RELOCATION:** The fee for a building permit to remove a building or structure from one lot to another or to a new location on the same lot shall be one and two-tenths percent (1.2%) of the estimated cost of moving plus the cost of new foundations and all work necessary to place the building or structure in its completed condition in the new location.
- j. **DEMOLITION:** The fee for a permit to demolish a building or structure shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each building or structure. A performance bond or cash deposit will be required in the amount of one dollar per square foot (\$1.00/sq. ft.) for the gross square footage of the building to be razed, for the purpose of assuring the completion of demolition, securing the site for public safety, finished grading, sodding/seeding of the site and other necessary measures to prevent soil erosion. The minimum cash deposit or bond shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00). Should the bond/cash deposit not adequately fulfill this purpose, the City of Alexandria shall have the right to place a lien on the property in an amount sufficient to reimburse it for its expenses made to enforce or accomplish compliance with the above to the extent the same are not adequately provided for by the bond.
- k. **DEPOSIT FOR PLANS REVIEW:** For those permit applications which require plans review, twenty percent (20%) of the estimated permit fee will be deposited with the City of Alexandria at the time of submission as payment for the plans

review. This deposit is non-refundable and the amount will be deducted from the total permit fee at the time of permit issuance.

1. **FEE FOR PLAN REVISIONS AND AMENDMENTS:** Applicants will be charged for all plan reviews subsequent to the initial plan review due to revisions or amendments in the plan, and for all changes to approved plans. A flat rate fee of \$50.00 per trade discipline (i.e., plumbing, electrical, mechanical, structural and fire protection) will be assessed for new commercial & multifamily construction plan revisions/amendments. A flat fee of \$25.00 per trade discipline will be assessed for commercial alteration and single family residential plan revisions/amendments.

- m. **MULTIPLE REINSPECTIONS:** Routine inspections are defined as one inspection and one reinspection. In the event that more than one reinspection is required to approve any element of construction, an administrative fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) will be applied to the second and each subsequent reinspection. No second or subsequent reinspection will be conducted unless the applicant has paid any previous administrative reinspection fee.

2(A). **ELECTRICAL FEES (RESIDENTIAL):**

- a. The fee for services in residential use shall be as follows:

		100 Amperes or less	\$ 48.00
	101 to	200 Amperes	\$ 96.00
	201 to	300 Amperes	\$144.00
	301 to	400 Amperes	\$192.00

- b. The fee for supplemental electrical work in one/two family use groups shall be forty dollars (\$40.00).

2(B). **ELECTRICAL FEES (OTHER THAN ONE/TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS):**

- a. **NEW CONSTRUCTION:** The electrical fee for new construction, is included in the base building permit fee. The electrical contractor must obtain an electrical permit at the minimum fee of forty dollars (\$40.00)

- b. **RENOVATION, CONVERSION, GENERAL RECONSTRUCTION:** The electrical fee for renovation, conversion, and general reconstruction shall be two dollars per kilovolt-ampere (\$2.00/kva) rating of each circuit at the service panel, but not less than one and two tenths (1.2%) of estimated cost nor less than forty dollars (\$40.00).

- c. **REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT, APPLIANCES AND DEVICES:** The electrical fee for replacement of equipment, appliances and devices not requiring replacement or new circuit shall be two dollars per kilovolt-ampere (\$2.00/kva) rating of the replacement item, but not less one and two tenths percent (1.2%) of estimated cost nor less than forty dollars (\$40.00).
- d. **SERVICE PANEL REPLACEMENT:** The fee for service panel replacement shall be two dollars per kilovolt-ampere (\$2.00/kva) rating of the new panel, less the kilovolt-ampere (kva) rating of the old panel but not less than one and two tenths percent (1.2%) of the estimated cost nor less than forty dollars (\$40.00).

