

AN ORDINANCE amending Chapter 14, Fire Prevention, of the Joplin City Code, by adopting Section 14-39, Key Boxes, providing that certain new commercial and residential construction install key boxes.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Joplin has determined that the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Joplin are promoted by requiring certain structures to have a key lock box installed on the exterior of the structure to aid the Joplin Fire Department in gaining access to the structure when responding to calls for emergency service; and

WHEREAS, the key lock box system is being adopted nationally and will operate on a master key basis that will expedite entry into a structure during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the key lock box system will eliminate forced entries into structures thereby avoiding costly and time-consuming efforts in gaining access to locked structures during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, having referred the subject matter of this ordinance to the Building Board of Appeals and received a favorable recommendation thereto, the City of Joplin wishes to adopt these provisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That Section 14-39 of the Joplin City Code is hereby adopted as follows:

**“Section 14-39. Key boxes.**

(a) In new commercial construction for which building permits are issued after July 1, 1996, when access to or within a structure or an area is unduly difficult because of secured openings or where immediate access is necessary to verify the existence of a fire or other emergency in buildings equipped with or required to be equipped with fire detection or fire suppression systems or equipment, or for life saving or firefighting purposes, the Fire Chief may require the owner, lessee, tenant, or other party in control of said structure or area to install a key box in an accessible location approved by the Fire Chief.

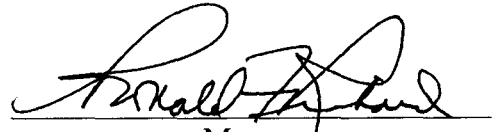
(b) In new multi-family residential structures that have restricted access through locked doors and have a common corridor for access to the living units for which building permits are issued after July 1, 1996, when access to or within a structure or an area is unduly difficult because of secured openings or where immediate access is

necessary to verify the existence of a fire or other emergency in buildings equipped with or required to be equipped with fire detection or fire suppression systems or equipment, or for life saving or firefighting purposes, the Fire Chief may require the owner, lessee, tenant, or other party in control of said structure or area to install a key box in an accessible location approved by the Fire Chief.

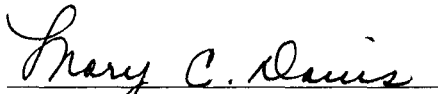
(c) The key box shall be of a design approved by the Fire Chief and shall contain all keys which the Fire Chief deems necessary to gain the required access to the structure or area. The key box shall be UL listed as tamper resistant. Two keys for said key box shall be supplied to the Fire Chief. It shall be the responsibility of the owner, lessee, tenant, or other party in control of a structure or area (1) to assume all costs involved in the installation of the key box and supplying of keys to the Fire Chief, (2) to keep said key box in good repair and (3) to ensure that all keys contained therein are those currently in use in the structure or area.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, this 6th day of

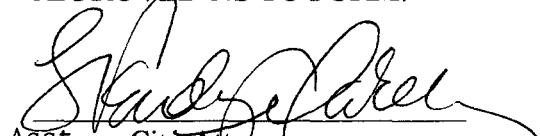
May, 1996.

  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Asst. City Attorney

**EFFECTIVE 20 DAYS FROM DATE**