

; 06/20/17 4:19 PM
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;;;BOSTON CITY COUNCIL 3:30PM
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MICHAEL FLAHERTY THE CHAIR OF
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE.
TODAY IS JUNE 20th, 2017, AND
WE ARE HERE TODAY TO DISCUSS
DOCKET 0655,
MESSAGE AND ORDINANCE AMENDING
THE BOSTON FIRE PREVENTION CODE
ARTICLE 8, HOT WORK OPERATIONS.
THIS MATTER WAS SPONSORED BY
MAYOR MARTIN WALSH, REFERRED TO
THE COMMITTEE BACK ON MAY 3rd.
IF ALL RECALL, LAST YEAR, THE
CITY COUNCIL PASSED SIMILAR
LEGISLATION TO BE CONSISTENT
WITH THE STATE AND NATIONAL
REGULATIONS AND DEFINITIONS BY
REPLACING PROVISIONS OF THE
WELDING AND CUTTING ARTICLE WITH
THE MORE INCLUSIVE REGULATION OF
HOT WORK.
THIS ORDINANCE LOOKS TO AMEND
THE BOSTON FIRE PREVENTION CODE
TO DELARFY SEVERAL PROVISIONS
UPDATING THE TERMINOLOGY AND
ENSURING CONSISTENCY WITH
CURRENT PRACTICES.
AND JOINING US TODAY IS CONNIE
WONG WHO IS THE DEPUTY
COMMISSIONER LABOR RELATIONS
HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEGAL ANARES
OF THE BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
AND ALSO WE ARE JOINED BY OUR
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF JACK DEMPSEY,
FIRE MARSHAL FROM THE BOSTON
FIRE DEPARTMENT.
SO WITH THAT, I'M GOING TO ALLOW
YOU TO OPEN AND THEN WE'LL HAVE
A LITTLE Q&A AND TRY TO GET THIS
MOVING AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR.
THANK YOU FOR HOSTING THIS
HEARING.
AS YOU INDICATED, LAST SUMMER,
WE PASSED THE ORDINANCE TO AMEND
ARTICLE 8 TO INCLUDE HOT WORKS
AND A KEY PART OF THAT ORDINANCE
WAS THE HOT WORKS CERTIFICATION

PROGRAM THAT THE BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ASSOCIATION SMEAR HEADED AND BASED ON THAT WE'VE GOT A LOT OF THE POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM THE CONTRACTORS AND WORKING WITH THAT ORDINANCE IN THE LAST NEAR LAY YEAR NOW, IT'S COME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT WE NEED TO STREAMLINE AND CLARIFY A NUMBER OF THE OTHER PROVISIONS IN THE ARTICLE TO MAKE IT SIMPLIFIED AND EASIER TO READ FOR THE CONTRACTORS.

SO WITH THAT, I WILL TURN IT OVER TO CHIEF JACK DEMPSEY. HE CAN GIVE MORE UPDATES ON WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON AS WELL AS WHAT WE ARE ASKING TO CLARIFY TODAY.

>> THANK YOU, CONNIE.

AND WELCOME, CHIEF.

THANK YOU.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON, COUNCILOR.

THANK YOU FOR HAVING US HERE TODAY.

AS CONNIE MENTIONED, WE PASSED THE ORDINANCE LAST YEAR AND THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF PROGRESS SINCE THEN, AND I'LL JUST GO OVER SOME OF THE NUMBERS THAT WE HAVE.

WE'RE TRAINING 16,000 THEE 16 MEMBERS SINCE MID-OCTOBER.

THAT'S WHEN WE STARTED THE TRAINING.

OUT OF THAT, 13,979 ARE UNION WORKERS AND 2,337 ARE NONUNION.

I'VE BEEN WORKING CLOSELY TO MAKE SURE THAT THE COURSES KEPT RELEVANT TO ALL THE TRADES.

AND ONE OF THE OTHER THINGS WE HAD TO DO WAS WE FOUND OUT AS WE WERE GOING ALONG, WE HAD TO MAKE THIS MULTILINGUAL.

SO ONE THING THAT WE KIND OF GOT CAUGHT OFF-GUARD WITH.

BUT SO SINCE -- WHEN WE FOUND THAT OUT, THE NFPA TRANSLATED THIS INTO SPANISH, VIETNAMESE, EUROPEAN PORTUGUESE, BRAZILIAN PORTUGUESE AND WE'RE LOOKING AT RUSSIAN AND UKRAINIAN NOW.

ANY OTHER LANGUAGE WE'LL CROSS THAT WHEN IT HAPPENS.

THE OTHER SURPRISING -- NOT SURPRISING TO US WHERE THIS IS AN -- A -- NOT JUST A LOCAL PROBLEM, IT HAPPENS EVERYWHERE. WE GET MULTIPLE CITIES AROUND THE COUNTRY SHOWING INTEREST, AND EVEN FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY THAT WE FOUND THAT THE MFPA CONFERENCE LAST WEEK OR TWO WEEKS AGO.