2(C). **ELECTRICAL FEES (SPECIAL):**

- a. The fees for special electrical permits are as follows:
 - (1) **Electric Signs** - forty dollars (\$40.00)
 - (2) **Transformers** - The permit fee is based on fifteen cents per kilovolt-ampere (\$0.15/kva) rating of the transformer or a minimum permit fee of forty dollars (\$40.00), whichever is higher.
 - (3) **Indoor expositions, exhibitions** - The permit fee is based on five dollars per three thousand square feet (\$5.00/3,000 sq. ft.) of floor area or a minimum permit fee of forty dollars (\$40.00), whichever is higher.
 - (4) **Amusement rides** - Amusement ride inspections are based upon contracts with third party inspectors. The fees to the consumer are calculated at one hundred percent (100%) of the actual cost to the City of Alexandria plus five percent (5%) as administrative fees.
 - (5) **Special electrical equipment** - The permit fee for any special electrical equipment not mentioned above shall be determined by the Building Official based upon the costs involved in the enforcement of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

3. **ELEVATOR PERMIT AND INSPECTION FEES:**

Elevator, escalator, dumbwaiter, chairlift, manlift, and moving walkway inspection and permit fees are based upon the award of annual contracts to qualified third party elevator inspection services. The fees to the consumer are calculated at one hundred per cent (100%) of the actual cost to the City of Alexandria plus five percent (5%) as administrative fees.

4. **PLUMBING PERMIT FEES:**

- a. **NEW CONSTRUCTION:** The plumbing fee for new construction is included in the base building permit fee. The plumbing contractor must obtain a plumbing permit at the minimum fee of forty dollars (\$40.00).
- b. **EXISTING CONSTRUCTION:** The plumbing permit fee for each replacement or alteration to an existing plumbing system shall be forty dollars (\$40.00) per dwelling unit or non-residential occupancy plus two dollars (\$2.00) each for the fourth and subsequent fixtures, but not less than one and two tenths percent (1.2%) of estimated cost.

5. **MECHANICAL PERMIT FEES:**

- a. **NEW CONSTRUCTION:** The mechanical fee for new construction is included in the base building permit fee. The mechanical contractor must obtain a mechanical permit at the minimum fee of forty dollars (\$40.00).
- b. **EXISTING CONSTRUCTION:** The permit fee for the installation of mechanical systems (which includes gas piping) and equipment shall be forty dollars (\$40.00) or one and two-tenths percent (1.2%) of the total cost of purchase and installation, including materials, overhead and labor, whichever is higher.

6. **APPLIANCE FEES (ELECTRICAL OR MECHANICAL):**

The total of permit fees to be collected for the installation of appliances such as garbage disposals, dishwashers, water heaters, air-conditioning units, heating appliances, furnaces and similar equipment shall be forty dollars (\$40.00) or one and two-tenths percent (1.2%) of the total purchase and installation costs, including overhead and labor, whichever is higher.

7. **ADDITIONAL SPECIAL SERVICE FEES:**

- a. **OVERTIME:** Overtime inspections, weekend inspections, holiday inspections, plans review or other use of code enforcement services shall be charged at the rate of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per hour per employee involved in the special service. In the event that this use of special services requires the "call-back" of code enforcement employees, a minimum four-hour service fee will be charged per employee.
- b. **WORK WITHOUT PERMIT:** For all work begun without a permit, for which a permit is necessary, a fee of two times the regular permit fee or two hundred dollars (\$200.00), whichever is lesser, will be surcharged to the regular fee to offset the administrative costs.

8. **FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM PERMIT FEES**

- a. **FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS:** The permit fee for the installation or alteration of fire suppression systems such as fire sprinkler, standpipe or hood systems shall be forty dollars (\$40.00) or three and one-half percent(3.5%) of the total purchase and installation costs including overhead and labor or seven dollars and seventy five cents (\$7.75) per head charge, whichever is greater.

EXCEPTION: No fire protection system permit fee shall be charged for the replacement of Omega sprinkler heads manufactured by the Central Sprinkler Company between 1983 and 1986. All the required inspections following the completion of the work remain intact.

