

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
BOARD OF BUILDING REGULATION EXAMINERS AND APPEALS**

MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

September 22, 2021

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 5:16 pm. by Chair Strait.

Board Present

Scott Bohne
Eric Cowling
Don McCann
Craig Fredeen
Sterling Strait
Royal Fields

Board Absent

Tyler Loken
Troy Feller
Keith Sobolesky

Staff Present

Robert Doehl
Ross Noffsinger
Becky Hellman
Yars Dovba
Victor Fosberg
Phillip Calhoun
Don Hickel
Sandra Ovitt
Gretchen Stuller

Public Participation

John Weddleton
Eric Visser
Bill Taylor
David Abuobaid
Tim Thomas

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mr. Fredeen moved to approved with minor changes. Mr. Bohne second and the agenda was approved with changes.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. Minutes of July 15, 2021

Mr. Bohne moved to approve. Mr. Field second. Unanimously approved.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Chair Strait read into record a Proclamation from Mayor Bronson recognizing Royal Field for his nine years of volunteer service on the Board. Staff and the Board all thanked Royal for his service.

- b. **OMNIBUS ORDINANCE AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 23 TO PROVIDE CLARITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CODE AND RELATED MATTERS.**

Chair Strait opened the discussion by asking staff to provide an overview of the omnibus ordinance.

Staff noted this document came from the administration. Many ideas were brought forward to make Building Safety and Permitting more efficient, more effective and emphasis on getting rid of or reducing or changing things that were unnecessary. This is a compilation of those ideas.

This was introduced to the Assembly and by motion of Assemblymember Weddleton remanded to you for discussion and feedback. We've also had some other feedback from industry that I believe you've been provided, an Enstar letter, a letter from IAMPO and an email from the State, which has not been sent to you yet. The state notified us; they believe some of the provisions exceed the delegation of authority. Sections 19 and 20 concerning the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) and National Electrical Code (NEC) they believe that it would be a less

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stringent standard than the state, so I would not see those going forward. **The Board agreed Sections 19 and 20 should be pulled from the ordinance.**

Staff gave a brief overview of the ordinance section by section. After some discussion, the board agreed to go section by section and if the section was considered too lengthy or contentious, it would be tabled for later discussion.

Sections 1, 2, 11, 13, 15: Deletion of contractor and trades people licensing. Tabled for further discussion. The Board requests more information on the proposed change such as who requested the change, why and what is the objective.

Section 3: Increase the monetary threshold for when permits are required for specific work. The board proposes to revise the amendment as follows:

- U. Repair or replacement of exterior wall and roof coverings where the total cost of repair or replacement using fair market value of materials and labor does not exceed \$5,000. Work that does not require a permit such as painting need not be included in the total cost.
- V. Repair or replacement of gypsum wall board wall and ceiling finish material where the total cost of repair or replacement using fair market value of materials and labor does not exceed \$10,000 [\$5,000]. Work that does not require a permit such as painting need not be included in the total cost. This exception does not apply to code required fire resistive construction.

Section 4: Replacement of light fixture with LED fixture. The Board lacks sufficient information to support the proposed change and requests the reasoning and/or objective for the proposed change.

Section 5: Temporary structures. The Board lacks sufficient information to support the proposed change and requests the reasoning and/or objective for the proposed change.

Sections 6, 10, 12: Residential permit fee revision for projects valued at \$40,000 and less. The Board is concerned about the loss of revenue for the department supported by revenue. Board lacks sufficient information to support the proposed change and requests reasoning and/or objective for the proposed change.

Section 7: Provision to audit residential projects that have not undergone municipal plan review. The Board does not support the proposed change.

Section 8: Expiration of plan review. The Board supports the proposed change.

Section 9: Expiration of permit. The Board supports the proposed change.

Section 14: Onsite fees. The Board supports the proposed change.

Section 16: Modifications to ASCE 7 correction. The Board supports the proposed change.

Section 17: Special inspection pre-approval program correction. The Board supports the proposed change.

Section 18: Seismic design categories D through F correction. The Board supports the proposed change.

