

AN ORDINANCE relating to the inspection, installation, repairs and maintenance of gas piping, fittings and appliances on consumers' property within the City, and providing for the issuance of permits therefor; providing for the licensing of Gas Fitters installing, repairing and maintaining such gas piping, fittings and appliances; providing fees for such inspection and licensing; providing for the location of compressor stations within the City; and providing for the enforcement of, and penalties for the violation of, this ordinance.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Definitions. Where used in this ordinance, the following words shall have the meaning herein specified unless, from the context, a more limited meaning is clearly indicated.

(1) Certificate of Approval shall mean a document or tag attached to the material, piping, or appliance inspected, completed, dated, identifying the material, appliance or installation approved and signed by the Inspector.

(2) City Engineer shall mean the Bellevue City Engineer or his duly authorized representative.

(3) Consumer shall mean any person, association, municipal corporation, and/or corporation that uses gas, including residential, commercial, and industrial users.

(4) Gas shall include natural, artificial, and/or mixed gas.

(5) Gas Appliance shall include any appliance or device used for burning gas.

(6) Gas Company shall mean any person, firm, or corporation holding and exercising a franchise or permit to distribute gas within the corporate limits of the city.

(7) Gas Company Service Line shall mean the gas piping leading from the gas main to the property line, or to the point of delivery on the consumer's premises.

(8) Gas Fitting. The installation, extension, alteration or repair of gas piping, appliances, vents, measuring devices, regulating valves or appurtenances for the storage, supply, or dispensing of gas.

(9) Gas Fitter shall mean one who does any gas fitting work, installs, repairs, or remodels any piping or appliance which would be subject to supervision and inspection under the provisions of this ordinance.

(10) Inspector shall mean the administrative authority, so designated by the City Manager, or his duly authorized representative.

(11) Person shall mean any person, firm, association, or corporation.

(12) Point of Delivery shall mean the junction of the utility's meter with the consumer's piping.

(13) Premises shall mean the property, including structures, of the consumer.

(14) Vent shall mean a pipe, flue, or chimney designed and/or installed to carry the products of combustion from an appliance to the outside atmosphere.

Sec. 2. No person shall sell, install, maintain or repair any gas appliance, gas pipe or fittings which has not been certified by the Inspector to comply with the standards required by this ordinance.

Sec. 3. Gas Fitter's License Required. No person shall install, extend, alter, or repair any gas appliance or piping pertaining to, or in connection with, gas service on a consumer's premises within the corporate limits of the City unless such person has first applied in writing for, and procured, a Gas Fitter's license therefor in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance: Provided, That nothing herein shall prohibit any person from personally installing gas pipes, gas appliances, or making alterations and repairs on gas pipes and gas appliances or from doing any other work permitted by this ordinance on his own premises, under the following terms and conditions:

(1) He shall apply for and secure a permit.

(2) Pay the required permit fee.

(3) Personally do the work in the manner required by this ordinance, subject to the inspection and approval of the Inspector.

Provided, further, That qualified employees of the gas company, in the course of their employment, may engage in the work and activities mentioned in this section without obtaining a Gas Fitter's license.

