

CHAPTER 1165

Signs

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CROSS REFERENCES

Power to regulate billboards and signs - see Ohio R.C. 715.65
Definitions - see P. & Z. 1121.01 (48) et seq.
Nonconforming uses - see P. & Z. Ch. 1167

1165.01 NUMBER PERMITTED; COMPLIANCE.

For each use not more than two signs of any kind whatsoever shall be permitted. Signs may be erected and maintained only when in compliance with the following provisions, except that for the purpose of this chapter, "sign" does not include signs erected and maintained pursuant to and in discharge of any governmental function, or required by any law, ordinance, or governmental regulation.
(Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.02 ILLUMINATION; ROTATING SIGNS.

(a) Any illuminated sign or lighting device shall employ only light emitting a light of constant intensity, and no sign shall be illuminated by or contain flashing, intermittent, rotating, or moving light or lights. In no event shall an illuminated sign or device be placed or directed so as to permit the beams and illumination therefrom to be directed or beamed upon a public thoroughfare, highway, sidewalk or adjacent premises so as to cause glare or reflection that may constitute a traffic hazard or nuisance.

(b) No sign shall employ any parts or elements which revolve, rotate, whirl, spin or otherwise make use of motion to attract attention. These requirements shall not apply to any sign performing a public service function indicating time, temperature, stock market quotations or similar services.
(Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.03 PROHIBITED TYPES.

The following types or combination of types of signs are not permitted in any district and shall not be erected or constructed in the Municipality:

- (a) Flashing, running, sequential, mechanical, odor or noise emitting signs.
- (b) Signs which contain statements, words or pictures of obscene, pornographic, immoral character or which contain advertising that is false.
- (c) Signs which are designed to imitate or resemble official traffic signs.
- (d) Signs posted on trees or utility poles.
- (e) Roof signs.
- (f) "V" shaped or sandwich type ground signs.
- (g) Signs which obstruct any door, window, fire escape, balcony, platform, ladder, stairway, vent or other means of any ingress and egress from any building.
- (h) No mobile signs on wheels, runners, casters, parked trailers, parked vehicles or other mobile devices shall be permitted within the Municipality, except those on commercial delivery and service vehicles.
- (i) Signs which extend into the public right of way whatsoever.

(Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.04 PERMIT; EXEMPTIONS.

(a) Required. No person shall erect, alter or relocate any sign or other advertising structure except those exempted in subsection (e) hereof within the Village without first obtaining a sign permit from the Zoning Administrator and making payment of the required fee except that repairs or maintenance not involving structural changes may be permitted without first obtaining a permit.

(b) Application. Application for sign permits shall be made upon blanks provided by the Zoning Administrator and shall contain or have attached thereto the following information:

- (1) The name, address and telephone number of the applicant and owner of the premises;
- (2) The location of the building, structure or lot to which or upon which the sign or other advertising structure is to be attached or erected;

(3) Such other information as the Zoning Administrator shall require to show full compliance with this and all other ordinances of the Municipality.

(c) Revocability of Permits. All rights and privileges acquired under the provisions of this chapter or any amendment hereof are mere licenses granted for the duration of the requested use only, and are revocable upon showing just cause by the Zoning Administrator.

All permits shall contain this provision. All permits are conditioned upon the continued use of the premises or business for the purposes set forth in the application for the permit.

(d) Authority to Revoke. The Zoning Administrator is hereby authorized to revoke any permit issued by him upon failure of the holder thereof to comply with any provisions of this chapter.

