CHAPTER 121

CIGARETTE PERMITS

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121.01 DEFINITIONS. For use in this chapter the following terms are defined:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 453A.1)

1. "Carton" means a box or container of any kind in which ten or more packages or packs of cigarettes or tobacco products are offered for sale, sold or otherwise distributed to consumers.

2. "Cigarette" means any roll for smoking made wholly or in part of tobacco, or any substitute for tobacco, irrespective of size or shape and irrespective of tobacco or any substitute for tobacco being flavored, adulterated or mixed with any other ingredient, where such roll has a wrapper or cover made of paper or any other material. However, this definition is not to be construed to include cigars.

3. "Package" or "pack" means a container of any kind in which cigarettes or tobacco products are offered for sale, sold or otherwise distributed to consumers.

4. "Place of business" means any place where cigarettes are sold, stored or kept for the purpose of sale or consumption by a retailer.

5. "Retailer" means every person who sells, distributes or offers for sale for consumption, or possesses for the purpose of sale for consumption, cigarettes, irrespective of the quantity or amount or the number of sales.

6. "Self-service display" means any manner of product display, placement or storage from which a person purchasing the product may take possession of the product, prior to purchase, without assistance from the retailer or employee of the retailer, in removing the product from a restricted access location.

7. "Tobacco products" means the following: cigars; little cigars; cheroots; stogies; periques; granulated, plug cut, crimp cut, ready rubbed and other smoking tobacco; snuff; snuff flour; cavendish; plug and twist

tobacco; fine-cut and other chewing tobaccos; shorts or refuse scraps, clippings, cuttings and sweepings of tobacco; and other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such manner as to be suitable for chewing or smoking in a pipe or otherwise, or for both chewing and smoking, but does not mean cigarettes.

121.02 PERMIT REQUIRED. It is unlawful for any person, other than a holder of a retail permit, to sell cigarettes at retail and no retailer shall distribute, sell or solicit the sale of any cigarettes within the City without a valid permit for each place of business. The permit shall be displayed publicly in the place of business so that it can be seen easily by the public. No permit shall be issued to a minor.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 453A.13)

121.03 APPLICATION. A completed application on forms provided by the State Department of Revenue and accompanied by the required fee shall be filed with the Clerk. Renewal applications shall be filed at least five (5) days prior to the last regular meeting of the Council in June. If a renewal application is not timely filed, and a special Council meeting is called to act on the application, the costs of such special meeting shall be paid by the applicant.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 453A.13)

121.04 FEES. The fee for a retail cigarette permit shall be as follows:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 453A.13)

FOR PERMITS GRANTED DURING:	FEE:
July, August or September	$ 75.00
October, November or December	$ 56.25
January, February or March	$ 37.50
April, May or June	$ 18.75

121.05 ISSUANCE AND EXPIRATION. Upon proper application and payment of the required fee, a permit shall be issued. Each permit issued shall describe clearly the place of business for which it is issued and shall be non-assignable. All permits expire on June 30 of each year. The City Administrator shall submit a duplicate of any application for a permit, and any permit issued, to the Iowa Department of Public Health within thirty (30) days of issuance.

121.06 REFUNDS. A retailer may surrender an unrevoked permit and receive a refund from the City, except during April, May or June, in accordance with the schedule of refunds as provided in Section 453A.13 of the Code of Iowa.

(Code of Iowa, 453A.13)

121.07 PERSONS UNDER LEGAL AGE. No person shall sell, give or otherwise supply any tobacco, tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, vapor products, or cigarettes to any person under twenty-one (21) years of age. The provision of this section includes prohibiting a minor from purchasing cigarettes or tobacco products from a vending machine. If a retailer or employee of a retailer violates the provisions of this section, the Council shall, after written notice and hearing, and in addition to the other penalties fixed for such violation, assess the following:

1. For a first violation, the retailer shall be assessed a civil penalty in the amount of three hundred dollars ($300.00). Failure to pay the civil penalty as ordered under this subsection shall result in automatic suspension of the permit for a period of fourteen (14) days.

2. For a second violation within a period of two (2) years, the retailer shall be assessed a civil penalty in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00) or the retailer's permit shall be suspended for a period of thirty (30) days. The retailer may select its preference in the penalty to be applied under this subsection.

3. For a third violation within a period of three (3) years, the retailer shall be assessed a civil penalty in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00) and the retailer's permit shall be suspended for a period of thirty (30) days.

4. For a fourth violation within a period of three (3) years, the retailer shall be assessed a civil penalty in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00) and the retailer's permit shall be suspended for a period of sixty (60) days.

5. For a fifth violation within a period of four (4) years, the retailer's permit shall be revoked.

The Clerk shall give ten (10) days' written notice to the retailer by mailing a copy of the notice to the place of business as it appears on the application for a permit. The notice shall state the reason for the contemplated action and the time and place at which the retailer may appear and be heard.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 453A.2, 453A.22 and 453A.36[6])

(Section 121.07 – Ord. 20-05 – Mar. 20 Supp.)

121.08 SELF-SERVICE SALES PROHIBITED. Beginning January 1, 1999, except for the sale of cigarettes through a cigarette vending machine as provided in Section 453A.36 (6) of the Code of Iowa, a retailer shall not sell or offer for sale cigarettes or tobacco products, in a quantity of less than a carton, through the use of a self-service display.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 453A.36A)

121.09 PERMIT REVOCATION. Following a written notice and an opportunity for a hearing, as provided by the Code of Iowa, the Council may also revoke a permit issued pursuant to this chapter for a violation of Division I of Chapter 453A of the Code of Iowa or any rule adopted thereunder. If a permit is revoked, a new permit shall not be issued to the permit holder for any place of business, or to any other person for the place of business at which the violation occurred, until one year has expired from the date of revocation, unless good cause to the contrary is shown to the Council. The City Administrator shall report the revocation or suspension of a retail permit to the Iowa Department of Public Health within thirty (30) days of the revocation or suspension.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 453A.22)