AN ORDINANCE CREATING AND ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF SELF-SERVICE OR COIN OPERATED DRY CLEANING ESTABLISHMENTS

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

### Section 1: DEFINITIONS

When used in this Ordinance, the following words and figures shall have the meaning allocated to them:

- a) "SELF-SERVICE or COIN OPERATED" dry cleaning shall mean the process of cleaning wearing apparel, textiles, fabrics, rugs or other articles by use of non-aqueous liquid solvents in a dry-cleaning unit designed to be used, or used by the general public.
- b) "DRY-CLEANING and COIN OPERATED DRY CLEANING" shall mean either dry cleaning or dry dyeing operations.
- c) "DRY-CLEANING PLANT or ESTABLISHMENT" shall mean any place, building, structure, room or portion thereof in which dry cleaning is conducted.
- d) "SELF-SERVICE or COIN OPERATED DRY-CLEANING PLANT or ESTABLISHMENT" shall mean any place, building, structure, room or portion thereof containing a dry-cleaning device or devices which are available for use by the general public for the purpose of dry-cleaning.
- e) "DRY-CLEANING MACHINE, DEVICE, APPARATUS or UNIT" shall mean the machinery and equipment, including those which are self-service or coin operated, in which dry-cleaning operations are performed.
- f) "COMBINATION DRY-CLEANING UNIT" shall mean a device in which the dry-cleaning, washing and extracting cycles are completed within the same enclosure.
- g) "DRY-CLEANING ROOM" shall mean a building or room in which the dry-cleaning operations are conducted, including all additional sections containing solvent or solvent handling equipment.
- g) "SPOTTING PRE-SPOTTING" shall mean the application locally of solvents to spots, dirts, grease, paints and stains for the removal of the same.

### Section 2: LOCATION AND APPROVAL

Before any self-service or coin operated dry-cleaning plant is established or constructed and before an existing plant is remodeled, a complete floor and building plan shall be submitted for approval to the fire marshal and the building inspector. The submitted plans shall be drawn to an indicated scale; shall show the location of all equipment, the relative location of the dry-cleaning building, boiler room, finishing room or building, storage tanks for solvents, pumps, washers, drying tumblers, extractors, filter traps, condensors, mechanical ventilators, piping, and a sectional elevation of the building, including the lowest floors, pits, tanks, fittings and other devices.

No person, firm or corporation shall engage in the business of operating any self-service or coin-operated dry cleaning establishment without the prior approval of the fire marshal and the building inspector.

#### Section 3: STANDARDS

- a) All coin-operated dry-cleaning units shall be Underwriters Laboratory approved and shall bear an Underwriters Laboratory label.
- b) No solvents for these machines shall be used except class 4 solvents such as perchlorethylene, carbon tetrachloride or other class 4 solvents approved by the fire marshal. Spotting solutions shall be class 4 solvents approved by the fire marshal for use in dry-cleaning units.
- c) Complete instruction signs shall be plainly visible giving the following instructions:
  - (1) Operating instructions for the machines.
  - (2) Warning against the use of spotting solutions other than those furnished and approved for such spotting use.

- (3) Warning against the adding of additional cleaning solutions to the dry-cleaning units.
  - (4) Warning against the wrapping of children in freshly cleaned blankets or clothing.
  - (5) Warning against the cleaning of foam rubber items.
  - (6) A telephone number shall be listed for emergency assistance.
- d) (1) Buildings used for coin-operated dry-cleaning plants shall be single story, one or more hour fire structures, with concrete floors in good condition. The public area shall be easily visible from the exterior of the building. No dry-cleaning equipment shall be located in basements or other areas without adequate ventilation approved by the building inspector. No dry-cleaning units shall be permitted in buildings of mixed occupancy involving dwelling units.
  - (2) Only the front or customer side of dry-cleaning machines shall be accessible to the customer area.
  - (3) The working or maintenance portion of the equipment shall be separated from the front of the machine by a solid one-hour fire partition.

    Access to the enclosure back of the machines shall be one-hour fire doors. Said doors shall be kept closed and locked unless a competent attendant is present to prohibit access by the public.
  - (4) The enclosure for the dry-cleaner units shall not be a part of or interconnected with those areas containing heating devices requiring air for combustion, such as dryers, water heaters and boilers.
- e) Each machine shall be provided with protection to limit vapor accumulation and to salvage the solvent resulting from a spill due to an accident or failure of equipment. This can be accomplished by diking the entire system or sloping the floor and draining it into an underground tank.
- f) (1) Toxic Vapors. An exhaust system shall be provided for the removal of toxic vapors. This exhaust system shall consist of an individual exhaust on each machine, scavenger ducts strategically located, and exhaust fans for the enclosure behind the machines. The exhaust system, shall be capable of maintaining a minimum of 100 feet per minute face velocity through the loading door whenever the door is open. The central exhaust ventilating system as described shall be operated continually while the occupancy is open to the public. The manifold exhaust system shall exhaust to the outside and not terminate within 25 feet of any window or door openings. The exhaust discharge shall be located a substantial distance from the appliance air intakes.
  - (2) Gas-Fired Dryers and Combustion Air. All gas-fired dryers shall be individually vented or be made manifold into a common vent to remove the products of combustion. This common vent shall be large enough to accommodate the capacities of the manifold vents. Combustion air for the heating equipment shall be drawn from the outside and shall not be drawn from the customer area or dry-cleaner enclosure.
- g) All dry-cleaning establishments shall be provided with a portable fire extingquisher of a type to be approved by the fire marshal.
- h) Solvents shall be stored in closed containers and shall be transferred from the containers in a line free of leaks. All storage facilities for solvent, apart from the dry-cleaning equipment, shall meet reasonable safety requirements of the fire marshal. Filter residue and other residues containing solvents shall be disposed of so as not to create a health hazard or nuisance. A covered metal container shall be used for temporary storage outside the building.

# Section 4: NONLIABILITY OF CITY FOR DAMAGES

This Ordinance shall not be construed to relieve from or lessen the responsibility of any person owning, operating or installing any dry-cleaning equipment for damage to anyone injured, or damaged by any defect therein nor shall the city or any agent thereof be held as assuming any such liability by reason of the inspection authorized hereunder of for failure to inspect or for failure of the inspector to find a defect.

# Section 5: PENALTY FOR VIOLATION

Any person refusing to and neglecting to comply with the requirements of this Ordinance or violating any provisions therein shall, upon conviction thereof in the Municipal Court, be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500.00 or by imprisonment not to exceed 30 days or by both such fine and imprisonment. If any person refuses to

conform to the requirements of this Ordinance after having been notified so to do by any enforcing official, each days continuance of such violation shall be deemed a separate offense.

Passed by the Council: November 13, 1963

Approved by the Mayor: November 13, 1963

Effective Date:

December 13, 1963

ATTEST:

Torneta Icham