

ORDINANCE NO.2017-04-12

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, TEXAS, REPEALING THE INTERNATIONAL GAS FUEL CODE 2012 EDITION IN ITS ENTIRETY AND REPLACING IT WITH THE ADOPTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL GAS FUEL CODE 2015 EDITION BY ADOPTING CHAPTER 6 BUILDING AND REGULATIONS, ARTICLE 6.04 TECHNICAL AND CONTRUCTION CODES AND STANDARDS, DIVISION 9, FUEL GAS CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE AMENDMENTS TO THERETO; PROVIDING A PENALTY OF FINE NOT TO EXCEED TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

SECTION 1. That Chapter 6 of the Lancaster Code of Ordinances be, and the same is, hereby repealed the International Gas Fuel Code 2012 in its entirety and replacing it with International Gas Fuel Code 2015, by adopting Article 6.04, Division 9, Fuel Gas Code to provide for the amendments to thereto, which shall read as follows:

“ARTICLE 6.04 TECHNICAL AND CONSTRUCTION CODES AND STANDARDS

....

**Division 9. Fuel Gas Code**

**Sec. 6.04.401. Adoption of Fuel Gas Code.**

A certain document, a copy of which is on file in the office of the city secretary of the city, being marked and designated as the International Fuel Gas Code, 2015 Edition, including appendix, as published by the International Code Council; be and is hereby adopted as the fuel gas code of the city, for the purpose of regulating and governing fuel gas systems and gas-fired appliances as herein provided; providing for the issuance of permits and collections of fees therefore; and each and all of the regulations, provisions, penalties, conditions and terms of said fuel gas code on file in the office of the city are hereby referred to, adopted, and made a part hereof, as if fully set out in this article, with the additions, insertions, deletions and changes, if any, prescribed in Section 6.04.402 of this Article.

## Sec. 6.04.402. Exceptions and Amendments

The Fuel Gas Code adopted in this article shall be subject to the exceptions and amendments to the International Fuel Gas Code, 2015 Edition, as follows:

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**To amend Section 102.2 by adding an exception to read as follows:**

**“Exception:** Existing dwelling units shall comply with Section 621.2.”

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**To amend Section 102.8 to read as follows:**

**“102.8 Referenced codes and standards.** The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be those that are listed in Chapter 8 and such codes, when specifically adopted, and standards shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and the referenced standards, the provisions of this code shall apply. Whenever amendments have been adopted to the referenced codes and standards, each reference to said code and standard shall be considered to reference the amendments as well.”

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**To amend Section 306.3 to read as follows:**

**“306.3 Appliances in attics.** Attics containing appliances requiring access shall be provided . . . *{bulk of paragraph unchanged}* . . . side of the appliance. The clear access opening dimensions shall be a minimum of 20 inches by 30 inches (508 mm by 762 mm), or larger where such dimensions are not large enough to allow removal of the largest appliance. A walkway to an appliance shall be rated as a floor as approved by the building official. As a minimum, for access to the attic space, provide one of the following:

1. A permanent stair.
2. A pull down stair with a minimum 300 lb (136 kg) capacity.
3. An access door from an upper floor level.
4. Access Panel may be used in lieu of items 1, 2, and 3 with prior approval of the code official due to building conditions.

**Exceptions:**

1. The passageway and level service space are not required where the appliance is capable of being serviced and removed through the required opening.
2. Where the passageway is not less than ..... *{bulk of section to read the same}*.”

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To amend Section 306.5 to read as follows:

**“306.5 Equipment and appliances on roofs or elevated structures.** Where *equipment* requiring *access* or appliances are located on an elevated structure or the roof of a building such that personnel will have to climb higher than 16 feet (4877 mm) above grade to access, a permanent interior or exterior means of access shall be provided. Permanent exterior ladders providing roof *access* need not extend closer than 12 feet (2438 mm) to the finish grade or floor level below and shall extend to the *equipment* and appliances' level service space. Such *access* shall ..... *{bulk of section to read the same}*..... on roofs having a slope greater than 4 units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33-percent slope). ... *{bulk of section to read the same}*.”

