
Council Bill Number: 111153

Ordinance Number: 118049

AN ORDINANCE relating to the regulation and licensing of steam engineers and boiler fireman, repealing Section 6.230.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code and enacting a new Section 6.230.030, and amending Sections 6.230.60, 6.230.070, 6.230.110 and 6.230.160, all to correct errors in Ordinance 117864.

Status: PASSED

Note: 4th quarter 1995 reclassification ordinance

Vote: 5-0

Date of Mayor's signature: 1996/03/12 ([about the signature date](#))

Date introduced/referred to committee: 1996/03/04

Committee: Business and Labor Policy

Sponsor: DRAGO

Committee Recommendation: Pass

Index Terms: LICENSES, PUBLIC-REGULATIONS

Electronic Copy: [PDF scan of Ordinance No. 118049](#)

Reference: Repealing: Ord 117864. Amending: Ord 117169

Text:

AN ORDINANCE relating to the regulation and licensing of steam engineers and boiler firemen, repealing Section 6.230.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code and enacting a new Section 6.230.030, and amending Sections 6.230.060, 6.230.070, 6.230.110 and 6.230.160, all to correct errors in Ordinance 117864.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 6.230.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code, as last amended by Section 2 of Ordinance 117864, is hereby repealed.

Section 2. A new Section 6.230.030 is added to the Seattle Municipal Code to read as follows:

6.230.030 Definitions.

Words and phrases used in this Chapter relating to the regulation and licensing of steam engineers and boiler firemen shall have the following meanings:

1. "Automatic boiler" means a boiler equipped with certain controls and limit devices as required by the Boiler Code.
2. "Boiler" means a closed vessel used for heating water or other liquid or for generating steam or vapor by direct application of heat from combustible fuels or electricity.
3. "Boiler Code" is the Seattle Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (Title 22 Subtitle IVA of the Seattle Municipal Code) as now or hereafter amended.

4. "Boiler plant" means one or more boilers and connecting piping and vessels within the same premises.
5. "Boiler supervisor" means a steam engineer Grade I, II or III who has passed additional examinations as required by the Department pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter.
6. "City Boiler Inspector" means a City of Seattle Boiler/Pressure Systems Inspector employed by the Department.
7. "Department" means the Department of Construction and Land Use.
8. "Director" means the Director of the Department of Construction and Land Use.
9. "Hoist and portable boiler" means a boiler used to provide steam for the operation of various types of equipment such as floating cranes, piledrivers and other similar types of equipment used in the construction industry.
10. "Hot-water supply boiler" is a boiler having a volume exceeding 120 gallons or a heat input exceeding 200,000 Btu/h or an operating temperature exceeding 210 F. or a pressure exceeding 160 psi, that provides hot water to be used externally to itself.
11. "Low-pressure hot-water heating boiler" means a boiler in which water is heated at pressures not exceeding 160 psi and temperatures not exceeding 250 F.
12. "Low-pressure steam-heating boiler" means a boiler operated at pressures not exceeding 15 psi for steam.
13. "Out of service." An automatic boiler shall be "out of service" if it is manually shut down for inspection, maintenance, or repair, except for limited repairs and adjustments as set forth in Section 6.230.150F.
14. "Power hot-water boiler" (high-temperature water boiler) means a boiler used for heating water or liquid to a pressure exceeding 160 psi or to a temperature exceeding 250 F.
15. "Power steam boiler" means a boiler in which steam or other vapor is generated at pressures exceeding 15 psi. For purposes of this chapter the term shall not include a small power boiler.
16. "Small power boiler" means a boiler with pressures exceeding 15 psi but not exceeding 100 psi and having less than 350,000 BTU per hour heat output.
17. "Steam engine" means all prime movers using vapors from a boiler for motive power, steam-driven compressors, and steam pumps except steam pumps and similar auxiliaries used only as appurtenances for the operation of a boiler.
18. "Water heater" means a closed vessel used for heating water by direct application of heat from combustible fuels or electricity with a nominal water-containing capacity of 120 gallons or less having a heat input not exceeding 200,000 BTU per hour and an operating temperature not exceeding 210 F.

Section 3. Subsection A of Section 6.230.060 of the Seattle Municipal Code, which Section was last amended by Ordinance 117864, is further amended as follows:

6.230.060 Grades of licenses.

A. The grades of steam engineers' and boiler firemen's licenses shall be as follows:

Boiler Supervisor Grade One (I), Boiler Supervisor Grade Two (II), Boiler Supervisor Grade Three (III), Grade One (I) Steam Engineer, Grade Two (II) Steam Engineer, Grade Three (III) Steam Engineer, Grade Four (IV) Boiler Fireman, Grade Five (V) Small Power Boiler Fireman, Grade Five (V) Boiler Fireman.

Section 4. Section 6.230.070 of the Seattle Municipal Code, as last amended by Ordinance 117864, is further amended

as follows:

6.230.070 Issuance of licenses.

Persons desiring a license ~~or certificate~~ described in Section 6.230.060 shall make written application to the Department on the forms provided by the Department. Such application shall include the applicant's full name and address. Applications shall be accompanied by a receipt showing payment of the required examination fee as provided under Section 6.230.090.

