

## **SECTION 6.00 SIGNS**

### **6.01 PURPOSE AND INTENT**

The intent of this Section is to provide for and regulate the location and safe construction of signs in a manner to ensure that signs are compatible with surrounding land uses, are well maintained, and express the identity of individual proprietors and the Town as a whole.

### **6.02 COMPLIANCE**

No sign shall hereafter be located, erected, moved, reconstructed, extended, enlarged, converted or structurally altered without conforming with the provisions of this Ordinance. No signs, with the exception of official signs, shall be placed within the public right of way. No signs shall be located within the vision clearance triangle of any intersection.

### **6.03 SIGNS PERMITTED IN ALL DISTRICTS WITHOUT A PERMIT**

The following signs are permitted in all zoning districts without a permit, subject to the following regulations:

- A. Real Estate Signs not to exceed 8 square feet in area which advertise the sale, rental, or lease of the premises upon which said signs are temporarily located. One real estate sign shall be allowed per parcel.
- B. Name and Warning Signs not to exceed 2 square feet located on the premises.
- C. Home Occupation and Professional Home Office Signs located on premise not to exceed 2 square feet in area.
- D. Election Campaign Signs provided that permission shall be obtained from the property owner, renter, or lessee; and provided that such sign shall not be erected prior to the first day of the “election campaign period” as defined in Section 12.04 of the Wisconsin Statutes, and shall be removed within 4 days following the election. Election campaign signs may not be placed within the public right-of-way.
- E. Rummage Sale and Garage Sale Signs provided that no such signs shall be erected or placed within a public right-of-way and further provided that such signs are removed within 24 hours following the sale.

- F. Bulletin Boards for public, charitable or religious institutions not to exceed 32 square feet in area located on the premises.
- G. Memorial Signs, tablets, names of buildings, and date of erection when cut into any masonry surface or when constructed of metal and affixed flat against a structure.
- H. Official Signs, such as traffic control, parking restrictions, information, and notices.
- I. Farm Identification Signs placed on premise showing the name of the owner or corporate affiliation or memberships not to exceed 16 square feet in area.

**6.04 SIGNS PERMITTED IN ALL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS WITH A PERMIT**

The following signs are permitted in any residential district and are subject to the following regulations:

- A. Permanent Real Estate Signs placed at the entrance to a subdivision or development shall contain only the name of the subdivision or development, shall meet all the yard requirements of the district in which it is located, and shall be placed as to not impede visibility. The Town Board shall determine the appropriate size of the sign based on the design of the sign and its compatibility with adjacent land uses.
- B. Temporary Development Signs for the purpose of designating a new building or development, or for the promotion of a subdivision may be permitted for a limited period of time provided that the sign shall not exceed 48 square feet in area and shall meet all the yard requirements of the district in which it is located. The Town Board shall specify the period of time the sign may remain based on the size of the development allowing a reasonable time to market the development.

**6.05 SIGNS PERMITTED IN ALL AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS WITH A PERMIT**

The following signs may be permitted in all Agricultural Districts and are subject to the following regulations:

- A. Wall Signs affixed to or painted on farm buildings advertising farm products produced on and/or sold on the premises, or displaying the owner's name shall not exceed a total of 200 square feet.
- B. Ground Signs advertising farm products produced on and/or sold on the premises shall not exceed 15 feet in height above the ground surface, shall meet all yard requirements for the district in which they are located, and shall not exceed a total of 100 square feet on one side or 200 square feet on all sides for any one premises.
- C. Directional Signs indicating the name of a business or other establishment, and the direction and distance to the establishment. No directional sign shall exceed 12 square feet in area. The number of directional signs permitted shall be determined by the Town Board on a case-by-case basis.

**6.06 SIGNS PERMITTED IN ALL BUSINESS AND MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS WITH A PERMIT**

Signs are permitted in all business and manufacturing districts subject to the following restrictions:

