(Corrected and republished May 22, 1998)

(Published in the Daily Reporter on _MAR 27 1998_)

**ORDINANCE NO. 43-717**


BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS:

**SECTION 1.** Section 24.04.050 of the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

24.04.050 *Permits required.* Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to place, locate, erect, construct, reconstruct, remodel, relocate, alter, hang, affix or create by painting, a sign within the city without first obtaining a permit from the superintendent of central inspection who shall issue permits for the following:

(a) *Permanent Sign Permit.* This permit shall be required for all new permanent signs erected, constructed, reconstructed, remodeled, relocated, altered, hung, affixed or created by painting, or for signs altered to increase the height or area. A permanent sign permit shall not have an
expiration date.

(b) Temporary Sign Permit. The owner of any temporary sign shall obtain a temporary sign permit under the conditions set forth by Section 24.04.070. Temporary sign permits shall have an expiration date and shall be valid only for the duration of time noted on the permit and subject to Sections 24.04.230 and 24.04.235 and all the other applicable provisions of the city ordinances.

(c) Exemption from Permits and Fees. All provisions of this chapter shall apply to the following signs, except that permits or permit fees shall not be required for:

1) Temporary, non-illuminated, real estate signs, not more than eight square feet in area, advertising the sale, lease or rental of the premises on which the sign is located;

2) Political signs not exceeding six square feet in area, provided such signs shall not be more than five feet in height and shall not be located closer than six feet to a side property line; and, provided further that prior to December 1, 1990, such signs may be a maximum of thirty-two square feet in size;

3) Nameplate signs not exceeding two square feet in area accessory to a dwelling;

4) Temporary on-site signs in conjunction with
licensed miscellaneous sales, not exceeding two square feet in area, and located on private property; or

(5) Special displays as set forth in Section 24.04.240;

(6) Directional on-site signs, not exceeding three square feet in area;

(7) Identification and nameplate signs, not exceeding three square feet in area, that are painted or attached to the windows, doors or walls of a building;

(8) Special event announcement signs as set forth in Sec. 24.04.190;

(9) Commercial balloon signs not exceeding five square feet in area as measured at the largest cross-section.

SECTION 2. Section 24.04.060 of the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

24.04.060 Permit application and issuance.

(a) Application for permits shall be made to the superintendent of central inspection upon forms provided by the city and shall be accompanied by such information as may be required to assure compliance with all appropriate regulations. This may include drawings indicating the sign legend or advertising message, location, dimensions, construction and structural design. If the superintendent of
central inspection deems it necessary, he may also require that a licensed engineer furnish information concerning structural design of the sign and the proposed attachments.

(b) The superintendent of central inspection shall issue a permit for a sign when an application therefor has been made and the sign complies with all applicable regulations of the City.

(c) A permanent sign permit issued under the provisions of this chapter shall expire by limitation and become null and void if the work authorized by such permit is not commenced within one hundred eighty days from the date of such permit, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of one hundred twenty days or more at any time after the work is commenced.

The superintendent of central inspection may grant extensions to these time limitations when a request is made in writing due to unusual circumstances. Before such work can be commenced or resumed thereafter, a new permit shall first be obtained and the fee therefor shall be one-half the amount required for a new permit for such work; provided no changes have been made in the original design of the sign, and provided further that such suspension or abandonment has not exceeded one year.

(d) Only licensed and bonded sign hangers may place,
locate, erect, construct, reconstruct, remodel, relocate, alter, hang, affix or create by painting any sign requiring a permit.

Exceptions:

(1) Temporary signs set forth in Section 24.04.230, except for commercial balloon signs, provided that the superintendent of central inspection may require such a sign hanger when the location or nature of such sign requires such sign hanger in the determination of the superintendent;

(2) Maintenance and repairing of existing signs by the owner when no structural changes are made to a sign;

(3) Portable signs.

(e) No permit for a sign issued under this chapter shall be deemed to constitute permission or authorization to maintain a public or private nuisance, nor shall any permit issued hereunder constitute a defense in an action to abate a nuisance.

(f) No permit shall be issued for a new sign or the reconstruction, relocation or expansion of a nonconforming sign, when the issuance of the permit would be contrary to applicable regulations.