Sec. 4. Board of Examiners. There is hereby created a board to be known as a "Board of Examiners" for the purpose of examining applicants for a Gas Fitter's license. Said Board shall consist of the Inspector, who shall act as Clerk of said board, the Chief of the Fire Department or Fire Protection District, or a person designated by him from said department, and three members to be appointed by the City Manager. One of the appointees shall be a representative of a gas company in the city; the second shall be a practical man engaged in gas installation; and the third, any competent person. The three appointed members shall serve for three years, except for the first term, when one shall be appointed for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. At its first regular meeting, said Board of Examiners shall select a Chairman and shall designate the time and place for examination of all applicants desiring to engage in installing gas appliances or gas piping in the city. All applications for such license shall be in writing upon forms to be prescribed by the Inspector. A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum and shall be competent to transact any business. The Clerk of the board shall keep minutes of its meetings. Said board shall examine said applicants as to their practical and theoretical knowledge of gas pipe fitting and of installation and adjustment of gas appliances, shall submit the applicant to some satisfactory form of practical test, and if satisfied of the competence of the applicant, shall so certify to the legislative body of the city which shall authorize the City Clerk to issue a gas fitter's license to such applicant, at which time he shall also cause the applicant to register in the office of the Inspector, his name, place of business, residence, license number, date of examination, and capacity in which he was licensed. In the event the Board of Examiners determines that persons who possess a valid gas fitter's license, issued by the County of King, City of Seattle, or other municipal corporation requiring an examination therefor, is duly qualified without further examination by the City of Bellevue to perform the work of a gas fitter within the

city, such board shall so certify to the City Clerk in the fashion above provided who may issue the gas fitter's license upon payment of the required gas fitter's license fee and the furnishing of the required bond.

Sec. 5. Gas Fitter's License Fee. The annual fee for a licensed gas fitter shall be Five (\$5.00) Dollars for the first year and the renewal fee shall be Three (\$3.00) Dollars per year: Provided, That licenses shall be renewed without the necessity of submitting to re-examination on or before January 15 of each year, unless the licensee has failed to renew his license for a period of two consecutive years; Provided, further, That if application for a license is granted after July 15 of any calendar year, the fee for that year shall be one-half of the annual license fee. Said license shall continue in force during the calendar year and expire on December 31 of the year in which it is issued, unless revoked or suspended during said calendar year, but shall not be transferable.

Sec. 6. Display and Revocation of License. Every licensed gas fitter shall display his current license certificate conspicuously at his principal place of business. Any license granted under the provisions of this ordinance may be suspended or revoked by the Inspector whenever the licensee shall have been convicted of violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance.

Sec. 7. Board of Appeals. In order to determine the suitability of alternate materials and types of construction and to provide for reasonable interpretation of the provisions of this ordinance and to hear appeals from an order of the Inspector, there shall be, and is hereby created, a Board of Appeals, which shall consist of the members of the Board of Examiners, with the exception of the Inspector, who shall act as Secretary of the Board. The Board shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations for conducting its investigations, and shall render all decisions and findings in writing to the Inspector, with a duplicate copy to the appellant; and may recommend to the Council such legislation as is consistent therewith. The Board of Appeals shall meet upon the call of the Inspector or upon application of any person aggrieved by his ruling.

Sec. 8. Enforcement. The Inspector is authorized and directed to cause inspections to be made of all consumer gas installations and gas transmission and distribution systems within the city and to enforce all of the provisions of this ordinance. Upon presentation of proper credentials, the Inspector may require entry to any consumer's building or premises at any reasonable time for the purpose of making inspection or preventing violations of this ordinance.

Sec. 9. Permits for Work on Consumer's Property and Fees. No person shall install, extend, alter, or repair any gas piping or gas appliance pertaining to, or in connection with, a gas system on a consumer's premises within the city without first obtaining a permit in the form prescribed by, and from, the Inspector to do such work. Provided, however, that no permit is required for servicing gas appliances. Such permit shall state the kind of work to be done thereunder, and it shall be unlawful for any person to do or perform any work other than that designated in said permit. Such permit shall also state the location by street and number of the consumer's premises, where such work is to be done, and shall be valid only for the location so stated. A separate permit shall be issued for each consumer's premises and shall terminate ninety days after issuance unless extended by the Inspector for good and sufficient

cause. The Inspector shall collect a fee as provided in Section 10 for each permit issued. Persons failing to obtain permits before commencing work on the installation, alteration, or repair of any gas piping or gas appliances, except as otherwise provided herein, shall be required to pay double the fee herein specified when such permit is finally obtained. The payment of such double fee, however, shall in no way relieve the person of the penalties otherwise provided for the violation of this ordinance. Provided, that in case of an emergency arising out of office hours where an immediate repair may be necessary, said repairs may be made under the express condition that a permit be obtained in the manner herein provided on or before noon of the next following business day.