- b. **FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS:** The permit fee for the installation or alteration of fire alarm systems shall be seventy five dollars (\$75.00) plus nine dollars (\$9.00) per each indicating and initiating device or three and one-half percent(3.5%) of the total purchase and installation costs including overhead and labor, whichever is greater.
- c. **FIRE HYDRANT FLOW RATE TESTING FEE:** The fee for fire hydrant flow rate testing shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

9. **RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PERMIT FEE:**

The fee for the issuance or renewal of a residential rental permit shall be \$3.00 per dwelling unit with a minimum fee of \$30.00.

10. **BUILDING MAINTENANCE CODE COMPLIANCE DATE EXTENSION FEE:**

The fee for an extension of time in which to comply with a notice of violation of a building maintenance code violation shall be \$25.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 2031

WHEREAS, section 8-1-29(a) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, provides that all fees for permits, inspections and certificates required by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code shall be as established by resolution of the city council; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 1935, adopted by city council on September 28, 1999, which incorporated an attached fee schedule, is the most recent establishment of such fees by the council; and

WHEREAS, city council has determined that the fee schedule set forth in Resolution No. 1935 is in need of amendment and adjustment to change the fees charged for permits that authorize the installation or alteration of fire protection systems, and to implement charges for the annual reinspection and retesting of existing fire protection systems;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE
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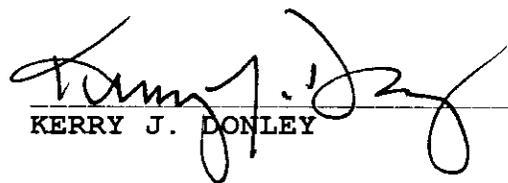
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2. That said fee schedule shall be, and hereby is, approved and incorporated by reference in this resolution, and shall, until amended or rescinded, set forth the fees to be charged for various permits, inspections and certificates that are required by the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code and are issued by the city's Code Enforcement Bureau, as well as for other services that are performed by the bureau;

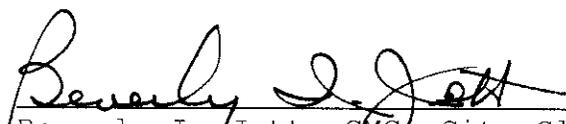
3. That Resolution No. 1935, adopted on September 28, 1999, shall be, and hereby is, rescinded; and

4. That this resolution shall be effective July 1, 2002, and the attached fee schedule shall, from that date on, be in full force and effect.

Adopted: June 11, 2002


KERRY J. DONLEY MAYOR

ATTEST:


Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

CODE ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

FEE SCHEDULE

June 11, 2002

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Total construction costs for new construction shall be computed by multiplying the total gross square footage of the structure by the figure in Table 1 of the current "Building Valuation Data Report" as published by Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Incorporated, corresponding to the appropriate use group and type of construction. Total gross square footage is defined as the gross area of each floor, including basement and garage, in addition to the horizontal projection of the roof area including roof overhangs. Separate permits are required for specialty items as described below.

EXCEPTION: Modular/factory-built single family homes.

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- d. **ALL OTHER STRUCTURES:** The permit fee for non-residential tenant improvements (alterations, repairs) shall be calculated at .12 per square foot of gross floor area. The gross floor area shall be the floor area within the perimeter of the outside walls of the building or space under construction. The permit fee for specialty items and residential alterations and repairs shall be calculated at one and two-tenths percent (1.2%) of the total construction cost.
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 - (3) any other construction or installation not mentioned above.

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- i. **RELOCATION:** The fee for a building permit to remove a building or structure from one lot to another or to a new location on the same lot shall be one and two-tenths percent (1.2%) of the estimated cost of moving plus the cost of new foundations and all work necessary to place the building or structure in its completed condition in the new location.
- j. **DEMOLITION:** The fee for a permit to demolish a building or structure shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each building or structure. A performance bond or cash deposit will be required in the amount of one dollar per square foot (\$1.00/sq. ft.) for the gross square footage of the building to be razed, for the purpose of assuring the completion of demolition, securing the site for public safety, finished grading, sodding/seeding of the site and other necessary measures to prevent soil erosion. The minimum cash deposit or bond shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00). Should the bond/cash deposit not adequately fulfill this purpose, the City of Alexandria shall have the right to place a lien on the property in an amount sufficient to reimburse it for its expenses made to enforce or accomplish compliance with the above to the extent the same are not adequately provided for by the bond.
- k. **DEPOSIT FOR PLANS REVIEW:** For those permit applications which require plans review, twenty percent (20%) of the estimated permit fee will be deposited with the City of Alexandria at the time of submission as payment for the plans

review. This deposit is non-refundable and the amount will be deducted from the total permit fee at the time of permit issuance.