CITIES LIKE NASHVILLE, SEATTLE, NEW YORK CITY AND SAN FRANCISCO JUST TO NAME A COUPLE CAN. SO IT'S GETTING ATTENTION. ALSO HAD SOME GOOD CONVERSATION WITH THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY. THEY'RE VERY INTERESTED IN IT. THEY CERTAINLY SEE THE VALUE OF STOPPING FIRES.

HOT WORKS IS A PRETTY -- PRETTY COMMON FIRE ON THE CONSTRUCTION SIDE.

SO -- AND WE WILL BE BRINGING THIS COURSE TO THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL VERY SOON AND HOPING TO EXPAND IT OUT TO THE REST OF THE STATE.

AT LOT OF PEOPLE THAT COME HERE TO WORK ARE NOT FROM THE CITY OF BOSTON, THOUGH WE'RE GETTING COMPANIES FROM RHODE ISLAND AND WHATEVER, AND THERE ARE -- SO WE ALL NEED THE TRAINING.

WE THINK IT'S GOING PRETTY GOOD. FROM THE CITY'S POINT, SO IN FISCAL YEAR 2017, WE'VE ISSUED 2,989 HOT WORK PERMITS AND WE EXPECT THAT TO CONTINUE TO RISE. 2016, WE DID 2,645 SO --

>> ANY VIOLATIONS, CHIEF?

YEAH, WE ALWAYS RUN INTO VIOLATIONS.

IF I CAN GET 8,000 OF THESE 16,000 PEOPLE TO PRACTICE WHAT THEY PREACH, WE'VE MADE DRASTIC IMPROVEMENT.

>> THE VIOLATIONS HAVE BEEN IGNORANCE THAT THERE'S --

>> YEAH --

ORDINANCE OR IS IT BUSINESS PRACTICES AND --

>> WELL, THERE IS A TREND THAT WE HAD TO IMPLEMENT THIS.

WE HAD TO GIVE PEOPLE TIME TO

GET TRAINED.
WE'VE BEEN TRAINING NONSTOP, AND
WE'RE UP TO 16,000.
SO THE LOGISTICS OF DOING THAT.
SO WE'RE STILL COMING ACROSS
PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE THE COURSE
WHERE -- YOU KNOW, WE'RE PUSHING
THAT.
WE TICKET THEM.
WE STOP THE JOB OR MAKE THEM
GIVE SOMEBODY THAT'S HAD THE
COURSE TO BE THERE.
SO OUT OF ALL THESE HOT WORK
PERMITS AND EVERYTHING CAN BE
APPLIED FOR ONLINE.
THERE WILL BE A NEW PORTAL,
WHICH HAS BEEN GREAT.
81% OF THE PERMITS APPLIED FOR
WE ISSUE WITHIN ONE DAY AND 89%
ARE ISSUED WITHIN THREE DAYS OF
APPLYING.
SO WE THINK THAT'S -- THAT'S
PRETTY GOOD.
IT MOVES THE JOBS ALONG.
PEOPLE AREN'T WAITING, TIED UP
IN RED TAPE.
OVER THE COURSE OF THIS PAST
YEAR, WE'VE COLLECTED \$363,000
IN FEES JUST FOR THE PERMITTING
PART.
THAT'S NOT COUNTING THE
TICKETING PART.
SO THOSE ARE THE NUMBERS RIGHT
NOW.
AND SO I WAS GOING TO MOVE ON
FROM HERE INTO ARTICLE 8 AND AS
LAST YEAR WHEN WE TRIED TO WRITE
IN WHAT, WAS DONE, WE FOUND A
LOT OF -- NOT CONFLICTS BUT IT
JUST DIDN'T READ WELL, AND A LOT
OF ITEMS THAT WE MISSED.
AND I -- NONE OF THEM ARE
GAME-CHANGERS, BUT I THOUGHT IT
WAS NECESSARY THAT WE COME BACK
AND CHANGE THE WORDING IN THE
ARTICLE SO THAT WHAT WE WANT TO
DO IS MAKE SURE WHEN PEOPLE PICK
THIS UP AND READ IT THAT IT'S
VERY CLEAR AND CONCISE AND
THERE'S NO CONFUSION.
SO WE'RE TRYING TO MAKE IT
CUSTOMER FRIENDLY.
FOR THE CONSTITUENTS.
>> SO COUNCILOR, AS THE

ORDINANCE PROPOSAL READS FOR EACH SECTION THAT WE WISH TO AMEND, IT'S LAID OUT FAIRLY CLEARLY AND CONCISELY.

DO YOU WISH TO GO THROUGH EACH OF THEM?

>> WE MIGHT AS WELL FOR THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC, FOR THOSE WHO ARE VIEWING AT HOME AND THOSE IN ATTENDANCE. AND THEN I HAVE THE HIGH COPIES WHICH I'LL SHOW PRIOR TO OUR VOTE.

IF WE RUN THROUGH THEM QUICKLY THAT WOULD BE GREAT.