A. Applicants for a steam engineer's license, Grade I, II, or III shall show by competent evidence one ~~(+)~~ of the following:

1. That he/she has been employed at least three (3) years in a position directly responsible for the care and operation of boilers or steam engines, or in the design or supervision of boilers, boiler systems, boiler firing and automatic control and safety systems, or under the direct supervision of a licensed steam engineer, Grade I, II or III; or
2. That he/she has at least three (3) years of practical experience as a machinist apprentice in a steam engine works together with one (1) year of employment in the direct care and operation of boilers and steam engines; or
3. That he/she has graduated from a recognized school of technology and has had at least one (1) year of employment in the direct care and operation of boilers and steam engines.

Completion of a boiler fireman's course approved by the Department or its functional predecessor shall be the equivalent of one (1) year of practical experience under subsections 1 or 2 above, however, each applicant will be entitled to only one (1) such credit.

B. Any licensed Grade I, II or III steam engineer may apply for an upgrade to Boiler Supervisor, Grade I, II or III. Such applicant shall show by competent evidence that he/she has been employed at least three (3) years in one (1) of the following:

1. In a position directly responsible for the care or operation of boilers; or steam engines;
2. In the design or supervision of boilers, boiler systems, boiler firing, and automatic control and safety systems;
3. In the direct supervision of a licensed Grade I, II or III steam engineer.

C. Applicants for a Grade IV boiler fireman license shall show by competent evidence one ~~(+)~~ of the following:

1. One (1) year of practical experience in the care and operation of a boiler; or
2. Completion of an in-service training course in the fundamentals of boiler operation as approved by the Department or its functional predecessor which shall include at least forty (40) hours of classroom work together with:
 - a) eighty (80) hours of on-site training relating to the care and operation of boilers under the direct supervision of a steam engineer with a license of Grade I, II or III; or
 - b) forty (40) hours of lab work at a facility approved by the Department.

D. Applicants for a Grade III Steam Engineer License limited to hoist and portable boilers; shall show by competent evidence; one ~~(+)~~ of the following:

1. Three (3) years of practical experience in the care and operation of boilers and steam engines; or
2. Completion of an in-service training course on the fundamentals of boiler operation, as approved by the Department

or its functional predecessor which shall include ~~fifty-five (55)~~ hours of classroom work, together with ~~one hundred twenty (120)~~ hours of work relating to the care and operation of a minimum of two ~~(2)~~ separately located hoist and portable boilers, under the direct supervision of a steam engineer with a license of Grade I, II or III.

E. All persons applying for a license ~~or certificate~~ under this chapter shall be examined by the Department according to the provisions of Section 6.230.100. Upon determination by the Department that the applicant has passed the applicable examination and is otherwise qualified under this chapter, including payment by the applicant of the license fee, the Director shall issue the license. In lieu of a qualifying technical examination, the Director may accept as evidence of meeting the applicable ordinance requirements of Section 6.230.100, a valid and current license issued by the City of Tacoma which maintains a licensing and testing program that, in the judgment of the Director, meets or exceeds City of Seattle requirements.

Section 5. Section 6.230.110 of the Seattle Municipal Code, as last amended by Ordinance 117169, is further amended as follows:

6.230.110 Licenses to be posted or carried.

Every licensed steam engineer or boiler fireman on duty shall display his/her license in a conspicuous place in the room wherein the boiler or steam engine is located, and such shall be effective only for the operation of the plant where it is displayed. If the licensee is in charge of, or is operating, a portable boiler or steam engine and the posting of his/her license is not practicable, such license shall be carried on his/her person, and on demand he/she shall exhibit same. A boiler supervisor shall display a legible copy of his/her license ~~or certificate~~ in the boiler room of each boiler that he/she supervises.

Section 6. Subsection C of Section 6.230.160 of the Seattle Municipal Code, which Section was last amended by Ordinance 117864, is further amended as follows:

6.230.160 Observation and inspection of boilers.

C. Phrases used in this section shall have the following meanings:

1. "Check by boiler supervisor" means inspection of all controls and safety devices pursuant to the requirements of Section 6.230.150FD.
2. "Check by licensed operator" means supervision of boiler with responsibility for proper operation and maintenance pursuant to the requirements of SMC Sections 6.230.130 and 6.230.140.
3. "Approved monitoring system" means a monitoring system manufactured, installed, and maintained in a manner approved by the Director.
4. "Twice daily check" means two (2) inspections of a boiler that are required to be recorded in the boiler logbook by this chapter. The first check of the day shall be made not less than eight (8) hours after the last recorded check of the previous day; the second check of the day shall be made at least six (6) hours after the first recorded check of the day. This definition shall not preclude, in any way, additional checks being made to ensure safe operation of a boiler. Twice daily checks may not be performed by a Boiler Supervisor unless such Boiler Supervisor is a full time employee of the boiler owner.

Section 7. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten (10) days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 1996, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this _____ day of _____, 1996.

President _____ of the City Council