- l. **FEE FOR PLAN REVISIONS AND AMENDMENTS:** Applicants will be charged for all plan reviews subsequent to the initial plan review due to revisions or amendments in the plan, and for all changes to approved plans. A flat rate fee of \$50.00 per trade discipline (i.e., plumbing, electrical, mechanical, structural and fire protection) will be assessed for new commercial & multifamily construction plan revisions/amendments. A flat fee of \$25.00 per trade discipline will be assessed for commercial alteration and single family residential plan revisions/amendments.

- m. **MULTIPLE REINSPECTIONS:** Routine inspections are defined as one inspection and one reinspection. In the event that more than one reinspection is required to approve any element of construction, an administrative fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) will be applied to the second and each subsequent reinspection. No second or subsequent reinspection will be conducted unless the applicant has paid any previous administrative reinspection fee.

2(A). **ELECTRICAL FEES (RESIDENTIAL):**

- a. The fee for services in residential use shall be as follows:

		100 Amperes or less	\$ 48.00
	101 to	200 Amperes	\$ 96.00
	201 to	300 Amperes	\$144.00
	301 to	400 Amperes	\$192.00

- b. The fee for supplemental electrical work in one/two family use groups shall be forty dollars (\$40.00).

2(B). **ELECTRICAL FEES (OTHER THAN ONE/TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS):**

- a. **NEW CONSTRUCTION:** The electrical fee for new construction, is included in the base building permit fee. The electrical contractor must obtain an electrical permit at the minimum fee of forty dollars (\$40.00)

- b. **RENOVATION, CONVERSION, GENERAL RECONSTRUCTION:** The electrical fee for renovation, conversion, and general reconstruction shall be two dollars per kilovolt-ampere (\$2.00/kva) rating of each circuit at the service panel, but not less than one and two tenths (1.2%) of estimated cost nor less than forty dollars (\$40.00).

- c. **REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT, APPLIANCES AND DEVICES:** The electrical fee for replacement of equipment, appliances and devices not requiring replacement or new circuit shall be two dollars per kilovolt-ampere (\$2.00/kva) rating of the replacement item, but not less one and two tenths percent (1.2%) of estimated cost nor less than forty dollars (\$40.00).
- d. **SERVICE PANEL REPLACEMENT:** The fee for service panel replacement shall be two dollars per kilovolt-ampere (\$2.00/kva) rating of the new panel, less the kilovolt-ampere (kva) rating of the old panel but not less than one and two tenths percent (1.2%) of the estimated cost nor less than forty dollars (\$40.00).

2(C). **ELECTRICAL FEES (SPECIAL):**

- a. The fees for special electrical permits are as follows:
 - (1) **Electric Signs** - forty dollars (\$40.00)
 - (2) **Transformers** - The permit fee is based on fifteen cents per kilovolt-ampere (\$0.15/kva) rating of the transformer or a minimum permit fee of forty dollars (\$40.00), whichever is higher.
 - (3) **Indoor expositions, exhibitions** - The permit fee is based on five dollars per three thousand square feet (\$5.00/3,000 sq. ft.) of floor area or a minimum permit fee of forty dollars (\$40.00), whichever is higher.
 - (4) **Amusement rides** - Amusement ride inspections are based upon contracts with third party inspectors. The fees to the consumer are calculated at one hundred percent (100%) of the actual cost to the City of Alexandria plus five percent (5%) as administrative fees.
 - (5) **Special electrical equipment** - The permit fee for any special electrical equipment not mentioned above shall be determined by the Building Official based upon the costs involved in the enforcement of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

3. **ELEVATOR PERMIT AND INSPECTION FEES:**

Elevator, escalator, dumbwaiter, chairlift, manlift, and moving walkway inspection and permit fees are based upon the award of annual contracts to qualified third party elevator inspection services. The fees to the consumer are calculated at one hundred per cent (100%) of the actual cost to the City of Alexandria plus five percent (5%) as administrative fees.