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To amend Section 306.5.1 to read as follows:

**“306.5.1 Sloped roofs.** Where appliances, *equipment*, fans or other components that require service are installed on a roof having a slope of 3 units vertical in 12 units horizontal (25-percent slope) or greater and having an edge more than 30 inches (762 mm) above grade at such edge, a catwalk at least 16 inches in width with substantial cleats spaced not more than 16 inches apart shall be provided from the roof *access* to a level platform at the appliance. The level platform shall be provided on each side of the appliance to which *access* is required for service, repair or maintenance. The platform shall be not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in any dimension and shall be provided with guards. The guards shall extend not less than 42 inches (1067 mm) above the platform, shall be constructed so as to prevent the passage of a 21-inch-diameter (533 mm) sphere and shall comply with the loading requirements for guards specified in the *International Building Code*.”

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To amend Section 306 by adding Section 306.7 with exception and subsection 306.7.1 to read as follows:

**306.7 Water heaters in commercial buildings above ground or floor.** When the attic, roof, mezzanine or platform in which a water heater is installed is more than eight (8) feet (2438 mm) above the ground or floor level, it shall be made accessible by a stairway or permanent ladder fastened to the building.

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To amend Section 401.5 by adding a second paragraph to read as follows:

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Both ends of each section of medium pressure gas piping shall identify its operating gas pressure with an approved tag. The tags are to be composed of aluminum or stainless steel and the following wording shall be stamped into the tag:

"WARNING  
1/2 to 5 psi gas pressure  
Do Not Remove""

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To amend Section 402.3 by adding an exception to read as follows:

“Exception: Corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST) shall be a minimum of 1/2" (18 EHD).”

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To amend Section 404.12 to read as follows:

“404.12. **Minimum burial depth.** Underground piping systems shall be installed a minimum depth of 18 inches (458 mm) top of pipe below grade.”

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To amend Section 406.1 to read as follows:

“406.1 **General.** Prior to acceptance and initial operation, all piping installations shall be inspected and pressure tested to determine that the materials, design, fabrication, and installation practices comply with the requirements of this code. The permit holder shall make the applicable tests prescribed in Sections 406.1.1 through 406.1.5 to determine compliance with the provisions of this code. The permit holder shall give reasonable advance notice to the code official when the piping system is ready for testing. The equipment, material, power and labor necessary for the inspections and test shall be furnished by the permit holder and the permit holder shall be responsible for determining that the work will withstand the test pressure prescribed in the following tests.”

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To amend Section 406.4 to read as follows:

“406.4 **Test pressure measurement.** Test pressure shall be measured with a monometer or with a pressure-measuring device designed and calibrated to read, record, or indicate a pressure loss caused by leakage during the pressure test period. The source of pressure shall be isolated before the pressure tests are made.”

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To amend Section 406.4.1 to read as follows:

“406.4.1 **Test pressure.** The test pressure to be used shall be no less than 3 psig (20 kPa gauge), or at the discretion of the Code Official, the piping and valves may be tested at a pressure of at least six (6) inches (152 mm) of mercury, measured with a manometer or slope gauge. For tests requiring a pressure of 3 psig, diaphragm gauges shall utilize a dial with a minimum diameter of three and one half inches (3 ½”), a set hand, 1/10 pound incrementation and pressure range not to exceed 6 psi for tests requiring a pressure of 3 psig. For tests requiring a pressure of 10 psig, diaphragm gauges shall utilize a dial with a minimum diameter of three and one-half inches (3 ½”), a set hand, a minimum of 2/10 pound incrementation and a pressure range not to exceed 20 psi. For welded piping, and for piping carrying gas at pressures in excess of fourteen (14) inches water column pressure (3.48 kPa) (1/2 psi) and less than 200 inches of water column pressure (52.2 kPa) (7.5 psi), the test pressure shall not be less than ten (10) pounds per square inch (69.6 kPa). For piping carrying gas at a pressure that exceeds 200 inches of water column (52.2 kPa) (7.5 psi), the test

pressure shall be not less than one and one-half times the proposed maximum working pressure.