- A. Wall Signs placed against the exterior walls of buildings shall not extend more than 12 inches outside of a building's wall surface and shall not extend above the roofline of the building. Wall signage shall be allocated at a maximum of 1.5 square foot of signage allowed for each linear foot of building length.
- B. Projecting Signs fastened to, suspended from, or supported by structures shall not exceed 20 square feet in area for any one premises; shall not extend more than 6 feet into any required yard; shall not extend more than 3 feet into any public right-of-way; shall not be less than 10 feet from all side lot lines; shall not exceed a height of 20 feet above the mean centerline street grade; shall not be less than 10 feet from all side lot lines; and shall not be less than 10 feet above the sidewalk nor 15 feet above a driveway or an alley.
- C. Ground Signs shall not exceed 6 feet in height above the mean centerline street grade, shall meet all yard requirements for the district in which it is located, shall not exceed 100 square feet on one side nor 200 square feet on all sides for any one lot.
- D. Marquee, Awning, or Canopy Signs affixed flat to the surface of the marquee, awning, or canopy are permitted providing that the sign does not extend vertically or horizontally beyond the limits of said marquee, awning, or canopy. A marquee, awning, or canopy may extend to within one foot of the vertical plane formed by the curb. A name sign not exceeding 2 square feet in area located immediately in front of the entrance to an establishment may be suspended from a canopy provided that the name sign shall be at least 10 feet above the sidewalk.
- E. Window Signs, except for painted signs and decals, shall be placed only on the inside of commercial buildings. Window signs shall not be subject to the limitation on number of signs.
- F. Pole Signs shall meet the height requirements for the zoning district in which they are located; shall not be less than 10 feet above a sidewalk and 15 feet above a parking lot, driveway, or other area used by motor vehicles; and shall not exceed 100 feet on one side or 200 feet on both sides. Pole signs, except for in the B-1 District, shall be set back a minimum of 20 feet from the front or rear property boundary line; may not be placed in any right-of-way or easement; and may not be located closer than 500 feet to another pole sign.
- G. Combinations of any of the above signs, excluding window signs, shall meet all the requirements of the individual sign. The total number of signs on any premises shall be limited as follows:

<u>Floor Area</u>	<u>Maximum Number Of Signs Permitted</u>
0 - 5,000 sq. ft.	2
5,001 - 20,000 sq. ft.	3
20,001 - 50,000 sq. ft.	4
More than 50,000 sq. ft.	5

**6.07 SIGNS PERMITTED IN INSTITUTIONAL AND PARK DISTRICTS WITH A PERMIT**

The following signs are permitted in the Institutional and Park Districts and are subject to the following regulation:

- A. Private Institutional and Park Name Signs when approved by the Town Board.
- B. Public Institutional and Park Name Signs when approved by the Town Board after receiving a recommendation from the Town Park and Recreation Committee.

**6.08 PORTABLE SIGNS**

The Zoning Administrator may permit the temporary use of a portable sign for advertising purposes in any district provided that the portable sign will not be located in any public right-of-way, will not be located closer than 10 feet to an adjacent property, and will not cause a hazard to traffic or adjoining properties. Portable sign permits shall not be granted for a period of more than 30 days in any 365-day period. The permit required in Section 6.15 shall be required for portable signs.

**6.09 FACING**

No sign except those permitted in Sections 6.03 and 6.04 shall be permitted to face a residence within 100 feet of such residence.

**6.10 LIGHTING AND COLOR**

Signs shall not resemble, imitate, or approximate the shape, size, form, or color of railroad or traffic signs, signals, or devices. Signs shall not obstruct or interfere with the effectiveness of railroad or traffic signs, signals, or devices. Signs shall not be placed so as to obstruct or interfere with traffic visibility, nor be lighted in such a way as to cause glare or impair driver visibility. Signs may be illuminated but non-flashing. Signs shall not be revolving or animated, however, copy on time and temperature devices may be cyclical. Signs in residential districts may be illuminated only with Town Board approval.

**6.11 CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE STANDARDS**

- A. Wind Pressure and Dead Load Requirements. All signs and other advertising structures shall be designed and constructed to withstand wind pressure of not less than 40 pounds per square foot of area; and shall be constructed to receive dead loads as required in the Town Building Code or other ordinance.