Sec. 10. Fee Schedule. The following fees shall be paid to the Clerk to obtain permits required by Section 9:

For each appliance having an hourly total input rating of 200,000 Btu. or less where no piping is required . . . \$2.00

For each appliance having an hourly total input rating of more than 200,000 Btu. where no piping is required . . . \$2.50

Gas piping inspections requiring a first and final inspection not exceeding 75 lineal feet including appliances . \$2.50

Gas piping inspections requiring a final inspection only and not exceeding 75 lineal feet including appliances. . \$2.00

Gas piping inspections exceeding 75 lineal feet including appliances \$3.50

When a permit is issued to connect an appliance to an existing stub or outlet, no additional fee will be charged for piping inspection. Where new piping is required to supply the appliance, the above fees for house piping inspection will be collected.

Sec. 11. Records. The Inspector shall keep a record of all gas installations inspected. He shall also keep a record of all licenses and permits issued under this ordinance.

Sec. 12. Piping Diagram. A piping diagram may be required by the Inspector as a condition precedent to the issuance of an installation permit as required by Section 9, if, in the opinion of the inspector, the nature and complexity of the installation requires a record of the method or location of the components of the installation.

Sec. 13. Meter Location. A meter location shall be provided by the consumer for the building or premises to be served, and the location shall be such that the meter connections are easily accessible in order that the meter may be read or changed. No gas meter shall be hereafter installed under a stoop, stairway, show window, or porch, or in an unventilated or confined space, and shall be a safe distance from a furnace, boiler, or other heating appliance. No meter shall be placed in any location where it will be inaccessible or exposed to injury, such as driveways, nor where it will be subjected to excessive corrosion.

Sec. 14. Piping Inspection.

(1) Inspector to be Notified for Inspection. When any work done under a permit issued by the Inspector is completed and ready for inspection, the person to whom the permit has been

issued shall, within twenty-four hours after completion of said work, notify the Inspector in writing that the same has been completed and is ready for inspection, and the Inspector shall cause said work to be inspected within a reasonable time thereafter.

(2) Test or Final Piping Inspection. Test or final piping inspection shall be made by the inspector after all piping authorized by the permit has been installed and before any portions thereof which are to be concealed by plastering or otherwise, have been so concealed, and before any fixtures or gas appliances have been attached thereto. This inspection shall include a pressure test, at which time the piping shall stand an air pressure equal to not less than the pressure of a column of mercury six (6) inches in height, and the piping shall hold this air pressure for a period of at least ten (1) minutes without any perceptible drop in pressure. A U-Gauge type mercury column shall be used for the test.

(3) Tools, Apparatus, and Labor for Test. All tools, apparatus, labor and assistance necessary for the test shall be furnished by the permittee.

(4) Inspection on Renewal of Service. No gas company shall reconnect gas service to any consumer's premises to which no gas has been delivered for a period of twelve (12) months unless a new certificate of approval is provided by the city inspector, for which there shall be a fee of 50% of the initial fee, or a certificate of approval furnished by their gas company after its own inspection of the system.

Sec. 15. Certificate of Approval. The Inspector shall issue a certificate of approval at the completion of the work for which a specific permit has been issued, if, after inspection, it is found that such work has complied with the provisions of this ordinance and all other requirements of law or ordinance applicable thereto. A duplicate of each certificate of approval, in the form of a tag attached to the gas piping, shall be used by the gas company as its authority to grant gas service.

Sec. 16. Defective Work or Materials. If the inspection shall show that defective materials have been used or defective workmanship has been performed in the installation, alteration, repair, or extension of any gas pipe, fixture, or appliance in, or on, any consumer's premises, such defective materials or work shall be replaced by the permit holder within three (3) days and the inspection repeated.