>> SO I HAVE THE CITY ORDINANCE, THE PROPOSAL ORDINANCE. YOU HAVE THE -- WHAT THE ARTICLE WILL LOOK LIKE WHEN IT'S COMPLETED.

AND THEN I HAVE BROKEN DOWN INTO JUSTIFICATIONS FOR EACH CHANGE.

SO I CAN -- I'LL START WITH SECTION 1U ORDINANCE --

>> YEP.

-- AND WE'LL GO THROUGH EACH ONE.

SO SECTION 1, 8.03A, WE DELETED WELDING AND CUTTING AND CHANGED IT TO HOT WORK.

AND THE ORIGINAL ORDER, IT DIDN'T TAKE INTO ACCOUNT WHETHER IT WAS CUTTING AND WELDING OR WELDING AND CUTTING. SO JUST A SIMPLE SWITCH.

BUT THAT'S WHAT THAT CHANGE WAS. AND THAT WAS MADE IN A COUPLE OF PLACES.

SO THAT TAKES CARE OF SECTION 1.

>> GOOD.

SECTION 2, WE DELETED COURSE COMPLETION AND WE BASICALLY FELT THAT THE TERM COURSE COMPLETION DOESN'T INDICATE THAT THERE'S A LEVEL OF CERTIFICATION THAT'S BEEN ACHIEVED.

SO IF SOMEBODY TAKES THE COURSE AND THEY FLUNK THE TEST, THEY HAVEN'T --

>> ARE THERE MULTIPLE LEVELS OF CERTIFICATION?

>> NO, IT'S JUST THE ONE CERTIFICATION BUT THERE IS A TEST REQUIRED TO PASS.

>> OKAY.
SECTION 3, 803B, DELETED
UNDER INDIVIDUAL JOB
AUTHORIZATION ISSUED BY THE HOT
WORK OPERATION CONTRACTOR.
WE REMOVED THAT BECAUSE IT'S AN
AUTOMATIC CONDITION OF THE
PERMIT.
>> OKAY.
A LOT OF THIS IS TRYING TO
JUST MAKE IT BRIEFER AND
CLEARER.
SECTION 4, 803B, THREE HOT WORK
FIRE-WATCHER AND IN ITS PLACE,
NFPA HOT WORKS SAFETY
CERTIFICATION.
THAT WAS CHANGED TO REFLECT THE
PROPER TERMINOLOGY, WHICH IS THE
ADDITION OF A HOT WORKS SAFETY
CERTIFICATION.
>> AND HOW MANY NFPA HOT WORKS
SAFETY CERTIFICATE -- LIKE HOW
MANY HOT FIRE WATCHERS, WE HAVE
THEM BY THE DOZENS?
IS THAT A BUSINESS IN IT SELF-OR
IS THAT US, DEPUTY OR --
>> HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN
CERTIFIED?
>> YEAH.
16,300 --
ALL --
THOSE ARE EVERYBODY WHO'S
ACTUAL DOING HOTWORK OR DOING A
FIRE WATCH.
>> HOT WORK FIRE-WATCHER IS
SOMEONE --
>> IT --
SOMEONE THAT'S A FIREFIGHTER
THAT'S TRAINED.
ANYONE THAT'S IN THAT BUSINESS
HAS TO HAVE THIS CERTIFICATION
IN ORDER --
>> THAT'S CORRECT.
SO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN -- A
LOT OF THE PEOPLE DO GET THAT
TERM MIX UP.
ING THAT IT'S A PAID FIRE
DETAIL.
>> RIGHT.
BUT I'M ASSUMING ANYONE THAT'S
DOING WELDING, DO WE HAVE A NEAR
DETAIL ON THESE JOBS OR NOT?
>> ACCORDING TO THE STANDARD,
YOU'RE REQUIRED TO HAVE A FIRE

WATCH, BUT IT'S NOT ALWAYS A
PAID FIRE DETAIL, AND I'LL GIVE
YOU AN EXAMPLE WHY.
ON A BRAND-NEW BUILDING THAT'S
COME UP FROM THE GROUND UP, THEY -- WE GET IS SIX-MONTH
PERMIT, HOT WORK PERMIT.
AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROJECT,
IT'S A HOLE IN THE GROUND.
AND THERE'S REALLY NOTHING TO
BURN EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE DOING
HOT WORK.
IT'S ALL METAL.
SO WE WOULDN'T -- WE CAN'T WASTE
PEOPLE ON THE PROJECT.
>> THE MINUTE THAT THE HOT WORKS
STARTS, IS IT THAT TRIGGER
FIREFIGHTER COMING OVER ON A
DETAIL --
>> NO.
IT TRIGGERS OUR REVIEW.
WE REVIEW EVERY HOT WORK
PROJECT.
SO THIS BUILDING STARTED FROM
THE BEGINNING.
WE WOULD GO OUT AND LOOK AND
SAY, OH, IT'S A BUILDING FROM
SCRATCH.
IT DOESN'T REQUIRE A DETAIL
RIGHT NOW.
>> DO WE HAVE THE ABILITY IF --
IF WE -- IF IT DID REQUIRE A
DETAIL, DO WE HAVE THE ABILITY
TO STAFF APPROPRIATELY OR
WOULD --
>> YES.
, WE WOULD ALWAYS -- WHAT
THIS DOES AND IT DOESN'T CHANGE
THE PAST PRACTICE, WITH A FIRE
WATCH, THERE'S ALWAYS BEEN THE
ABILITY NOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
TO REVIEW EVERY SINGLE PERMIT
APPLICATION AND DETERMINE WAS IT
NECESSARY FOR A FIREFIGHTER TO
BE THERE, TO BE THAT WATCH.
>> WHAT'S COMING TO MY, VERY
SIMILAR, WE PASSIONED --SH
PAD -- PASSED FOR THE POLICE
DEPARTMENT TO ALLOW RETIREES TO
PERFORM SORT OF PAID DETAILS UP
IN A CERTAIN AGE.
WE HAVE EXPERIENCED, TRAINED
INDIVIDUALS WHO FOR NO FAULT OF
THEIR OWN TURNS AGE 65 AND THEY
HAVE TO RETIRE BUT THEY'RE STILL