(e) Permit Exemption. The permit provisions of this section shall not apply to the following signs:

- (1) Nonilluminated real estate signs not exceeding six square feet in area in a residential zone, twenty-five square feet in a B-1 or B-2 zone, one hundred square feet in area in an industrial district; such signs are those which advertise the sale, rental or lease of the premises upon which they are located;
- (2) Nonilluminated signs not exceeding twenty square feet in area which advertises the sale or development of lot subdivisions containing an area of not less than seven lots, erected upon the property so developed and advertised for sale;
- (3) Nameplates not exceeding two square feet in area, containing only the name of the resident, the title of the person practicing a profession, the name of the building or property, the name of the agent and the hours and days of operation;
- (4) Signs not exceeding twenty-five square feet in area erected upon the premises of a place of worship, funeral home or public institution for the purpose of displaying the name of the institution and its activities or services;
- (5) Signs denoting the architect, engineer or contractor when placed upon work under construction and not exceeding twenty-five square feet in area;
- (6) Memorial signs or tablets, name of buildings and dates of erection, provided that such signs do not exceed two square feet in area;
- (7) Traffic or other Municipal or State signs, legal notices, railroad crossing signs, danger and temporary emergency signs as may be approved by Council;
- (8) Temporary signs as provided in Section 1165.09;
- (9) Signs related to the sale of agricultural products raised on premise provided they meet size and location requirements;
- (10) Temporary Non-Commercial Signs in Section 1165.08.

(Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.05 SIGNS IN THE I-1 INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT.

Permits shall be issued by the Zoning Administrator only for signs in compliance with the following regulations:

- (a) Number of Signs. No industrial entity shall erect more than two signs other than miscellaneous on premise directional signs. Such miscellaneous directional signs may not exceed more than twenty in number and six square feet each in area, respectively.
- (b) Size of Signs. No sign shall exceed 200 square feet in area in an I-1 District.
- (c) Height of Signs. No sign in the I-1 Industrial District shall exceed in any way the height of thirty feet.
- (d) Wall Signs. Wall signs meaning those signs painted on, attached to or erected against a wall of a building or structure, with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the plane of the wall shall be permitted in addition to other signs, provided that such wall signs do not exceed two square feet in size for each lineal foot of width of the building or structure of the industrial entity on that lot. No wall sign shall exceed 1,000 square feet in area. In situations involving two or more industrial entities one sign shall be permitted in addition to the above provided signs for each entity not to exceed six square feet in size. Such additional signs shall be attached to the main sign(s).
- (e) Temporary Signs. Signs clearly temporary in nature, not exceeding twenty-five square feet in size, may be placed on the premises. Such signs shall not be in place more than thirty days.

(Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.06 SIGNS IN THE B-1/B-2 BUSINESS DISTRICTS.

- (a) Number of Signs. No business shall erect more than two signs, other than

miscellaneous on premise directional signs. Such miscellaneous signs shall not exceed ten in number or more than three square feet in area respectively. Nationally advertised credit card signs shall not exceed four square feet in area and shall be counted as a miscellaneous sign.

- (b) Size of Signs. No sign shall exceed fifty square feet in size.

(c) Height of Signs. No (pole) sign shall exceed twenty feet in height to the top of sign and shall not have less than eight feet from the bottom of the sign to the finished grade.

- (1) Ground Signs. No ground sign shall exceed five feet to the top of the sign.

(d) Wall Signs. Wall signs meaning those signs painted on, attached to or erected against a wall of a building or structure, with the exposed face of the sign in a place parallel to the plane of the wall shall be permitted in addition to other signs, provided that such wall signs do not exceed two square feet in size for each lineal foot of width of the building or structure of the business entity on that lot. No wall sign shall exceed 1,000 square feet in area. In situations involving two or more businesses, one sign shall be permitted in addition to the above provided signs for each entity not to exceed six square feet in size.

(e) Temporary Signs. Signs clearly temporary in nature, not exceeding twenty-five square feet in size, may be placed on premises. Such signs shall not be in place more than thirty days. (Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.07 SIGNS IN THE R-1, R-2 OR R-3 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

For each use not more than two signs of any kind whatsoever shall be permitted. The following types of nonilluminated, nonadvertising signs may be erected in the R-1 District, such signs however, are still subject to all other regulations provided for in this chapter.