Sec. 17. Dangerous or Defective Piping or Appliance, Disconnection of by Order of Inspector.

(1) The Inspector may cause to be disconnected any gas piping, fixture, or appliance, which has been connected before a certificate of approval has been issued, or which, upon inspection, shall be found defective or in such condition as to endanger life or property. In all cases in which such a disconnection is made, a notice shall be affixed thereto and shall state that the same has been disconnected by the Inspector, together with the reason or reasons therefor, and it shall be unlawful for any person to remove said notice or to reconnect said gas piping, fixture, or appliance until authorized by the Inspector to do so.

(2) The Inspector shall have the duty, responsibility, and right of access to inspect all gas appliances in public buildings, commercial buildings, and industrial plants in connection with the enforcement of fire regulations.

Sec. 18. Discontinuance or Refusal of Service.

(1) The gas company may discontinue or refuse to supply gas for any gas piping, fixture, or gas appliance which it may find to be defective or leaking, or in such condition as to endanger life or property; Provided, however, That the gas company shall immediately give written notice of discontinuance or refusal of service or of dangerous or defective condition to the Inspector and the occupant of the consumer's building or premises where such gas supply is discontinued or refused or such dangerous condition is known to exist. The Inspector shall immediately make an investigation of the conditions reported by the gas company, and it shall be unlawful for any person to reconnect any gas piping fixture, or appliance, until authorized by the Inspector.

(2) In all cases in which the supplying of gas has been discontinued for safety reasons, the supplying of gas shall not be resumed until authorized by the Inspector. Provided, however, That if the gas has been turned off by a gas fitter or an employee of the gas company while doing work on the premises, such gas fitter or employee is entitled to turn on the gas again when he has finished the work, without authorization from the Inspector.

Sec. 19. Requirements of New or Used Gas Appliances and Accessories.

(1) All gas appliances and accessories installed for domestic or commercial use shall comply with, and be of a design and construction of, applicable American Standard Approval, Listing, and Installation Requirements for gas appliances and accessories covering safe operation, substantial and durable construction, acceptable performance, and installation of the American Gas Association, Inc., and adopted by the American Standards Association, Inc., and as hereafter amended; Provided, however, That industrial and other specialized appliances and equipment not included in the above requirements of the American Gas Association, Inc., and adopted by the American Standards Association, Inc., may be sold and installed upon approval by the Inspector. Each appliance approved by the American Gas Association, Inc., shall be so marked or labeled with a distinctive trade-mark or name as a means of identification and shall bear information showing the rated heat input in Btu. per hour. Each new gas appliance approved by the American Gas Association, Inc., shall be considered an approved appliance and shall also be so marked and labeled. All new hot water heaters and heating appliances shall also be equipped with an American Gas Association approved shutoff type automatic pilot.

(2) All used gas appliances hereafter sold or offered for sale or installed shall be approved by the Inspector for safety, and shall be identified accordingly. Used gas appliances shall be connected to gas outlets for use at the time of inspection. In the event the appliance has been used with Butane, Propane, or other liquid petroleum gases, it shall be subject to approval by the Inspector as having been properly converted for use with natural gas or any admixture thereof. All existing yard pipe lines and those hereafter installed shall conform to this ordinance.

Sec. 20. Conversion of Piping and Appliances to Natural Gas.
Before a natural gas supply is furnished by the gas company to a consumer who has been previously using Butane, Propane, or other liquefied petroleum or manufactured gases, the consumer shall secure a permit from the Inspector showing compliance with this ordinance

after an inspection shall have been made by the Inspector of the piping and appliances on the consumer's premises.

Sec. 21. Conversion from Nongas Fuel to Natural Gas. Furnaces, boilers, or other types of heating equipment designed to burn fuel other than gas shall not be converted to burn gas until such equipment has been approved for conversion by the Inspector. All heating appliances which are converted to gas shall be vacuum cleaned and brushed down.

