

**CITY OF MEXICO BEACH
ORDINANCE NO. 534**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 242, LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, BY AMENDING ARTICLE II, AND CREATING CHAPTER 2.11.00, FIRE PREVENTION; PROVIDING FOR THE RAPID ACCESS KEY BOXES AND SECURITY CONNECTION CAPS FOR THE USE OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY PROVIDING FOR TIME OF COMPLIANCE, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Council of the City of Mexico Beach, Bay County, Florida, approves requirement of certain properties be equipped with automatic alarm systems and/or sprinkler/standpipe systems; and

WHEREAS, the automatic systems may cause the fire department of the City of Mexico Beach to be summoned at a time when the building or business is not occupied or when the occupant is not able to provide entry for the fire departments; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mexico Beach wishes to prevent damage through forceful entry to structures and provide swift entry into structures by the Fire Department; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of The City of Mexico Beach, Florida that:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established Article II of Chapter 2.11.00, Fire Prevention, of the City of Mexico Beach which shall provide as follows:

2.11.01 MANDATORY KEY BOXES FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION AND STANDPIPE SYSTEMS.

When a building within the City of Mexico Beach is protected by an automatic fire suppression or standpipe system it shall be equipped with a key box. The Key Box shall be at a location approved by the City of Mexico Beach Building/Fire Official. The Key Box shall be a UL type and size approved by the Building/Fire Official.

2.11.02 MANDATORY KEY BOXES FOR AUTOMATIC ALARM SYSTEMS.

When a building is protected by an automatic alarm system and/or access to or within a building, or an area within that building, is unduly difficult because of secured openings, and where immediate access is necessary for life saving or firefighting purposes, the Building/Fire Official may require a key box to be installed at a location approved by the City of Mexico Beach Building/Fire Official. The Key Box shall be a UL type and size approved by the Building/Fire Official.

2.11.03 KEY TAMPER BOX SWITCH.

The Building/Fire Official may require a key box tamper switch connected to the building's fire alarm system.

2.11.04 SECURITY PADLOCKS.

When a property is protected by a locked fence or gate and where immediate access to the property is necessary for life saving or firefighting purposes, the Building/Fire Official may require a security padlock to be installed a location approved by the City of Mexico Beach Building/Fire Official. The Padlock shall be UL type and size approved by the Building/Fire Official.

2.11.05 SECURITY CAPS.

When a building is protected by an automatic sprinkler system or standpipe system and the fire department connection is exposed to undue vandalism the Fire Subcode/.Fire Official may require that a Fire Department Connection Security Cap(s) be installed. The Fire Department connection Security Cap(s) shall be a type approved by the Building/Fire Official.

2.11.06 NON-APPLICABILITY TO CERTAIN DWELLINGS.

The term "Building" used herein means any building or structure located in the City of Mexico Beach, whether privately or publicly owned., including, without limitation, any building owned by the City of Mexico Beach or any other public, quasi-public, or private entity or person provided however that this chapter shall not apply to owner occupied one and two family dwellings.

2.11.07 RAPID RESPONSE KEY BOXES

The rapid key boxes shall contain the following:

- a. Keys to locked points of egress, whether in interior or exterior of such buildings.
- b. Keys to the locked mechanical rooms;
- c. Keys to the locked elevator rooms;
- d. Keys to the elevator controls;
- e. Keys to any fence or secured areas;
- f. Keys to any other areas that may be required by the Building/Fire Official
- g. A card containing the emergency contact people and phone numbers for such building;

In addition, floor plan of the rooms within the building may be required.

SECTION 2. TIME FOR COMPLIANCE

All existing buildings shall comply with this ordinance six (6) months from its effective date. All newly constructed buildings, not yet occupied, or buildings currently under construction and all buildings or businesses applying for a certificate of occupancy, shall comply immediately.

SECTION 3. CODIFICATION

It is the intention of the City Council of the City of Mexico Beach, Florida, and it is hereby ordained the provisions of this Ordinance become and be made a part of the City Code of the City of Mexico Beach, Florida; that the Sections of this ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish such intention; that the word "Ordinance" may be changed to "Section", "Article", or other appropriate wording.

SECTION 4. CONFLICT

All ordinances or regulations in conflict with the provisions herein are hereby repealed.


SECTION 5. SEVEREABILTY

It is the intent of the City Council that, if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall have effect upon becoming law, except as provided in section 2.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Mayor and the Council of the City of Mexico Beach, Bay County, Florida, on this 13th day of March, 2007.


William Cathey, Mayor

ATTEST:


Deborah McLeod, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Paul Komarek, City Attorney