**SECTION 3. Section 24.04.070** of the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:
24.04.070 Permit fees. The fee as set forth in this section must be paid to the City before any such permit is issued. Every sign, except those signs exempt from these regulations by Section 24.04.040 or from permits by Section 24.04.050, requires a permit. The fees set forth in this section may hereafter be modified by such fee schedule as may be established by resolution of the governing body. Such new or modified fees shall become effective upon publication.

(a) Permanent Sign Permit Fee.

(1) For each permanent sign that is placed, located, erected, constructed, reconstructed, remodeled, relocated, altered, hung, affixed or created by painting, the sign permit fee shall be twenty-five dollars, plus six dollars per each ten square feet in gross surface area or fraction thereof.

(2) For each existing permanent sign that is altered to increase the area or height of the sign, a sign permit fee of twenty-five dollars plus six dollars per ten square feet of increase in gross surface area of the sign or fraction thereof.

(3) For each existing permanent on-site sign of which the copy is altered or changed by painting or replacing sign faces where no increase in height or area occurs, and does not involve structural changes, a sign
permit fee of twenty-five dollars shall be paid. This fee shall not apply when a change is made to add an additional face to a single face sign. Further, no permit is required for mere repainting or replacement of a damaged sign face when there is no substantive change or alteration to existing copy and no increase in the height or area of the sign.

(4) For each sign that is placed, located, erected, constructed, reconstructed, remodeled, relocated, altered, hung, affixed or created by painting without first obtaining a permanent sign permit, the fee shall be twice the amount specified above.

(5) For each real estate sign exceeding eight square feet that is erected, constructed, reconstructed, remodeled, relocated, altered, hung, affixed or created by painting, the sign permit fee shall be fifteen dollars, plus four dollars for each ten square feet in gross surface area or fraction thereof.

(b) Temporary Sign Permit Fees.

(1) For advertising decorations permitted by Section 24.04.190 of this code, a temporary sign permit fee of five dollars, plus \text{one} dollar\$ for each ten square feet in gross surface area or fraction thereof, in excess of one hundred square feet gross surface area of
all banners, streamers, flags, posters or other advertising devices, shall be paid for each event, with a maximum time limit of thirty days.

(2) For commercial balloon signs requiring a permit, the commercial balloon sign permit fee shall be fifteen dollars for each five-day permit issued under the requirements of Section 24.04.235. Such commercial balloon permits shall be obtained by a licensed sign hanger.

(3) For all other temporary signs requiring a permit, the temporary sign permit fee shall be five dollars plus one dollar for each fifty square feet, or fraction thereof, shall be paid for each sign, with a time limitation as set forth in this code.

(4) For any temporary sign placed on any property without securing a permit and paying the fee therefor, the fee shall be twice the amount set forth above.

(5) For portable signs permitted by this code, a temporary sign permit of ten dollars shall be paid for each thirty days the sign shall remain on a zoning lot.

Exception: Portable signs for which an annual temporary sign permit has been obtained, as set forth in
subsection (6) of this section, need not have a separate temporary sign permit; provided, however, the sign company placing any such sign shall notify the office of central inspection of the location of any sign, within twenty-four hours of the placement of the sign, on a form furnished for said purpose.

(6) For portable signs that are individually owned, leased or loaned to any business, institution or individual that are to be located in the city, an annual temporary sign permit shall be obtained for each individual sign. Such annual temporary sign permit shall be one hundred dollars. Any such sign for which said permit is obtained shall bear a decal showing the expiration date of the permit and shall also have the name of the sign owner located on the sign.

(c) Double Fee. The payment of a double fee for failing to obtain the appropriate permit prior to the placement, location, erection, construction, reconstruction, remodeling, relocation, alteration, hanging, affixing or creation by painting a sign shall not relieve any person from complying with other provisions of this chapter or from the penalties prescribed herein.

SECTION 4. Section 24.04.150 of the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:
24.04.150 License to Engage In Business of Sign Hanger.

All persons engaged in the business of hanging or installing signs, including commercial balloon signs, which involves in whole or part the placement, location, erection, construction, reconstruction, remodeling, relocation, alteration, hanging, affixing or creation by painting of such signs shall be required to obtain a license from the city to conduct such business. This shall be an annual license and the fee therefor shall be one hundred dollars.