VERY CAPABLE.

THIS MAY BE SOMETHING THAT WE MAY WANT TO TALK ABOUT HAVING AN OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS BACK AND PERFORM PAID DETAIL TO HELP SUPPLEMENT THEIR RETIREMENT INCOME.

THIS MAY BE AN AREA WHERE HAVING HOT WORKS CERTIFICATION WHERE A RETIREE VERY CAPABLE AND ABLE WANTS TO STAY AFFILIATED WITH THE CITY AND THE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE AT THAT LEVEL.

>> I THINK THAT'S A DISCUSSION FOR DOWN THE LINE IN YES, I AGREE.

I THINK THAT'S SOMETHING DEFINITELY WE SHOULD LOOK AT.

>> THERE'S A LOT OF DETAILS IN THE CITY PARTICULARLY AROUND THE CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THEY'RE GOING UNMANNED.

THERE'S NO COST TO THE CITY.

WE ACTUALLY GET SERVICE FEE AND THE COMPANIES ARE PAYING FOR THE DETAIL.

SO IT'S A -- IF ANYTHING, WE GENERATE FROM THE PERMITTING PORTION OF IT AS OPPOSED TO JUST LETTING IT GO AND SORT OF REGAINING THE CITY OF BOSTON HUNDREDS OF DETAILS ARE GOING UNFILED.

AND SO -- UNFILLED.

SO THAT WAS THE INFERENCE BEHIND LOOKING AT TAKING RETIRED POLICE OFFICER HAVING THEM.

THIS IS VERY SIMILAR TO THAT. OF COURSE, THERE'S A LOT OF FIRE DETAILS THAT ALSO GO UNMANNED BECAUSE OF THE DEMAND AND BUSY CITY AND LOTS OF STUFF HAPPENING.

AND THEN TO ADD ON TOP OF THIS, MAY BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVISIT THAT.

>> EXACTLY.

THERE ARE DAYS WHERE WE'RE TIGHT ON FINDING PEOPLE TO DO THEM.

THERE'S ON AN AVERAGE 65 DETAILS A DAY FOR HOT WORK ALONE.

>> 65?

SO THERE'S ABOUT 65 HOT WORKS PROJECTS GOING ON --

>> YEAH, THERE'S PROBABLY --
THERE'S MORE PERMITS OUT THERE
THAN THAT.
BUT NOT ALWAYS -- THEY MAY NOT
BE DOING HOT WORK THAT SPECIFIC
DAY.
THE PERMIT COULD GO FOR SIX
MONTHS.
LIKE I WAS STARTING TO SAY, ONCE
THE BUILDING STARTS GETTING
ENCLOSED AND THE HAZARD BECOMES
LARGER, THEN WE TAKE A CLOSER
LOOK, AND WE ALWAYS REVISIT THE
PROJECTS AND DETERMINE --
>> BECAUSE EVERY SINGLE
CONSTRUCTION SITE, IT'S ALWAYS
FLUID.
SO THINGS ALWAYS HAPPENING AT A
DIFFERENT PACE.
SO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WORKS
VERY CLOSELY WITH THE
CONTRACTORS OUT THERE.
AND OUR FIRE INSPECTORS ARE OUT
THERE EVERY DAY IN RIGHT.
>> VISITING VARIOUS SITES AND
ONCE YOU KEEP THAT LINE OF
COMMUNICATION OPEN, THEN YOU
COULD PROBABLY DO A BETTER JOB
AT WORKING WHEN DO WE REALLY
NEED A FIREFIGHTER AS de TAIL.
WE KEEP THAT COMMUNICATION OPEN
AND TAKE IT DAY BY DAY.
>> THE INFERENCE WIND HYPED THIS
WAS THE BEACON STREET FIRE.
>> YEAH.
THAT WAS OBVIOUSLY A BUILDING
THAT WAS FULLY CONSTRUCTED.
THEY WERE DOING SOME REHAB WORK
AND WELDING --
>> RIGHT.
WHAT WERE THEY DOING?
YEAH, THEY WERE -- SO WHAT
HAPPENED THERE, TWO MAJOR
FACTORS IN THAT THAT BROUGHT
ABOUT THAT FIRE WAS, NUMBER ONE,
THIS WAS A CONTRACTOR -- SMALL
COMPANY DOING HOT WORK ON THE
REAR OF THE BUILDING WITHOUT A
PERMIT OR A DETAIL, WHICH BOTH
WOULD HAVE BEEN REQUIRED WITH
THE WORK THEY WERE DOING.
THE SECOND THING WAS THE
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS, THE
WIND THAT DAY WAS BLOWING 60

