CHAPTER V

FIRE CONTROL

Sec. 5-1. Fire Chief. There is hereby created the office of Fire Chief who shall be in charge of fire prevention control and extinguishment activities of the town. He shall be appointed by the Town President by and with the consent of the Board of the Town. Until a Fire Chief is appointed the Town President shall be ex-officio Fire Chief.

Sec. 5-2. Authority to Remove Poles. Wires and Buildings. Limitations. When a fire is in progress, the chief of the department, or in his absence, the officer in charge, in case of urgent public necessity may order any telegraph, telephone, electric light wire or poles, in close proximity thereto, to be torn down or wotherwise disposed of, and he may likewise order any building or buildings, in close proximity thereto, to be torn down or otherwise disposed of for the purpose of checking the conflagration, but neither the chief of the department or any officer or member of the fire department shall unnecessarily or recklessly destroy or injure any building or other property.

Sec. 5-3. Fire Department May Blockade Street. Whenever a fire shall occur it shall be lawful for the chief, or the officer in command, to blockage any street, avenue, alley, sidewalk or other place if in his judgement it is necessary to secure the efficient working of the men, hose, engines, or hook and ladder apparatus under his command, and to protect the hose of said department from injury. It shall be unlawful for any person to break through said blockade.

Sec. 5-4. Limits at Fire. The marshal , inconjuction with the fire officer in charge, may presdibe the limits in the vicinity

of the fire within which no person, except members of the department, marshal and police officers or those admitted by order of the officer in charge, shall be permitted to come.

Sec. 5-5. Disobedience of By-Standers. Penalty. The marshal, fire chief, foreman, or any officer in charge of the department may require the aid of every citizen, inhabitant or by-stander in drawing any engine, cart or other fire apparatus to the fire and upon refusal or neglect of any such person to immediately comply with such requirements, the offender shall, upon conviction thereof, be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five ($25.00) Dollars. All officers authorized to command the aid or assistance of any citizen, inhabitant or by-stander are hereby authorized likewise to arrest such citizen, inhabitant or by-stander for refusal to obey any reasonable directions for the extinguishing of the fire or the protection of property.

Sec. 5-6. Unlawful Interference with Officers, Apparatus, Water, etc. Penalty. Any person who shall wilfully hinder any officer or foreman in the charge of his duty at a fire, or in any manner injure, deface or destroy any engine, hose or other fire apparatus belonging to the town or who shall interfere with any fire company or person, or who shall wilfully break or injure any water pipe, or in any way interfere with the water or its source of supply, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not to exceed one hundred ($100.00) or by imprisonment not exceeding three months or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Sec. 5-7. Use of Water. The chief of the fire department or other officer in charge, shall have the right to use water from

any source for the purpose of extinguishing fires or for saving property in danger of being destroyed thereby.

Sec. 5-8. Combustibles. It shall be unlawful for any person to permit the accumulation of empty boxes, waste, or other inflamable substance on any premises within the city limits or carry on any business in or about any premises in such a manner as to endanger such premises or building or other building or premises to danger by fire or explosion.

Sec. 5-9. Right to Enter Upon Premises. The fire chief or his deputies shall have the right to enter upon any premises at all reasonable hours for the purpose of inspecting the same.

Sec. 5-10. Dangerous and Defective Structures. Combustible waste. Explosives. Storage of. Notice to Make Safe. Whenever in the judgement of the fire chief, any building or structure, or any portion thereof, or any appurtenances of fixtures, thereto, or any chimney, smokestack, stove, oven, furnace or wiring or thing connected with such building or premises is deemed defective or unsafe, and such defect or unsafe condition is such as to create a danger from fire; or whenever the owner, or occupant of such building or structure or part thereof keeps or stores any explosive combustible, inflammable material, waste or rubbish of any description in such manner that the same creates a danger from fire, the fire chief or his deputies shall give the owner, or person having control of such building or structure not exceeding five (5) days' notice of required changes, alterations, or repairs necessary to render the same safe to life and property from fire, and any person refusing or neglecting to comply with such notice shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor.

Sec. 5-11 Investigation after Fire. Report. The chief (or in his absence, his assistants in charge of the fire) shall after its extinguishment, make a prompt and thorough investigation of the cause of the fire, the time of breaking out, the amount of loss and insurance, a description of the affected buildings and premises, and shall secure all other useful information and data available, and record the same in a record book kept for that purpose in the office os the department, and shall report the same to the Town Board at such times as it may direct.

Sec. 5-12. Driving Over The Fire Hose. It shall be unlawful for the owner or person in charge or control of any type of vehicle to drive the same over any fire hose on any street in this city.