SECTION 5. Section 24.04.185 of the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, shall read as follows:

24.04.185 Classifications and Definitions.

1. Classification of Signs. Signs shall be classified by the superintendent of central inspection in accordance with the following classifications and definitions:

   a. Sign, Advertising Decoration. Various sign materials used for temporary display and decoration, including streamers, banners, pennants, pinwheels, commercial flags, bunting and similar devices;

   b. Sign, Building. An on-site sign attached to or painted onto a wall, awning, canopy, building or structure, the height of which shall not exceed the height of the roof or parapet; except that a building or structure that was constructed prior to May 4, 1990, that does not have an area
at least three feet tall and twenty feet wide in front of an unglazed portion of the building elevation, the bottom of which is at least seven feet above grade, may have a building sign which shall not exceed four feet, six inches above the roof or parapet;

c. Sign, Bulletin Board. An on-site sign containing the name of the institution or organization, and may also include names of persons connected with it, announcements of persons, events or activities occurring at the institution. Such sign may also present a greeting or similar message;

d. Sign, Commercial Balloon. An on-site, temporary sign that is inflated and exceeds five square feet in area, as measured at the largest cross-section, designed to advertise a specific product or service sold, produced or conducted on the premises, on which advertising copy, logos, symbols or emblems may or may not be printed, painted or attached. Commercial balloon signs may be tethered or mounted to a structure or the ground.

e. Sign, Construction. A temporary on-site sign indicating the names of architects, engineers, landscape architects, contractors, financier and similar artisans involved in the design and construction of a structure or project during the period of construction;

f. Sign, Directional. A sign containing words or
symbols indicating an entrance to, exit from, or location of parking, loading, restrooms and emergency entrances which are for the convenience of the public;

g. Sign, Ground. A sign placed upon, or supported by, the ground independently of any building or structure on the property. This includes a sign supported on poles or posts whose face is less than six feet above ground level;

h. Sign, Identification. An on-site sign which carries only the name and address of a building, business, development or establishment. Such sign may be wholly or partly devoted to a readily recognized symbol;

i. Sign, Nameplate. A small on-site sign located at any entrance to a building and indicating the name and/or address of an occupant and, where applicable, a professional status;

j. Sign, Off-site. A sign delivering a message or advertisement other than the name, occupation or nature of the activities conducted on the premises or the products sold or manufactured thereon;

k. Sign, On-site. A sign which carries only a message or advertisement strictly incidental to a lawful use of the premises on which it is located, including signs or sign devices indicating the business transacted, services rendered, goods sold or produced on the premises, the rental
or lease of products or building space, name of the person, firm or corporation occupying the premises;

1. **Sign, Pole.** A sign whose face is not less than six feet above ground level and is supported by poles or posts;

m. **Sign, Political.** A sign pertaining to the announcement of an individual being a legally registered candidate for an elective political office. Any such sign exceeding thirty-two square feet of gross surface area shall be classified as an off-site sign and regulated accordingly, provided that after December 1, 1990, any such sign exceeding six square feet of gross surface area shall be classified as an off-site sign and regulated accordingly;

n. **Sign, Portable.** A temporary on-site sign designed in such a manner to be readily movable and not permanently attached to the property; such as, A-frames, trailer signs, signs placed on vehicles, beacon lights and other similar signs. Any such sign shall not exceed a height of ten feet above grade; and shall not exceed sixty square feet per side in gross surface area.

o. **Sign, Project Directory.** An on-site sign containing the names and locations, in list or map form, of the individual components making up a planned unit development, shopping center or similar project;
p. Sign, Project Title. An on-site sign which carries the overall name of a residential subdivision, shopping center, industrial park, medical complex, planned unit development, mobile home park and similar projects;

q. Sign, Projecting. An on-site sign suspended from, or supported by, a building or structure and projecting there from a distance exceeding one foot beyond the property line;

r. Sign, Real Estate. An on-site sign displayed for the purpose of offering real property for sale, lease or rent;

s. Sign, Roof. A sign erected upon or above the roof of a building or structure that does not meet the definition of a Building Sign;

t. Sign, Temporary. An on-site sign that is limited in the period of time that such sign may remain on a property either by the limitations of these regulations or the conditions of the permit;

u. Sign, Wall. A sign attached to, erected against, or painted onto a wall of a building with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to said wall;

v. Sign, Window. On-site signs, either temporary or permanent, installed on the window areas of a building;

w. Zoning District or Districts. Zoning classifications established in Chapter 28 of this Code.
2. To the extent they are not inconsistent with this chapter, the definitions adopted for Chapter 28 shall apply to the terms used in this chapter. The use of zoning definitions and reference to the zoning code is for the purposes of convenience and shall not be deemed to make the sign ordinance or activities or regulation under the sign ordinance as zoning or zoning regulation.

