

ORDINANCE 2017-06

Ordinance Requiring Automated Sprinkler System Installation In New and Existing Assembly Occupancies Including Bars

First Reading: 08/14/2017

Second Reading/Public Hearing: 09/11/2017

Adopted: 09/11/2017

WHEREAS the Town of Londonderry, by and through the Londonderry Town Council, previously adopted the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, which regulates, among other things, the installation of automated sprinkler systems in certain new and existing commercial occupancies;

WHEREAS, the 2009 version of the NFPA Life Safety Code required new and existing bars, dance halls, discotheques, nightclubs, and assembly occupancies with festival seating to be protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with NFPA 101 9.7.1.1(1);

WHEREAS, specifically with regard to bars, the 2009 NFPA Life Safety Code required new bars with an occupancy over 50, and existing bars with an occupancy over 100, to install automatic sprinkler systems;

WHEREAS, the Division Chief of Fire Prevention for the Londonderry Fire Department has reported that all existing bars in Londonderry with an occupancy over 100 have installed automatic sprinkler systems;

WHEREAS, the 2015 version of NFPA Life Safety code has since removed “bars” from the sprinkler system requirement, leaving in place the requirement for dance halls, discotheques, nightclubs and assembly occupancies with festival seating;

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2016, New Hampshire adopted the 2015 version of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, thereby effectively exempting bars from the automatic sprinkler system requirements for both new and existing bars;

WHEREAS, pursuant to RSA 674:51, the Town Council is authorized to regulate building construction through the process of issuing permits and construction code enforcement, which regulations may include safety measures more stringent than those included in the State Safety Code;

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to extend the automatic sprinkler system requirements in Londonderry to include “bars” as such requirements were previously included in the 2009 Life Safety Code, and in particular, to apply the automatic sprinkler system requirement to new bars with an occupancy of 50 or more, and to existing bars with an occupancy of 100 or more;

NOW THEREFORE, the Town of Londonderry, by and through the Londonderry Town Council, adopts the following ordinance for new and existing assembly occupancies:

Definitions:


Assembly Occupancy – (1) A new occupancy used for a gathering of 50 or more persons for deliberation, worship, entertainment, eating, drinking, amusement, awaiting transportation, or similar uses; (2) An existing occupancy used for a gathering of 100 or more persons for deliberation,

worship, entertainment, eating, drinking, amusement, awaiting transportation, or similar uses; and (3) a new or existing occupancy used as a special amusement building, regardless of occupant load.

Extinguishment Requirements:

The following new and existing assembly occupancies as defined above shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system as was previously required in the 2009 Life Safety Code:

- (1) Bars, excluding microbreweries with tasting rooms only;
- (2) Dance halls;
- (3) Discotheques;
- (4) Nightclub; and
- (5) Assembly occupancies with festival seating.


Tom Dolan, Chairman
Londonderry Town Council


Sherry Farrell
Town Clerk

(TOWN SEAL)

BY ATTEST:
17

