

ORDINANCE NO. {{item.sequential_number}}

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TEMPLE, TEXAS, APPROVING THE 2023 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE-MANDATED REGULATIONS; AND PROVIDING AN OPEN MEETINGS CLAUSE.

Whereas, under Chapter 214 of the Texas Local Government Code (LGC), which governs the municipal regulation of housing, buildings, and other structures, local governments in Texas are granted the authority to adopt and enforce building codes to promote public health, safety, and general welfare - this includes regulations related to construction, maintenance, and safety standards for structures within a local government's jurisdiction;

Whereas, one critical component of these codes is the electrical code, which sets the standards for the installation and maintenance of electrical systems - the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) is the state agency charged with the responsibility of adopting the most current version of the National Electrical Code (NEC) for use throughout Texas;

Whereas, the NEC, published by the National Fire Protection Association, is a widely adopted standard for the safe installation of electrical wiring and equipment in the United States - TDLR is also responsible for the licensing and practice of electricians in the State of Texas and requires all licensed electricians to comply with the most current version of the NEC when conducting their work;

Whereas, TDLR has formally adopted the 2023 edition of the NEC - this adoption provides the framework for municipalities across Texas to incorporate the 2023 NEC into their local ordinances, ensuring that electrical work within their communities complies with the latest safety and efficiency standards;

Whereas, while municipalities are not automatically required to adopt the newest version, Chapter 214 empowers them to do so at the local level, enabling uniformity and up-to-date practices across jurisdictions;

Whereas, LGC § 1305.101 requires TDLR to adopt a revised version of the NEC every three years as the electrical code for Texas - as of August 12, 2022, the 2023 NEC has been adopted by Rule 73.100 of Title 16 of the Texas Administrative Code;

Whereas, because TDLR has adopted the most recent version of the NEC, licensed electrical contractors in Texas are required to perform all electrical installations in accordance with the standards outlined in that code;

Whereas, compliance with the adopted NEC is not optional; it is a legal requirement for all licensed professionals operating within the State of Texas - as a result, local building and electrical inspectors are also obligated to enforce and inspect installations based on the 2023 NEC;

Whereas, the role of local building and electrical inspectors is to ensure that all electrical work complies with the current code to maintain safety, reliability, and consistency across residential, commercial, and industrial projects - this alignment between what contractors must follow and what inspectors must enforce is essential for upholding code compliance, minimizing hazards, and supporting statewide uniformity in electrical safety standards;

Whereas, this process also includes coordination with nearby municipalities close to the jurisdiction to promote regional consistency and to enhance code compliance;

Whereas, Staff recommends Council approve the 2023 NEC in accordance with state-mandated regulations; and

Whereas, the City Council has considered these matters and deems it in the public interest to authorize these actions.

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

Part 1: Findings. All of the above premises are hereby found to be true and correct legislative and factual findings of the City Council of the City of Temple, Texas, and they are hereby approved and incorporated into the body of this Ordinance as if copied in their entirety.

Part 2: The City Council approves the 2023 National Electrical Code in accordance with state-mandated regulations.

Part 3: It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act.

PASSED AND APPROVED on First Reading and Public Hearing on the 1st day of May, 2025.

PASSED AND APPROVED on Second and Final Reading on the 15th day of May, 2025.

THE CITY OF TEMPLE, TEXAS

TIMOTHY A. DAVIS, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Jana Lewellen
City Secretary

Kathryn H. Davis
City Attorney