3. Signs subject to more than one classification. Whenever a sign could be subject to more than one classification, the superintendent of central inspection shall determine the most appropriate classification and apply all applicable regulations.

SECTION 6. Section 24.04.195 of the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

24.04.195 Signs permitted in the "LC" Limited Commercial District.

1. Illuminated on-site ground or pole signs as permitted by Section 24.04.221;

2. Illuminated building signs; provided, that there shall be no more than three signs for each business on each building elevation having street frontage or fronting onto a parking area with a depth of one hundred fifty feet or more, and shall be limited in total area to twenty percent of each
building elevation. Signs shall not be more than thirty feet above grade or more than four hundred square feet in area. Building elevations not having street frontage, but facing onto parking or loading areas exceeding fifty feet in depth, may provide identification signs for each place of business having an entrance therefrom; providing such signs shall not exceed fifteen square feet in area nor be more than twelve feet above grade;

3. Illuminated off-site signs as permitted by Section 24.04.222;

4. Portable signs; provided, however, only one sign shall be permitted for an individual business. Any such sign shall be located in accordance with all other applicable regulations including, but not limited to, the area and spacing limitations for pole and ground signs, the location of the sign in relation to the street right-of-way line and the distance from driveway approaches. Such signs may be illuminated; however, strobe lights or flashing bulbs and flashing or moving images shall not be permitted. Any sign permitted by this section shall not exceed sixty square feet in gross surface area.

5. Commercial balloon signs as permitted by Section 24.04.235.

SECTION 7. Section 24.04.196 of the Code of the City of
Wichita, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**24.04.196 Signs permitted in the "GC" General Commercial and "LI" Limited Industrial Districts.**

1. Illuminated on-site ground or pole signs as permitted by Section 24.04.221;

2. Illuminated off-site signs as permitted by Section 24.04.222;

3. Illuminated building signs, provided that signs shall be limited in total area to twenty percent of each building elevation, and no individual sign shall exceed four hundred square feet.

4. Roof signs, except for commercial balloon signs, shall not be permitted except by a variance approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals;

5. Portable signs; provided, however, only one sign shall be permitted for an individual business. Any such sign shall be located in accordance with all other applicable regulations; including but not limited to, the area and spacing limitations for pole and ground signs, the location of the sign in relation to the street right-of-way line and the distance from driveway approaches. Such signs may be illuminated; however, strobe lights or flashing bulbs and flashing or moving images shall not be permitted. Any sign permitted by this section shall not exceed sixty square feet
in gross surface area.

6. Commercial balloon signs as permitted by Section 24.04.235.

SECTION 8. Section 24.04.197 of the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

24.04.197 Signs permitted in the "CBD" Central Business District.

1. Illuminated on-site ground or pole signs as permitted by Section 24.04.221;

2. Illuminated building signs, provided that signs shall be limited in total area to 20 percent of each building elevation, and no individual sign shall exceed four hundred square feet in area.

3. Roof signs, except for commercial balloon signs, shall not be permitted except by a variance approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals.


SECTION 9 Section 24.04.198 of the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, is hereby amended to read as follows:

24.04.198 Signs permitted in the GI General Industrial District.

1. Illuminated on-site ground or pole signs as permitted by Section 24.04.221;
2. Illuminated off-site signs as permitted by Section 24.04.222;

3. Illuminated building signs; provided that signs shall be limited in total area to twenty percent of each building elevation, and no individual sign shall exceed four hundred square feet in area.

4. Roof signs, except for commercial balloon signs, shall not be permitted except by a variance approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

5. Portable signs; provided, however, only one sign shall be permitted for an individual business. Any such sign shall be located in accordance with all other applicable regulations including, but not limited to, the area and spacing limitations for pole and ground signs, the location of the sign in relation to the street right-of-way line and the distance from driveway approaches. Such signs may be illuminated; however, strobe lights or flashing bulbs and flashing or moving images shall not be permitted. Any sign permitted by this section shall not exceed sixty square feet in gross surface area.

