

**MECHANICAL, PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL, AND SWIMMING POOL
BOARD OF APPEALS
MINUTES**

November 4, 2008

Public notice having been posted, a public hearing of the MPE Board was held at 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 4, 2008, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 555 Walnut, Abilene, Texas.

MPE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Anthony McColum, Chairman
James Wheeler
Kevin Hargis
Rick Kelley
Jay Wyatt
Ronnie Carlson
Pat Watkins

STAFF PRESENT: Van Watson
Kelley Messer
Alice Adams

GUESTS: None

1. The meeting was called to order by Anthony McColum, Chairman.
2. The next item to come before the Board was the approval of the September 9, 2008 minutes. A motion was made by James Wheeler, and seconded by Jay Wyatt, to approve the minutes as written. Said motion unanimously passed.
3. The next matter to come before the Board was discussion, with possible action, regarding adoption of amendments to the 2003 International Plumbing Code, establishing requirements for landscape irrigation installations. David Sartor, Building Official, addressed the Board, advising them this proposal has come before the Board due to legislation passed in 2007 (House Bill 1656), which requires municipalities with a population of 20,000 or greater, to adopt an irrigation ordinance which has to be in compliance with Texas Administrative Code Title 30, Chapter 344, which are the rules and regulations put out by TCEQ to deal with the licensing of irrigators and the installation of irrigation systems. Mr. Sartor said this basically requires that irrigators be licensed and permits be issued for irrigation systems in the City limits and within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City. He went on to say the City's ordinance has to contain minimum design, installation and operational requirements for an irrigation system. It is also mandated that this ordinance be in effect by January 1, 2009. Mr. Sartor said the City proposes to adopt, by reference, the requirements of the Texas Administrative Code, Title 30, Chapter 344, Subchapter A, E and F, with a recommended amendment only to 344.62(j). (See attachments for amendment). He said this amendment stipulates the shut-off devices work not only when there is rain or moisture, but also when the weather is freezing. Mr. Sartor said the purpose of this House Bill 1656 is for conservation of water. He said that all local irrigation contractors were

invited to a meeting held on October 30, 2008 to discuss the proposed amendments and to give input. He said approximately 20 irrigators attended this meeting.

After a lengthy discussion among the Board members, Ronnie Carlson made a motion to recommend submitting to the City Counsel for adoption by reference, Texas Administrative Code Title 30, Chapter 344, along with the local amendments to 344.62 Minimum Design and Installation Requirements. The motion was seconded by Jay Wyatt and unanimously passed.

4. Upon motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned.

Anthony McColum, Chairman

Alice Adams, Acting Secretary