MILE-MILE-AN-HOUR WINDS GLOWING
BLOWING OFF THE CHARLES RIVER
RIGHT TOWARDS THE BUILDING.
BOTH THOSE CONDITIONS WOULD HAVE
BEEN ENOUGH FOR US TO SAY,
YOU'RE NOT DOING HOT WORK TODAY.
>> THESE REGULATIONS ON A WINDY
DAY, IS THAT SOMETHING THAT'S
TAKEN --
>> ADDRESS BOTH OF THOSE.
OBVIOUSLY LIEUTENANT WALSH
AND KELLY LOST THEIR LIVES IN
THAT FIRE.
>> YES.
OUR PRAYERS CONTINUE ROMAINE
WITH THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES.
>> THEY WERE THE CATALYST HAD
THIS, UNFORTUNATELY.
THE TWO STATISTICS WE DIDN'T
NEED.
>> RIGHT.
SO FIRE WATCHER WAS THE TERM
USED YEARS AGO IN THE ORIGINAL
AND THAT'S SINCE BEEN CHANGED TO
FIRE WATCH.
>> WHEN I READ THE WORDS HOT
WORK FIRE WATCHER, I IMMEDIATELY
THINK OF A FIREFIGHTERS ON A
DETAIL OBSERVING MAKING SURE
THAT --
>> YES.
IN THIS INSTANCE, IT COULD
JUST BE THE CIVILIAN
RANK-AND-FILE PERSON THAT WORKS
FOR A COMPANY THAT DOES WELDING
BUT THEY HAVE THE CERTIFICATION.
>> SOME OF THESE HOT WORK
PROJECTS DON'T REQUIRE BOSTON
FIRE PAID DETAIL ON IT.
IT MAY BE A SMALL -- LET'S SAY A
PLUMBING -- A PLUMBER.
WE DON'T PERMIT PLUMBING JOBS.
THEY'RE DOING HOT WORK, THOUGH,
ACCORDING TO THE NEW REGULATION,
I CAN'T GIVE PERMITS THAT'S
GOING TO FIVE DIFFERENT
PROPERTIES TODAY AND HAVE
SOMEBODY FOLLOW THEM AROUND.
BUT THEY ARE STILL REQUIRED --
THEY'RE DOING HOT WORK SO
THEY'RE REQUIRED TO HAVE A FIRE
WATCH.
>> OKAY.
AND THIS TRAINING IS TO MAKE

THEM AWARE OF IT.
THEY'RE REQUIRED TO HAVE THIS
TRAINING ALSO.
>> OKAY.
ALL RIGHT.
>> DOES THAT MAKE SENSE?
YES, IT DOES.
OKAY.
SO MOVING ON, SECTION 5,
803-POINT -- 8.03B, ONCE AGAIN,
COURSE COMPLETION, WE REMOVED
THAT FOR THE SAME REASON.
SORRY.
SECTION 6, 8.03B, WE DELETED
"AND REQUIRED" BECAUSE IT --
ELIMINATION OF REDUNDANT TERMS.
>> IMPORTANT.
8.03E, WE DELETED "PAID FIRE
DETAIL" AND REPLACED IT WITH THE
TERM "FIRE WATCH CZECH.
AND WE DID THAT FOR KISS CAN
TENTY -- CONSISTENCY IN
TERRIBLENOLOGY.
IF YOU -- TERMINOLOGY.
IF YOU LOOK AT IN THE ARTICLE
THAT THAT WAS GOING TO COME OUT
AND GO TO 803B, AND I'LL JUST
READ THAT BECAUSE WE HAD A FEW
CHANGES HERE.
THE WAY IT'S GOING TO READ, IT'S
GOING TO COME OUT PRETTY SIMPLE
AND CLEAR.
NO PERSON SHALL SERVE AS A FIRE
WATCH UNLESS HE HOLDS AN NFPA
HOT WORK SAFETY CERTIFICATION OR
EQUIVALENT CERTIFICATION AS
DETERMINED BY THE HEAD OF THE
FIRE DEPARTMENT OR IS AN
AUTHORIZED MEMBER OF THE BOSTON
FIRE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYED AS A
FIRE WATCH.
SO THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN AT ONE
POINT WAS -- WAS PAID DETAIL IN
OKAY.
>> AND --
LL RIGHT.
THAT SEEMED PRETTY CLEAR.
YEAH.
IT DOES.
>> OKAY.
GO ON TO SECTION 8, 8.03C, AND
WE DELETED "HE MAY PRESCRIBE"
AND REPLACED IT WITH "MAY BE
PRESCRIBED."

