

**ORDINANCE NO. 1416-2013**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 9, *ELECTRICITY*, OF THE CITY OF PEARLAND CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS IT MAY HAVE BEEN, FROM TIME TO TIME, AMENDED, TO AMEND SECTION 9-153, ENTITLED *ADOPTED*, SECTION 9-157, ENTITLED *WIRING GENERALLY*, AND SECTION 9-159, ENTITLED *INSTALLATION OF SERVICE CONDUIT, WIRES, ETC.*; HAVING A SAVINGS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND A REPEALER CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS:**

**Section 1.** That Article VII, *Electrical Code*, of Chapter 9, *Electricity*, of the City of Pearland Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended to AMEND Section 9-153, entitled *Adopted*, to read as follows:

**“9-153. Electrical code adopted.**

(a) All electrical construction and all materials and appliances used in connection with the installation, maintenance and operation of electrical wiring, apparatus or equipment for utilization of the service for the supply company in providing electrical energy for light, heat or power, inside or attached to buildings or property within the jurisdiction of the city shall conform to such special rules and regulations as may be embodied in this or other ordinances of the city and to the 2011 Edition of the Rules and Regulations of the National Fire Protection Association (National Electrical Code - NFPA 70) for the installation of wiring and apparatus for electrical purposes, as they are now established; and such rules and regulations are hereby adopted and approved as part of this chapter.

(b) The 2011 Edition of the National Electrical Code is amended as follows:

(1) Section (a)230-70, *Location*, is deleted in its entirety.

(c) Notwithstanding any contrary provisions in the 2011 Edition of the National Electrical Code, modular or manufactured wiring systems which are UL approved may be used for lighting purposes only.”

**ORDINANCE NO. 1416-2013**

**Section 2.** That Article VII, *Electrical Code*, of Chapter 9, *Electricity*, of the City of Pearland Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended to AMEND Section 9-157, entitled *Wiring Generally*, to read as follows:

**“9-157. Wiring generally.**

- (a) Approved rigid metal conduit or electrical metallic cable or under-floor cast-in-place raceways, shall be required for all wires used to conduct current for light, heat or power, in the wiring of all new buildings and in all old buildings or additions thereof within the fire limits of the city, as they are now or may hereafter be established, and in churches, schools, hotels, theaters and commercial buildings within the jurisdiction of the city.
- (b) Gasoline filling stations will be wired according to the latest rules and regulations of the National Board of Fire Protection Association.
- (c) The use of pancake boxes is not permitted except for bathrooms and cornice overhangs.
- (d) Ground fault circuit interrupter protection will be required in places of public assembly. A place of assembly is a building or other structure designed or intended for the assembly of fifty (50) or more persons.
- (e) All central electrical heating systems installed in duct work must have no fuse disconnection in the attic.
- (f) All plug outlets in a residence must have #12 circuits.”

**Section 3.** That Article VII, *Electrical Code*, of Chapter 9, *Electricity*, of the City of Pearland Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended to AMEND Section 9-159, entitled *Installation of Service Conduit, Wires, etc.*, to read as follows:

**“9-159. Installation of service conduit, wires, etc.**

- (a) The service conduit and wires leading from the outside of the customer's building to the meter cabinet and main line switch are to be supplied, owned and controlled by the property owner but the installation of service drops and the connection of these wires to the supply lines is to be made by the public service

**ORDINANCE NO. 1416-2013**

company owning and operating the supply lines. The owner must provide a location for brackets or other attachments to the building to which the service wires are to be connected. Such location shall be not more than eighteen (18) inches from the service conduit outlet. On residences of one story or more, the location shall be as high as is practical on the building, but in no event shall it be more than twenty-five (25) nor less than ten (10) feet from the ground. In the business district, where the service is fed from alley construction, the location shall be at the ceiling of the first floor, if not less than ten (10) feet from the ground. The location for the service bracket must be on the building at a point nearest to or more accessible to the supply lines of the public service company.

(b) The service outlets shall be no more than twenty-five (25) feet nor less than ten (10) feet from the ground and must be so located as to not be within reach from any porch or stair landing, and shall be so located as to afford direct unobstructed space for stringing the service drops from the service outlet to the public service company's service mains.

(c) No service wire of size smaller than 2 awg aluminum or 2 awg copper (125 buss amp panel service) will be allowed between the point where the service drops of the power company terminate on the owner's premises and the main company line entrance switch, and such wire will be enclosed in not less than a two-inch schedule 40 PVC underground conduit. All underground services shall be completely installed in conduit from the meter can to the public service company transformer or the public service company underground tap box, at that point the conduit may stop as per the public service company specifications.

(d) Not less than three (3) feet of each conductor shall be left at the service head for connection to service wire from the public service company service drop. Where underground service is supplied to the meter service and where the switch box is designed for aluminum and copper wires, aluminum conductors will be allowed.

(e) The service entrance conduit shall not be smaller than one and one-quarter (1¼) inch conduit above ground level or two-inch schedule 40 PVC conduit for underground installation.

(f) The service entrance conduit of residences, apartments and combination residences and commercial or industrial establishments must be run exposed on the outside of the building from the point where such conduit contacts the service drops of the public service company.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1416-2013**

(g) The service entrance cable shall not be used as a feeder within any building.

(h) Aluminum U.S.E. conductors are permitted for use only on underground residential service and shall be installed in conduit. Aluminum conductors that serve as feeders to sub-panels or main feeders to multi-family units may be used upon the approval of the building official. In no case will aluminum conductors be used for branch circuits.

(i) All electrical service disconnecting means for all occupancies shall be installed on the exterior of all buildings. Exception: A commercial service disconnecting means shall only be allowed to be located in the interior of a building provided that:

- (1) An exterior lockable doorway approved by the fire marshal is available providing access to the disconnecting means;
- (2) Approval is granted by the electrical inspector and the fire marshal;
- (3) A key is made available to the fire marshal.”

**Section 4. Savings.** All rights and remedies which have accrued in favor of the City under this Ordinance and amendments thereto shall be and are preserved for the benefit of the City.

**Section 5. Severability.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

**Section 6. Repealer.** All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed but only to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 7. Codification.** It is the intent of the City Council of the City of Pearland, Texas, that the provisions of this Ordinance shall be codified in the City's official Code of Ordinances as provided hereinabove.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1416-2013**

**Section 8. Effective Date.** The City Secretary shall cause this Ordinance, or its caption and penalty, to be published in the official newspaper of the City of Pearland, upon passage of such Ordinance. The Ordinance shall then become effective on August 1, 2013.

PASSED and APPROVED on FIRST READING this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, A.D., 2013.

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TOM REID  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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YOUNG LORFING, TRMC  
CITY SECRETARY

PASSED and APPROVED on SECOND and FINAL READING this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, A.D., 2013.

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TOM REID  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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YOUNG LORFING, TRMC  
CITY SECRETARY

**ORDINANCE NO. 1416-2013**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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DARRIN M. COKER  
CITY ATTORNEY