

ORDINANCE 1829

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, REPEALING AND REPLACING NORTH BEND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 15.31.050 RELATING TO FIRE CODE PERMIT FEES; AMENDING THE CITY'S TAXES, RATES AND FEES SCHEDULE RELATING TO FIRE PERMIT FEES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of North Bend ("City") is one of five partner agencies of Eastside Fire & Rescue ("EFR"). Historically, the City provided an annual payment to EFR for fire protection and suppression, and fire permit inspection and review services, however, staff from both agencies find it is in the public's interest for the City to collect fire permit review service fees and to remit the same to EFR in addition to the annual payment to EFR for fire protection and suppression services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 15.31 of the North Bend Municipal Code ("NBMC"), the City imposes fees for various permits issued for building, mechanical, fire, and plumbing permits as authorized by RCW 82.02.020; and

WHEREAS, the Building Official in partnership with the Fire Marshal from EFR have jointly conducted a review of the permits and associated fees charged under Chapter 15.31 NBMC and have determined that the existing fees are not adequate to cover the administrative costs associated with conducting and processing such permits and that such fire permit related fees have not been updated since 2015; and

WHEREAS, EFR and the City seek consistent assessment and collection of fire permit review fees; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to repeal NBMC Section 15.31.050 and replace the subject section to include a revised fire permit fee table; and

WHEREAS, the City further seeks to update naming conventions, provide for uniformity related to fire permit fees amongst EFR jurisdictions, and revise the fire permit fees for all fire permits at an amount adequate to cover the cost of such permits; and

WHEREAS, at its April 15, 2025, meeting, the Community and Economic Development Committee reviewed the proposed changes to the fire permit fees assessed under Section 15.31.050 of the NBMC and recommend the fees as set forth in Section 2 of this Ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NBMC 15.31.050 (Fire Code Permit Fees), Repealed: North Bend Municipal Code Section 15.31.050 (Fire code permit fees) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. New NBMC 15.31.050 (Fire Code Permit Fees), Adopted: A new North Bend Municipal Code Section 15.31.050 (Fire code permit fees) is hereby adopted to replace the section repealed in Section 1 of this Ordinance and which shall read as follows:

- A. Fire prevention inspections. There shall be no charge imposed for routine annual fire prevention inspections.
- B. Construction fire permit related fees. The following fees shall apply and be charged for the services described in the following table:

FEE DESCRIPTION	RATE
Fire Staff Hourly Rate	\$182
Fire Alarm System	
Modification (Monitoring, Device Swap, Tenant Improvement, etc.)	\$455
New Systems	\$1,637
Fire Alarm Communicator/Transmitter	\$273
Fire Sprinkler System (one permit per riser required)	
Tenant Improvement (20 heads or less)	\$546
New Systems and Tenant Improvements over 20 heads (fee charged per zone)	\$1,728
Residential 13D System	\$728
Fire Sprinkler System 13-D Tank and Pump	\$1,001
Fire Extinguishing / Suppression System - New systems and modifications	\$910
Underground Supply Permits - Commercial & Residential (excludes single family residential)	\$1,637
Standpipe Installation - Class I, II, or III	\$1,274
Application/Processing	
Other Types of Fire Permits / Inspections	
Tents and Canopies, Temporary Membrane Structures (per tent)	\$364
Fire Pump Installation	\$910
Power Generators	\$0
Emergency Responder Radio	\$637
Stairway pressurization and smoke control plans	\$910
Permitted Hazardous Materials	\$546
Flammable / Combustible Liquids / Construction	
Tank Install	\$546
Tank Removal	\$364
LPG Construction	
Install or Modify LP-gas system / Construction	\$546
Tank Install - Residential (R-3) >120 gallons	\$364
Compressed Gas System, Install, Modify, or Remove	\$546

Inspection/Testing, If requested and/or required	Hourly rate
Rack Storage/High Pile Storage	\$546
Building Plan Review	15% (BLD Review Fee))
Land Use Plan Review (Subdivisions, Plats, etc.)	Hourly rate
Fees include anticipated review and inspection time. Most fees cover two inspections and one re-inspection, with additional inspections billed at an hourly rate.	
Re-inspection fees: When a portion of work for which inspection is called is not complete, approved plans and permits is not on the site or when corrections called for are not made.	Hourly Rate
Inspections outside normal business hours.	Hourly Overtime Rate (min. two hours)
Cost Recovery Statement: Costs for planning, engineering, legal and/or other professional services shall be reimbursed by the applicant, in addition to a 10% administrative fee.	

C. Fire permit related administrative fee and technology surcharge.

All fees set forth in NBMC 15.31.050(B) shall be subject to an additional city administrative fee of ten percent (10%) of the total permit fee charged to recover administrative costs, and a three percent (3%) technology surcharge (minimum \$3.00) collected at permit issuance; provided, however, that the technology surcharge will be two percent (2%) (\$2.00 minimum) for cottage and multifamily structures as defined in NBMC 18.06.030 or identified in Table 18.10.030.

Section 3. Taxes, Rates and Fees Schedule, Amended: The Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule, adopted by Ordinance 1084 and last amended by Ordinance 1822, effective as of January 1, 2025, is amended to reflect the amended fees established in this Ordinance, as set forth in the attached **Exhibit A**, which is incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 4. Cost Recovery and Remittance of Fire Related Permit Services Provided by Eastside Fire & Rescue: In recognition of the Fire Marshal and EFR's fire permit review services, and to ensure EFR's operational costs for fire permit services are proportionally recovered, the City agrees to collect and remit fire permit fees to EFR. These payments, based on the City's approved permit fee schedule, shall include only the cost of the EFR's Fire Marshal-related permits, excluding all City administrative and technology surcharge fees. EFR's fire permit fees are structured solely for cost recovery.

Section 5. Severability: Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance, or its application to any person or circumstance, be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid for any reason, or should any portion of this ordinance be pre-empted by state or federal law or regulation, such decision or pre-emption shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance or its application to other persons or circumstances.

Section 6. Effective Date: This ordinance shall be published in the official newspaper of the City, and shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after the date of publication.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF, THIS 20TH DAY OF MAY, 2025.

CITY OF NORTH BEND:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Mary Miller, Mayor

Kendra Rosenberg, City Attorney

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

Published: May 30, 2025

Effective: June 4, 2025

Susie Oppedal, City Clerk