- (a) Nameplates and identification signs not to exceed two square feet in area.
- (b) Temporary sale or rental signs shall not exceed six square feet.
- (c) Temporary development signs during construction, repairs or alterations not to exceed twenty-five square feet in size.
- (d) Signs exempted in Section 1165.04.
- (e) No sign in the R-1, R-2 or R-3 District shall exceed twenty-five square feet in size. (Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.08 TEMPORARY NON-COMMERCIAL SIGNS.

Temporary, non-commercial signs may be placed in any district provided such signs do not exceed twenty-five square feet in area, extend in any way into the public right of way or are placed without the permission of the respective property owner. Such signs shall have a maximum posting period of sixty days before the sign must be removed or replaced. No permit shall be required for signs governed by this chapter. (Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.09 TEMPORARY SIGNS.

Temporary cloth signs, banners, streamers, etc., may be suspended over public property by special permission of Council. Provided, however, that the Mayor or President Pro Tern of the Council of the Village of Lordstown shall be authorized to grant special permission for the use of temporary signs and to waive all requirements for a surety bond or liability insurance policy for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days. The purpose of such temporary signs shall be for civic or community affairs of public or semipublic nature and not for private gain. A surety bond in an amount as may be determined by Council and conditioned on the faithful observance of the provisions of this chapter, and which shall indemnify and save harmless the Municipality from any and all judgments, costs or expenses which the Municipality may incur or suffer by permitting the erection of any temporary sign as hereinbefore mentioned, may be required by Council from the person desiring to erect or suspend such temporary sign. Alternatively, Council may require the liability insurance policy, issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State, in lieu of such bond. (Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.10 REMOVAL OF CERTAIN SIGNS.

(a) Any sign now or hereafter existing which no longer advertises a bona fide business conducted upon the premises or no longer serves the purpose for which it was intended, shall be taken down and removed by the owner, agent or person having the beneficial use of the building or structure upon which such sign may be found, within fifteen days after written notification from the Zoning Administrator.

(b) Notice shall be given by registered mail to the latest permit holder or to the property owner, or to such owner's spouse or agent, or the person otherwise in charge of such sign or premises. In the event no such named person may be found or, when deemed proper by the Zoning Administrator, the sign or premises shall be posted with the notice to remove the sign.

(c) Failure to remove a sign pursuant to a proper order shall be a violation of this Zoning Ordinance and subject to the penalties set forth in Section 1125.99. (Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.11 PRESUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY.

The occupant of any premises upon which a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter is apparent or the owner of any sign placed or remaining anywhere in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed prima-facie responsible for the violation so evidenced and subject to the penalty provided therefor. (Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.12 NONCONFORMING EXISTING SIGNS.

Every sign or other advertising structure lawfully in existence on the effective date of this chapter, shall not be replaced, altered or relocated, except as such may be required by law or resolution, unless it is made to comply with the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.13 OFF-PREMISE; LOCATION AND AREA.

Commercial off premises signs (i.e., signs which are situated away from the location of the commercial activity which is the subject matter of the signage).

- (a) Shall not exceed eight square feet in size.
- (b) Must be at least ten feet from the side and back yard lines of the property.
- (c) Must be at least ten feet from any and all road and highway rights of way on which any lot with a sign abuts.
- (d) Shall not be placed so as to obstruct the view of any motorist.

(e) Shall not be located on land zoned residential.

(Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.14 NUMBER; PLACEMENT.

(a) No more than two signs as defined in the Zoning Ordinance shall be placed on any one premises.

(b) If two signs are erected on one premises, there shall be a minimum of ten feet between such signs. (Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)

1165.15 EXCEPTIONS.

(a) Section 1165.14 does not apply to any sign which is not visible to motorists or pedestrians on any public highway, street or alley, nor to any specific information panel for the direction of motorists which may be located, under authority of statute, on any highway property of the State or Village.

(b) Section 1165.14 does not apply to temporary non-commercial signs or temporary signs. (Ord. 48-2011. Passed 8-17-11.)
