



CITY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

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ELECTRICIANS EXAMINING BOARD

MINUTES
June 10, 2024

The Regular Quarterly meeting of the City of Reading (COR) Electrical Examining Board was convened in the 3rd Fl. Conference Rm, City Hall, on Monday, June 10, 2024, as mandated by COR Ordinance #56-2022 §180.1102.5 at 4:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Geoff Litwin called the meeting to order as per the agenda at 4:25PM

Secretary Tim Waldman read the Roll Call

PRESENT (6) Geoff Litwin, Todd Rathman, Tim Pelter, Jeff Hartmen, Jose Delfi, Tim Waldman

ABSENT (1) Bryan Anderson

COR- The COR does not currently have an Electrical Inspector on staff.

Chief Building Official, Brian Willicombe, and Diane (?), Building/Trades Secretary were in attendance representing the COR

MINUTES: A motion was made by Todd Rathman, second by Tim Pelter, to approve the minutes of the 3/4/2023 Board Meeting **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

APPLICANTS FOR TESTING/LICENSING: Mr Willicombe did not bring any license applications to the meeting, therefore, the Electrical Examining Board was not able to review any applications for electrical license testing, or any applications for reciprocal license issuance as per COR Ordinance #56-2022 §180.702.8

Mr. Willicombe inquired as to the purpose of the Board relating to licensing.

Chairman Litwin informed Mr. Willicombe that the Electrical Examining Board reviews and approves or denies ALL applications for NEW COR issued electrical licenses.

Chairman Litwin also informed Mr. Willicombe that there have not been any electrical license applications presented to the board for approval since September 2023

Secretary Waldman also noted that the COR electrical license application on the COR website for Master and Journeyman Electrician makes no reference at all to the requirement for Electrical Board approval.

Chairman Litwin, and Mr. Pelter also inquired as to how, and why are electrical licenses being issued without Electrical Board approval for almost 1 year.

Mr. Willicombe had no answer, and stated he would need to check with Chris Geltz, who is still in charge of everything.

The members expressed hope that license applications would be presented in September 2024, but were doubtful it would happen.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Secretary Waldman reported on the joint trade board meeting that was held on 3/20/2024. There were no resolutions, and the administration (Managing Director Heim) was present, he offered no comment on any of the issues presented. A follow-up meeting is being discussed, but no date has been set. Until then, its status quo, which is still unacceptable to all 3 of the COR Trade Boards.



FAX: (610) 655-2000

A discussion was held regarding the statistical information regarding electrical permits and electrical licenses issued by the COR Building/Trades Division that was discussed at the last meeting. Secretary Tim Waldman attempted to get this information but was met with no response from the COR Legal Department.

Secretary Waldman met with Mark Pinkasavage, former COR Electrical Board member, and business agent of IBEW Local 743, to discuss these issues. Mr Pinkasavage stated that he will attempt to get this information by other means.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr Brian Willicombe introduced himself as the new Chief Building Official for the COR.

Mr Willicombe stated that it is his opinion that the COR Electrical Ordinance does not “officially” recognize this board as the written names are different. Where the COR Electrical Ordinance mentions an Electrical Appeals Board, and the COR website references an Electrical Examining Board.

Mr Willicombe stated that this board is not permitted to rule on appeals to the COR Electrical Code and must be referred to the COR Building and Fire Code Appeals Board.

Secretary Waldman disagreed with this opinion and stated that Section 1101.1 of the COR Electrical Ordinance clearly states the Electrical Board duties.

Secretary Waldman also stated that the Electrical Appeals Board and the Electrical Examining Board are one and the same entity. The COR Electrical Board duties also includes the hearing of appeals of the COR Electrical Code, as well as reviewing COR Electrical License applications.

Mr. Willicombe stated that he is consulting with COR Solicitor Fred Lachat regarding this. The goal of this consultation is unknown.

Secretary Waldman suggested that Mr. Willicombe consult with the Building and Fire Code appeals Board Solicitor, Michele Mayfield, for clarification.

Secretary Waldman also stated that this board has heard COR Electrical Code appeals in the past and is certainly authorized to do so in the future.

A discussion regarding plan requirements for electrical permits followed. Chairman Litwin called the meeting back to order as electrical plan requirements was not a responsibility of this board.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

A discussion was held regarding the continued lack of adherence to the COR Electrical Ordinance. Mr. Willicombe stated that he will take this sentiment back to Chris Geltz.

This Board still feels that the COR Electrical Ordinance, along with long established policies and procedures are still being ignored by the current administration and the Building/Trades Division.

ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion was made by Tim Pelter, second by Jeff Hartmen. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**
Meeting Adjourned at 5:08PM

Next Meeting: Monday, September 9, 2024, at 4:30PM in the 3rd Fl. Conference Room of City Hall

Respectfully Submitted,



Timothy F. Waldman
Recording Secretary