Diaphragm gauges used for testing must display a current calibration and be in good working condition. The appropriate test must be applied to the diaphragm gauge used for testing.”

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**To amend by deleting Section 406.4.2 and amend to read as follows:**

**“406.4.2 Test duration.** Test duration shall be held for a length of time satisfactory to the Code Official, but in no case for less than fifteen (15) minutes. For welded piping, and for piping carrying gas a pressures in excess of fourteen (14) inches water column pressure (3.48 kPa), the test duration shall be held for a length of time satisfactory to the Code Official, but in no case for less than thirty (30) minutes.”

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**To amend Section 409.1 by adding Section 409.1.4 to read as follows:**

**“409.1.4 Valves in CSST installations.** Shutoff valves installed with corrugated stainless steel (CSST) piping systems shall be supported with an *approved* termination fitting, or equivalent support, suitable for the size of the valves, of adequate strength and quality, and located at intervals so as to prevent or damp out excessive vibration but in no case greater than 12-inches from the center of the valve. Supports shall be installed so as not to interfere with the free expansion and contraction of the system's piping, fittings, and valves between anchors. All valves and supports shall be designed and installed so they will not be disengaged by movement of the supporting piping.”

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**To amend Section 410.1 by adding a second paragraph and exception to read as follows:**

“.....

Access to regulators shall comply with the requirements for access to appliances as specified in Section 306.

**Exception:** A passageway or level service space is not required when the regulator is capable of being serviced and removed through the required attic opening.”

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**To amend Section 621.2 by adding an exception as follows:**

**“621.2 Prohibited use.** One or more unvented room heaters shall not be used as the sole source of comfort heating in a dwelling unit.

**Exception:** Existing approved unvented heaters may continue to be used in dwelling units, in accordance with the code provisions in effect when installed, when approved by the Code Official unless an unsafe condition is determined to exist as described in Section 108.7.”

**SECTION 2.** Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this ordinance or the provisions of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lancaster, Texas, as amended hereby, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction in the municipal court of the City of Lancaster, Texas, shall be subject to a fine not to exceed the sum of Two Thousand (\$2,000.00) dollars for each offense, and each and every day such offense shall continue shall be deemed to constitute a separate offense.

**SECTION 3.** That all provisions of the Ordinances of the City of Lancaster, Texas, in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance be, and the same are hereby, repealed, and all other provisions of the Ordinances of the City not in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

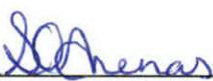
**SECTION 4.** That should any word, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase or section of this ordinance, or of the Code of Ordinances, as amended hereby, be adjudged or held to be void or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of said ordinance or the Code of Ordinances, as amended hereby, which shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 5.** That this ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage as the law and charter in such cases provide.

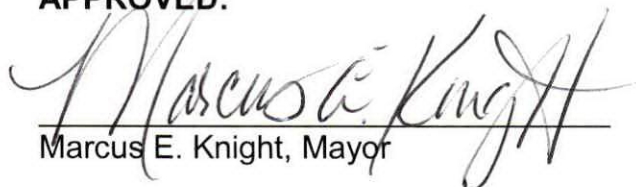
**DULY PASSED** by the City Council of the City of Lancaster, Texas, this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.

**DULY PASSED** and approved by the City Council of the City of Lancaster, Texas, this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.

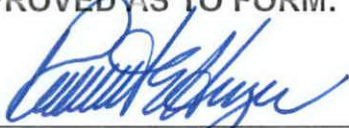
**ATTEST:**

  
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Sorangel O. Arenas, City Secretary

**APPROVED:**

  
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Marcus E. Knight, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



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Robert E. Hager, City Attorney