4. **PLUMBING PERMIT FEES:**

- a. **NEW CONSTRUCTION:** The plumbing fee for new construction is included in the base building permit fee. The plumbing contractor must obtain a plumbing permit at the minimum fee of forty dollars (\$40.00).
- b. **EXISTING CONSTRUCTION:** The plumbing permit fee for each replacement or alteration to an existing plumbing system shall be forty dollars (\$40.00) per dwelling unit or non-residential occupancy plus two dollars (\$2.00) each for the fourth and subsequent fixtures, but not less than one and two tenths percent (1.2%) of estimated cost.

5. **MECHANICAL PERMIT FEES:**

- a. **NEW CONSTRUCTION:** The mechanical fee for new construction is included in the base building permit fee. The mechanical contractor must obtain a mechanical permit at the minimum fee of forty dollars (\$40.00).
- b. **EXISTING CONSTRUCTION:** The permit fee for the installation of mechanical systems (which includes gas piping) and equipment shall be forty dollars (\$40.00) or one and two-tenths percent (1.2%) of the total cost of purchase and installation, including materials, overhead and labor, whichever is higher.

6. **APPLIANCE FEES (ELECTRICAL OR MECHANICAL):**

The total of permit fees to be collected for the installation of appliances such as garbage disposals, dishwashers, water heaters, air-conditioning units, heating appliances, furnaces and similar equipment shall be forty dollars (\$40.00) or one and two-tenths percent (1.2%) of the total purchase and installation costs, including overhead and labor, whichever is higher.

7. **ADDITIONAL SPECIAL SERVICE FEES:**

- a. **OVERTIME:** Overtime inspections, weekend inspections, holiday inspections, plans review or other use of code enforcement services shall be charged at the rate of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per hour per employee involved in the special service. In the event that this use of special services requires the "call-back" of code enforcement employees, a minimum four-hour service fee will be charged per employee.
- b. **WORK WITHOUT PERMIT:** For all work begun without a permit, for which a permit is necessary, a fee of two times the regular permit fee or two hundred dollars (\$200.00), whichever is lesser, will be surcharged to the regular fee to offset the administrative costs.

8. **FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM PERMIT FEES**

- a. **FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS:** The permit fee for the installation or alteration of fire suppression systems such as fire sprinkler, standpipe or hood systems shall be forty dollars (\$40.00) or three and one-half percent(3.5%) of the total purchase and installation costs including overhead and labor or seven dollars and seventy five cents (\$7.75) per head charge, whichever is greater.

EXCEPTION: No fire protection system permit fee shall be charged for the replacement of Omega sprinkler heads manufactured by the Central Sprinkler Company between 1983 and 1986. All the required inspections following the completion of the work remain intact.

- b. **FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS:** The permit fee for the installation or alteration of fire alarm systems shall be seventy five dollars (\$75.00) plus nine dollars (\$9.00) per each indicating and initiating device or three and one-half percent(3.5%) of the total purchase and installation costs including overhead and labor, whichever is greater.
- c. **FIRE HYDRANT FLOW RATE TESTING FEE:** The fee for fire hydrant flow rate testing shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

9. **RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PERMIT FEE:**

The fee for the issuance or renewal of a residential rental permit shall be \$3.00 per dwelling unit with a minimum fee of \$30.00.

10. **BUILDING MAINTENANCE CODE COMPLIANCE DATE EXTENSION FEE:**

The fee for an extension of time in which to comply with a notice of violation of a building maintenance code violation shall be \$25.00.