Sec. 22. Proper Installation.

(1) Every gas appliance hereafter installed shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of gas piping and gas appliances in buildings set forth in the NBFU No. 54, Standards of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for the Installation of Gas Piping and Gas Appliances in Buildings, dated September, 1954, NBFU No. 58, Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases, dated July, 1954, and NBFU No. 59, Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases at Utility Gas Plants, dated July, 1954, and as said codes may be amended. Every gas appliance hereafter installed shall be so located that it can be readily adjusted and shall be properly adjusted by the person making the installation to insure safe operation of the burners and proper combustion of the gas.

(2) In no case shall an appliance be fired or adjusted to pass a greater amount of gas than the rated capacity.

Sec. 23. Devices for Reducing Gas Consumption, Regulation of. No person shall, without the approval of the Inspector, display, sell, barter, replace, offer for sale, lease, deal in, supply, rent, donate, connect, install, or use within the corporate limits of the city any device purporting to reduce gas consumption when such device is intended as an adjunct, or addition to, a gas appliance, or to be suspended above, or wholly or partially to enclose, any burner of a gas appliance in such manner as to reduce the effectiveness of ignition of the gas issuing from the burner or impair combustion of said burner.

Sec. 24. Unlawful Restoration of Gas and Bypassing of Meter. It shall be unlawful for any person, by any means, to restore the flow of gas through pipes which have been shut off either by the gas company or the Inspector, or to cause gas supplied by the gas company to bypass the meter by which the amount of gas supplied by the gas company is measured, and such acts shall be prosecuted according to the terms contained in this ordinance.

Sec. 25. Permit Required. No person shall engage in the business or transmitting or distributing gas within the City of Bellevue without obtaining a franchise therefor from the City Council nor without complying with the provisions of this and other pertinent ordinances of this city as now existing or hereafter adopted and amended.

Sec. 26. Compressor Stations. No gas company shall locate or construct a gas compressor station within the City of Bellevue, without having first procured permission therefor from the City Council of the City of Bellevue.

Sec. 27. Adoption by Reference. The following, and as the same also may hereafter be amended, are hereby adopted by reference and shall be observed:

(1) Appliances:

American Standard Requirements for Installation of Domestic Gas Conversion Burners, Z21.8

American Standard Requirements for Installation of Gas Equipment in Large Boilers, Z21.33

American Standard Requirements for Installation of Gas Conversion Burners in Domestic Ranges, Z21.38

NBFU No. 54, Standards of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for the Installation of Gas Piping and Gas Appliances in Buildings, dated September, 1954.

NBFU No. 58, Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases, dated July, 1954

NBFU No. 59, Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases at Utility Gas Plants, dated July, 1954.

Sec. 28. Conflicting Provisions. In the event any of the provisions of this ordinance conflict with any other provisions of this ordinance, with any other ordinances of this city, or with the standards embodied in state and federal laws and rules and regulations, the provisions containing the highest standards shall be observed.

Sec. 29. Penalties. Any person, firm, or corporation that shall fail to comply with, or violate, any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in an amount not exceeding \$300.00 or by imprisonment in the city jail not exceeding 90 days, or by both such fine or imprisonment.

Sec. 30. Validity. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Sec. 31. Title of Ordinance. This ordinance shall be known as the "Gas Ordinance" of Bellevue.

Sec. 32. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect five (5) days from, and after, its passage, approval, and legal publication as provided by law.

PASSED by the City Council on the 8th day of October, 1957, and signed in authentication of its passage this 8th day of October, 1957.

Approved as to Form:

Joseph M. Kelly
City Attorney

(SEAL)

Attest:

Dean A. Schuler
Clerk

Published: October 17, 1957

W. J. Schuler
Mayor

FILED
CITY OF BELLEVUE
DATE Oct 9, 1957
CITY CLERK Dean A. Schuler