At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh, N. Y., held December 10, 1970,

PRESENT: Mayor Steltzer, Aldermen Burke, Ryan, Branon

Akey and Ianelli

ABSENT: Alderman King

By Alderman Burke; seconded by Alderman Ryan:

LOCAL LAW NO. 9 OF 1970

A local law relating to a Code of Ethics for the City of Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

Be it enacted by the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh as follows:

ARTICLE I

Section 1. Statement of Legislative Intent. The Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh recognizes that there are state statutory provisions authorizing cities to establish rules and standards of ethical conduct for public officers and employees which, if observed, can enhance public confidence in local government. In the light of a tendency today on the part of some people to downgrade our local governments and to discredit our public servants and our free institutions generally, it appears necessary that every effort be made to assure the highest caliber of public administration of this City as part of our state's important system of local government. It is the purpose of this local law to implement this objective through the establishment of standards of conduct, to provide for punishment of violation of such standards and to create a board of ethics to render advisory opinions to the Cities officers and employees as provided herein.

Section 2. The standards prohibited acts and procedures established herein are in addition to any prohibited acts, conflicts of interest provisions or procedures prescribed by statute of the State of New York and also in addition to common law rules and judicial decisions relating to the conduct of City officers to the extent that the same are more severe in their application than this local law.

ARTICLE 11

CODE OF ETHICS

Section 1. <u>Definitions</u>. As used in this local law, the term "City" shall mean any board, commission, district, council or other agency, department or unit of the government of the City of Platts-burgh.

The term "City Employee" shall mean any officer or employee of the City of Plattsburgh whether paid or unpaid, whether serving in a full-time, part-time or advisory capacity.

Section 2. Rule with respect to conflicts of interest. No City employee shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business or transaction or professional activity or incur any obligation of any nature, which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his duties in the public interest.

Section 3. Standards.

- a. No City Employee shall accept other employment which will impair his independence of judgment in the exercise of his official duties.
- b. No City Employee shall accept employment or engage in any business or professional activity which will require him to disclose confidential information which he has gained by reason of his official position or authority.
- c. No City Employee shall use or attempt to use his official position to secure unwarranted privileges or exemptions for himself or others.
- d. No City Employee shall engage in any transaction as representative or agent of the City with any business entity in which he has a direct or indirect financial interest that might reasonably tend to conflict with the proper discharge of his official duties.

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- e. A City Employee shall not by his conduct give reasonable basis for the impression that any person can improperly influence nim or unduly enjoy his favor in the performance of his official duties, or that he is affected by the kinship, rank, position or influence of any party or person.
- f. Each City Employee shall abstain from making personal investments in enterprises which he has reason to believe may be directly involved in decisions to be made by him or which will otherwise create substantial conflict between his duty in the public interest and his private interest.
- g. Each City Employee shall endeavor to pursue a course of conduct which will not raise suspicion among the public that he is likely to be engaged in acts that are in violation of his trust.
- h. No City Employee employed on a full-time basis nor any firm or association of which such employee is a member nor corporation a substantial portion of the stock of which is owned or controlled directly or indirectly by such employee, shall sell goods or services to any person, firm, corporation or association which is licensed or whose rates are fixed by the City in which such employee serves or is employed.
- i. Each City Employee shall, to the extent that he is cognizant thereof, disclose any interest he may have in legislation before the City Board.

Section 4. <u>Violations</u>. In addition to any penalty contained in any other provision of law, any such City Employee who shall knowingly and intentionally violate any of the provisions of this local law may be fined, suspended or removed from office or employment in the manner provided by law.

ARTICLE III

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

Section 1. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or

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ARTICLE IV

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 1. This local law shall take effect after filing and approval by the Mayor.

On roll call, Aldermen Burke, Ryan, Branon, Akey and Ianelli voted in the affirmative; no one in the negative; (Alderman King being absent) CARRIED.

This Local Law certified to the Mayor this 17th day of December, 1970.

CITY CLERK

The foregoing Local Law is hereby approved after Public Hearing held this 17th day of December, 1970.

MAYOR

THOMAS R. QUINN
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CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, N. Y.
12901