- B. Protection of the Public. The temporary occupancy of a side walk or street or other public property during construction, removal, repair, alteration or maintenance of a sign is permitted provided the space occupied is roped off, fenced off, or otherwise isolated.
- C. Maintenance. The owner of any sign shall keep it in good maintenance and repair which includes restoring, repainting, or replacement of a worn or damaged legally existing sign to its original condition; and shall maintain the premises on which the sign is erected in a clean, sanitary, and inoffensive condition, free and clear of all obnoxious substances, rubbish, weeds, and grass.
- D. Supporting Members or Braces of all signs shall be constructed of galvanized iron, properly treated wood, steel, copper, brass, or other non-corrosive incombustible material. Every means or device used for attaching any sign shall extend through the walls of the building should the Zoning Administrator determine that the safe and permanent support of such sign so requires and shall be securely anchored by wall plates and nuts to the inside of the walls in accordance with instructions given by the Zoning Administrator. Small flat signs containing less than 10 square feet of area may be attached to a building by the use of lag bolts or other means to the satisfaction of the Zoning Administrator.
- E. No Signs or any part thereof or sign anchors, braces, or guide rods shall be attached, fastened, or anchored to any fire escape, fire ladder, or standpipe and no such sign or any part of any such sign or any anchor, brace, or guide rod shall be erected, put up, or maintained so as to hinder or prevent ingress or egress through such door, doorway, or window or so as to hinder or prevent the raising or placing of ladders against such building by the Fire Department of the Town, as necessity therefore may require.

#### **6.12 NONCONFORMING SIGNS**

Signs lawfully existing at the time of the adoption or amendment of this Ordinance may be continued although the size or location does not conform to this Ordinance and shall be subject to the nonconforming use provisions of Sections 8.01 and 8.02 of this Ordinance.

#### **6.13 PROHIBITED SIGNS**

The following signs shall be prohibited within the Town of Wayne:

- A. Roof signs.
- B. Flashing or Animated Signs or signs with intermittent intensity of illumination, except for a sign indicating the time, date, and temperature.
- C. Signs Which Obstruct any door, fire escape, stairway, or any opening intended to provide ingress and egress to or from any building or structure.

- D. Any Sign Which May Obstruct or impair the view in any direction at the intersection of two streets through its placement or illumination.
- E. Signs Which Advertise Activities that are illegal under Federal or State laws or regulations, or County or Town ordinances or resolutions.

#### **6.14 FLAGS**

Flags shall be allowed as follows:

- A. National, State, County and Town Flags shall not be subject to regulation.
- B. Businesses will be allowed one flag, not to exceed 15 square feet, identifying the business with text or a logo.

#### **6.15 SIGN PERMIT**

Applications for a sign permit shall be made on forms provided by the Zoning Administrator or Town Clerk and shall contain or have attached thereto the following information:

- A. Name, Address, and telephone number of the applicant. Location of building, structure, or lot to which or upon which the sign is to be attached or erected.
- B. Name of Person, firm, corporation, or association erecting the sign.
- C. Written Consent of the owner or lessee of the building, structure, or land to which or upon which the sign is to be affixed.
- D. A Scale Drawing of such sign indicating the dimensions, the materials to be used, the type of illumination, if any, and the method of construction and attachment.
- E. A Scale Drawing indicating the location and position of such sign in relation to nearby buildings or structures.
- F. Copies of any other permit required and issued for said sign, including the written approval by the Electrical Inspector, in the case of illuminated signs, who shall examine the plans and specifications, re-inspecting all wiring and connections to determine if the sign complies with the Town Electrical Ordinance.
- G. Additional Information as may be required by the Zoning Administrator or Town Board.
- H. Sign Permit Applications shall be filed with the Zoning Administrator, who shall review the application for its completeness and accuracy and approve or deny, in writing, the application within 30 days of receipt from the applicant unless the time is extended by written agreement with the applicant. A sign permit shall become null

and void, if work authorized under the permit has not been completed within 6 months of the date of issuance.

- I. Bond. Every applicant for a sign permit shall, before the permit is granted, execute a cash bond or other appropriate surety in a sum fixed by the Town Board upon recommendation of the Zoning Administrator, but not to exceed \$25,000. The form of the cash bond or other surety shall be approved by the Town Attorney, indemnifying the Town against all loss, cost of damages, or expense incurred or sustained by or recovered against the Town by reason of the erection, construction, or maintenance of the sign. A liability insurance policy issued by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State of Wisconsin and conforming to the requirements of this Section may be permitted by the Town Attorney in lieu of a bond.

#### **6.16 MEASURING SIGNS**

In calculating the area of a sign to determine whether it meets the requirement of this Ordinance, the Zoning Administrator shall include the sign copy and any border or frame surrounding that copy. Supporting members of a sign shall be excluded from the area calculation. Area of irregularly shaped signs or signs containing two or more detached elements shall be determined by the area of the smallest regular polygon that will encompass all elements of the sign. For signs located on slopes, height shall be measured from the average finished grade.