IT'S JUST A GENDER-NEUTRAL --
>> OKAY.

8.03C, THIS IS SECTION 9, WE
DELETED TWO CLASSES OF.
AND THE REASON IS TWO CLASSES
HAVE NOW BEEN REDUCED TO ONE
CERTIFICATION.

AT ONE POINT, THERE WAS A
CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY FOR
WELDERS AND THERE WAS ALSO A
CERTIFICATE FOR FIRE WATCHES.
SO WE REDUCED THAT TO ONE.
>> YES.

SECTION 10, 8.03C, WE DELETED
"AS DETERMINED BY THE HEAD OF
THE FIRE TEPT" AND THAT WAS A
BREFILITY OF LANGUAGE -- BREVITY
OF LANGUAGE.

SECTION 11, 8.03D, INSERT AFTER
ALL, NFPA HOT WORKS SAFETY
CERTIFICATION AND DELETED NFPA
HOT WORKS SAFETY CERTIFICATION.
IT SOUNDS CONFUSING BUT IT'S
ACTUALLY CLARITY WHEN YOU READ
THE COMPLETED -- WHAT IT'S GOING
TO LOOK LIKE IN THE END.

SECTION 12, THIS WAS KIND OF A
BIGGER SECTION THAT WE WORKED ON
AND WE DELETED THE -- WE CHANGED
THE TITLE AND THE WHOLE SECTION,
AND IT'S BASICALLY WHAT IT --
THE OLD ONE WAS TALKING MORE
ABOUT THE FIRE DETAIL IN THERE
AND THE FIRE WATCH.

IT WAS CONFUSING ON WHO WAS
RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT.
AND JOB AUTHORIZATION IS WHAT WE
TITLED IT NOW, WE MADE IT CLEAR
SO 8.04A WILL NOW -- IT GIVES
THE PROPERTY OWNERS
AUTHORIZATION.

SO THE PROPERTY OWNER'S GOING TO
HAVE HOT WORK DONE, THEY KNOW
EXACTLY WHAT THEY NEED TO DO.
THEY KNOW THE LETTER THEY NEED
PROVIDE AND WHAT WE'RE LOOKING
FOR.

SECTION B OF THAT IS THE
DEFINITION FOR THE CONTRACTOR'S
RESPONSIBILITIES, WHICH IS A
LITTLE MORE IN-DEPTH THAT WE
NEED.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR THE OWNER OF
THE BUILD SOMETHING I'M GIVING

THIS -- BUILDING IS I'M LOOKING FOR PERMISSION TO DO WORK IN MY BUILDING BASICALLY.

>> WAS THAT THE DESCRIBE -- DOES IT HAVE THE STATE HOT WORKS IN MY BUILDING OR JUST WORK?

>> YES, IT'S AUTHORIZING THEM TO DO HOT WORK.

>> OKAY.

AND THE DEFINITIONS FROM THE -- ON THE PERMIT WE ASK FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION THAT WOULD COME FROM THE CONTRACTOR.

>> WAS THERE SOMETHING BETWEEN THE CONTRACTOR AND THE HOMEOWNER OR VICE VERSA OR --

>> IT JUST -- JUST TRYING TO MAKE IT A LITTLE EASIER ON EVERYBODY AND --

>> I WOULD ASSUME YOU HAD REACHED OUT TO THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY.

THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY THIS BRINGS SOME CLARITY PROBABLY FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVE TOO WHETHER OR NOT THEY'RE GOING TO COVER A CLAIM.

>> SO WHAT'S DIFFICULT WITH THE PROPERTY OWNER WAS, IF -- I'M TRYING TO GIVE DETAILS THAT THEY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT THE CONTRACTOR WAS DOING. THEY KNOW THEY'RE WELDING BUT THEN THEY DON'T KNOW THAT WE HAVE TO PUT UP RAILINGS FOR THIS OR -- OR -- A LOT OF THE THINGS THAT THEY DON'T KNOW OR EVEN THE TYPE OF WELDING THAT THEY'RE DOING.

>> IT JUST GETS CONFUSING FOR THE PROPERTY OWNER AND I THINK IT'S EASIER FOR THEM TO SAY WE HIRED THEM TO DO THE JOB AND WE'RE AUTHORIZES THEM TO DO THE JOB.

NOW, WHEN THE CONTRACTOR FILLS OW THE PERMIT, THEY'RE GOING TO TELL US WHAT EXACTLY THEY'RE DOING AND THEN WE GO OUT AND WE CHECK TO MAKE SURE.

>> GOT YOU.