6. Commercial balloon signs as permitted by Section 24.04.235.

SECTION 10. Section 24.04.235 of the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, is hereby created to read as follows:
24.04.235. Commercial Balloon Signs. Commercial balloon signs as permitted in the zoning districts as set forth in Sections 24.04.195, 24.04.196, 24.04.197 and 24.04.198, shall be permitted with the following limitations:

a) Commercial balloon signs shall be limited to one balloon sign per zoning lot at any given time.

b) Commercial balloon signs shall be limited to a maximum of 160 square feet in area as measured at the largest cross-section.

c) Commercial balloon signs shall be limited to seven-day permits issued no more than four (4) times per calendar year through the Office of Central Inspection.

d) Commercial balloon signs shall be limited in height to a maximum of forty-five above grade when mounted or tethered on a roof or structure, and to twenty-five feet above grade when mounted on or tethered to the ground.

e) Commercial balloon signs shall be located no closer than one hundred feet to the nearest lot line of any SF-6, SF-10, SF-20, or TF-3 zoning district.

f) Commercial balloon signs must be anchored and/or tethered in accordance with the commercial balloon sign manufacturer's recommendations.

g) Commercial balloon signs must be deflated and properly secured when wind speeds exceed forty miles per hour...
24.04.235. Commercial Balloon Signs. Commercial balloon signs as permitted in the zoning districts as set forth in Sections 24.04.195, 24.04.196, 24.04.197 and 24.04.198, shall be permitted with the following limitations:

a) Commercial balloon signs shall be limited to one balloon sign per zoning lot at any given time.

b) Commercial balloon signs shall be limited to a maximum of 160 square feet in area as measured at the largest cross-section.

c) Commercial balloon signs shall be limited to seven-day permits issued no more than four (4) times per calendar year through the Office of Central Inspection.

d) Commercial balloon signs shall be limited in height to a maximum of forty-five above grade when mounted or tethered on a roof or structure, and to twenty-five feet above grade when mounted on or tethered to the ground.

e) Commercial balloon signs shall be located no closer than one hundred feet to the nearest lot line of any SF-6, SF-10, SF-20, or TF-3 zoning district.

f) Commercial balloon signs must be anchored and/or tethered in accordance with the commercial balloon sign manufacturer's recommendations.

g) Commercial balloon signs must be deflated and properly secured when wind speeds exceed forty miles per hour
or the manufacturer’s maximum wind speed, whichever is less.

h) Commercial balloon signs shall be located no closer than five hundred feet to any hospital helicopter landing pad.

i) Commercial balloon signs shall be located in accordance with all applicable Federal Aviation Administration regulations.

j) Any gas used in commercial balloon signs must be non-combustible.

k) Commercial balloon signs shall be fire retardant.

l) Commercial balloons signs shall be located no closer than the height of the commercial balloon plus ten (10) feet from any electric power transmission line.


SECTION 12. This ordinance shall be included in the Code of the City of Wichita, Kansas, and be effective upon its passage and publication once in the Official City paper.

ADOPTED at Wichita, Kansas, this MAR 24 1998
Bob Knight, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pat Burnett, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Gary E. Rebenstorf, City Attorney
STATE OF KANSAS )
County of Sedgwick )

Letha Stephenson, being first duly sworn, Deposes and says: That he/she is Legal Manager of THE DAILY REPORTER, a daily newspaper printed in the State of Kansas, and published in and of general circulation in Sedgwick County, Kansas, with a general paid circulation on a daily basis in Sedgwick County, Kansas, and that said newspaper is not a trade, religious or fraternal publication.

Said newspaper is a daily published Monday through Friday, and has been so published continuously and uninterrupted in said county and state for a period of more than five years prior to the first publication of said notice, and has been admitted at the post office of Derby, Kansas, in said county as second class matter.

That the attached notice is a true copy thereof and was published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper for one consecutive week, the first publication thereof being made as aforesaid on the 22nd day of May, 1998, with subsequent publications being made on the following dates:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26th day of May, 1998

Brenda Mello
Notary Public

Printers fee $ 1,878.48 & 339.76
Additional copies $