IT WOULD BE MORE SUFFICIENT FOR THE CITY TO DO THE JOB TOO BECAUSE NOW EVERYONE'S ON

NOTICE, THE OWNER, THE
CONTRACTOR AND THE CITY.
THERE'S THAT THREE-WAY
COMMUNICATION AS OPPOSED TO JUST
THE DEPARTMENT AND A CONTRACTOR.
THE OWNER MIGHT NOT KNOW
ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

>> ONE OF THE OTHER THINGS IS SO
THE WAY I LOOK AT IT --

>> CHIEF, DOES THIS COVER
SUBCONTRACTORS TOO?

>> YES.

OKAY.

IT'S WHOEVER PULLS --
SUBCONTRACTOR -- DEPENDS ON
WHO'S PULLING THE CONTRACT -- I
MEAN, THE SUBCONTRACTOR IS
WORKING FOR THE CONTRACTOR SO
THEY'RE COVERED.

THE OTHER THING WE DIDN'T WANT
TO DO, THE PROPERTY OWNER SAYS
THEY'RE WORKING ON THE ROOF AND
THEN THEY FIND OUT THEY GOT TO
DO WORK ON THE FIRST FLOOR TOO.
NOW THEY'RE GOING TO -- THERE'S
A CONFLICT THERE, WHICH WE'LL
WANT THEM TO HAVE TO COME IN AND
REDO THE LETTER AND GO THROUGH
THE WHOLE PROCESS AGAIN.
SO TRYING TO MAKE IT BETTER FOR
EVERYBODY AND COVER EVERYBODY.

>> OKAY.

SECTION 13, OKAY, WE DELETED
"WHERE FIRE WATCH IS REQUIRED."
WE CHANGED THE TITLE FOR
CLARITY.

AND BASICALLY CHANGE IT TO
"CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR
FIRE WATCH."

SECTION 14, IT'S 805 -- 8.05 AND
FIRST PARAGRAPH WE DELETED IN
ITS ENTIRETY AND REWROTE IT TO
MAKE IT CLEARER.

IF YOU WANT I'LL READ IT.

>> APPRECIATE IT.

SECTION 15, 8.05B, WE JUST --
WE ADDED FOLLOWING SWAG AND IT'S
JUST AN EXPANSION OF THE
DEFINITION.

>> WHAT IS SLAG?

SLAG IS IF YOU'RE BUILD
WELDING AND THE PIECES ARE HOT.
THE LITTLE PIECES OF HOT METAL
THAT FALL OFF.

SECTION 16, 8.05D.
WOE ADD THE CONVECTION -- WE
ADDED CONVECTION TO DESCRIBE.
THE ORIGINAL ONE ONLY HAD TWO
FORMS OF HEAT TRANSFER, AND TO
BE CORRECT, THERE'S THREE.
SO WE ADDED CONVECTION TO THAT.
>> OKAY.
SECTION 17, 8.05, THE LAST
PARAGRAPH, WE DELETED THAT IN
ITS ENTIRETY AND WE WROTE IT --
REWROTE IT FOR CLARITY PURPOSES
JUST TO MAKE SURE IT'S CLEAR.
SECTION 18, 19 AND 20 ALL FALL
UNDER THIS NEXT SECTION, 8.06,
AND IT'S ALL, ONCE AGAIN,
CHANGING CUTTING AND WELD,ING
AND REPLACING TO HOT WORK.
THOSE WEREN'T COVERED IN SECTION
2 OF THE ORDINANCE THAT WAS
PASSED.
>> THOSE ARE NEW ADDITIONS?
YEAH, WHICH, LIKE I SAID, IT
WOULD SAY WELDING AND CUTTING
AND NOW IT'S -- THE PARTS IT'S
SAYING CUTTING -- I'M GETTING
CONFUSED GOING BACK IS AND
FORTH.
OKAY.
SO SECTION 21, 8.06B, ONCE
AGAIN, WE DELETED FOR CLARITY
PARK WELDING AND CUTTING.
WE FEEL THAT WAS NECESSARY TO
WORD IT THAT WAY.
SECTION 22 IS 8.06E.
DELETED IN ITS ENTIRETY AND
REPLACED WITH THE LAST SENTENCE
THERE, HOT TAPPING AND OTHER HOT
WORK.
AND WE MADE ONCE AGAIN FOR
CLARITY.
SECTION 23, 8.07A, B, C, D, AND
E, ONCE AGAIN, CUTTING AND
WELDING, WE HAD TO REPLACE IT
WITH HOT WORK.
SECTION 24, 8.07A, WE DELETED
"AFTER OWNER, TENANT OR GENERAL
CONTRACTOR" AND THE HOT WORK
CONTRACTOR.
WE DID THAT FOR CLARITY
PURPOSES.
SECTION 25, 26, AND 27, WE MADE
CHANGES WITH THE WORDING AND
WHATEVER OUGHT TO REINFORCE

SECTION 8.04A.
SECTION 28, 8.07C, WE DELETED
WITH AIR FOR CLARITY.
I DON'T KNOW TOO MUCH DUST WHERE
THERE ISN'T AIR INVOLVED SO --
>> UH-HMM.
SECTION 29, 8.08A, WE DELETED
LICK WHICHFIED PETROLEUM GAS
BECAUSE LPG IS NOT ALLOWED IN
BUILDINGS CURRENTLY.
>> UH-HMM.
SECTION 30, 8.08E, THAT WAS A
TYPO.
WE CHANGED HOT TO NOT.
AND LASTLY WAS SECTION 31, WHICH
WAS 8.09A, AND ONCE AGAIN, WE
DELETED LIQUID PETROLEUM GAS
WHICH IS LPG AND IT'S NOT
ALLOWED IN BUILDINGS.
>> OKAY.
AND --
PRETTY STRAIGHTFORWARD
CHANGES, SOME MORE IN-DEPTH THAN
OTHERS, BUT FOR THE MOST PART,
IT'S CLARITY AND SOME ADDITIONS
WHERE --
>> YEAH, WE JUST WANTED TO
CLARIFY WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR
WHAT AND -- AND ONCE AGAIN WE
WANTED -- SO THAT IT WAS EASY TO
READ FOR PEOPLE.
>> OKAY.
JUST EXPLAIN THE PROCESS FOR
CERTIFICATION FOR THE NFPA HOT
WORKS SAFETY CERTIFICATION.
WHAT -- HOW LONG IS THAT COURSE?
WHAT DOES IT ENTAIL?
>> SO IT'S A COURSE RUN -- RUN
AND MONITORED BY THE NFPA.
IT'S A TWO-HOUR COURSE IN PERSON
RIGHT NOW.
AND THERE'S A TEST THAT FOLLOWS.
IT'S A ONE-TIME -- ONE-TIME
EVENT, UNLESS WE HAVE A -- AN
INCIDENT WITH YOU, WE -- YOU
KNOW, THAT'S UP TO US TO DECIDE
WHETHER OR NOT TO -- WE HAVE THE
ABILITY TO PULL THAT
CERTIFICATION AT ANY TIME AND
MAKE YOU REDO THE COURSE.
SO WE'RE HOPING THAT PEOPLE PUT
TO PRACTICE WHAT WE'RE TEACHING
THEM, AND IF THEY DO, WE'LL HAVE
A MUCH SAFER CONSTRUCTION RECORD

WITHIN THE CITY.

>> VERY GOOD.

I SEE THAT THIS ARE REPRESENT
AVES FROM LOCAL 718 JUST HERE TO
OFFER SUPPORT OR TO BE HERE AND
TO BE OBSERVING FOR PURPOSES OF
THEIR MEMBERSHIP.

SO WE SEE FOLKS FROM 718 HERE.
IS ANYONE WISHING TO OFFER
PUBLIC TESTIMONY, THEY MAY DO SO
NOW.

SEEING AND HEARING NO TAKERS, I
APPRECIATE, CHIEF AND CONNIE.
I'LL MAKE SURE I'LL GET THESE
COPIES THROUGH STAFF TO MY
COMPLETION.

BUT -- COMPLETION.

BUT IT'S ALL -- COLLEAGUES.
IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO
ENHANCE WHAT WAS PUT IN PLACE
LAST YEAR TO PREVENT HORRIFIC
FIRES LIKE WE SAW ON BEACON
STREET WHETHER IT'S A SMALL
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT OR BIG
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

I HOPE IT WILL KEEP AN EYE
TOWARDS HAVING FIREFIGHTER
DETAILS ON THERE, TRAINED AND
EXPERIENCED FIREFIGHTERS WHO CAN
RECOGNIZE THOSE TYPES OF
SITUATIONS BEFORE THEY GET OUT
OF HAND AND IT MAY BE AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR RETIREES TO
SORT OF FIT THE BILL THERE
THAT'S AN OPPORTUNITY THROUGH
THE DEPARTMENT.

>> I WILL TAKE THIS MOMENT TO
STATE THAT -- THANK THE COUNCIL
FOR ALL THIS SUPPORT IN THIS.
WE NEED YOUR BACKING AND THIS IS
WHAT PUTS TEETH BEHIND US.
WITHOUT THE ORDINANCE, THERE
WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO GET
COMPLIANCE.

SO THAT MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE.

>> WE'LL GET THIS THING BEFORE
THE COUNCIL FOR A VOTE AND TO
THE MAYOR FOR HIS SIGNATURE TO
PROTECT THE CITIZENS BUT ALSO TO
PROTECT THE MEN AND WOMEN THAT
RUN INTO THOSE SITUATIONS WHEN
THINGS BREAK DOWN AND IN THIS
SITUATION THEY BREAK DOWN PRETTY
QUICKLY.

GREAT TO HE SO YOU, CHIEF AND
CONNIE.
WITH RESPECT TO DOCKET 0655
MESSAGE AND ORDINANCE AMENDING
THE BOSTON FIRE PREVENTION CODE
ARTICLE 8, HOT WORK OPERATIONS.
THE MEETING ON GOVERNMENT
OPERATIONS IS ADJOURNED.
THANK YOU.
[RAP OF THE GAVEL]
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