

**AMELIA VILLAGE, OHIO
ORDINANCE: O-2014-48**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 152.144, 152.149 AND 152.154 OF
THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF AMELIA VILLAGE, REPEALING ALL
CONFLICTING ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has recommended amendments to the sign regulations of the Amelia Village Zoning Code to eliminate freestanding signs and to increase the setback of signs from the right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the abolishment of freestanding signs will enhance the aesthetics and reduce driver distraction thereby improving the public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, on October 14, 2014, Council held a public hearing to consider the proposed amendments; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to adopt the changes to the sign regulations as recommended by the Planning Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of Amelia Village, Clermont County, Ohio as follows:

SECTION I. That Section 152.44, Permit Application Review Process, of the Amelia Code of Ordinances shall be amended to read as follows:

§ 152.144 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS.

A request for a sign permit, excluding applications for ground signs, will be approved or denied within five business days of receipt of a completed sign permit application, including all submittals required by § 152.143. Permits shall be approved if the sign type, size, and location meet the requirements of this subchapter. Landscaping plans for ground signs must be approved by the Zoning Inspector.

SECTION II. That Section 152.144, Permit Application Review Process, as it existed prior to the adoption of this Ordinance and all provisions inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION III. That Section 152.149, General Requirements for all Signs in all Districts, of the Amelia Code of Ordinances shall be amended to read as follows:

§ 152.149 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL SIGNS IN ALL DISTRICTS.

All signs placed or posted in the village must meet the following criteria:

(A) *Illuminated signs.* Signs shall be illuminated only by the following means:

- (1) By a white, steady, stationary light of reasonable intensity, directed solely at the sign and/or otherwise prevented from beaming directly onto adjacent properties or rights-of-way. Light fixtures shall be screened from view.
- (2) The level of illumination emitted or reflected from a sign shall not be of an intensity sufficient to constitute a demonstrable hazard to vehicular traffic on any right-of-way or parking lot from which the sign may be viewed.

- (3) All wiring, fittings and materials used in the construction, connection and operation of illuminated signs shall be in accordance with the provisions of the local electric code. All illuminated signs shall be properly grounded.
- (B) All signs must be posted in a safe manner and shall not be in danger of falling.
- (C) All signs and related surroundings shall be properly maintained and shall not show signs of rust or corrosion, exposed wiring, chipped paint or faces, cracked, broken, or missing faces, or loose materials. The structural integrity of all sign foundations must be maintained.
- (D) All signs shall be set back at least ~~eight~~ ten feet from the curb/edge of the street, road, or state route and/or at least two feet from the edge of the sidewalk farthest from the street, road, or state route, whichever is greater.

SECTION IV. That Section 152.149, General Requirements for all Signs in all Districts, as it existed prior to the adoption of this Ordinance and all provisions inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION V. That Section 152.154, Signs Standards in Business Districts, of the Amelia Code of Ordinances shall be amended to read as follows:

§ 152.154 SIGN STANDARDS IN BUSINESS DISTRICTS.

(A) The following signs are permitted in all business districts:

- (1) Wall signs.
- (2) Ground signs.
- (3) Window signs.
- (4) ~~Freestanding signs.~~

(B) Permitted number, height, area and location.

- (1) Number. Each lot may erect and maintain up to:
 - (a) Two wall signs; or
 - (b) Two window signs; or
 - (c) One window sign and one ground sign; or
 - (d) ~~One freestanding sign.~~

(2) Height.

- (a) Wall signs. The maximum height for all wall signs shall be eight feet above the established grade line.
- (b) Ground signs. The maximum height for all ground signs shall be six feet above the established grade line.
- (c) Window signs. Window signs shall be limited to the ground floor or first floor windows only, unless a use is located in the second or higher stories of a building and has no first floor occupancy.
- (d) ~~Freestanding signs. The maximum height for all freestanding signs shall be 20 feet above the established grade line.~~

(3) Area.

- (a) Wall signs. The maximum area for all wall signs shall be no greater than one square foot in area for every lineal foot of width of the building face to which the sign is attached.
- (b) Ground signs. The maximum area for all ground signs shall be no greater than one-half square foot in area for every lineal foot of frontage of the lot, with a maximum area of ~~32~~ 100 square feet.
- (c) Window signs. The maximum area for all window signs shall be no greater than one-half of the area of the window in which the sign is affixed.
- ~~(d) Freestanding signs. The maximum area for all freestanding signs shall be no greater than one square foot per linear foot of frontage of the premise, with a maximum of 64 square feet.~~

(4) Location.

- (a) Wall signs. Wall signs shall not protrude more than 14 inches from the wall or face of the building to which it is attached. Signs may be attached to a building wall or architecturally integrated extension which faces a street, parking lot or service drive. Wall signs shall not extend above or beyond the wall on which it is attached.
- (b) Ground signs. Ground signs must be set back at least ~~eight~~ ten feet from the curb/edge of the street, road, or state route and/or at least two feet from the edge of the sidewalk farthest from the street, road, or state route, whichever is greater.
- (c) Window signs. Window signs shall be limited to one per window. Window signs shall be affixed to a window so as to occupy less than one-half of the window surface.
- ~~(d) Freestanding signs. All freestanding signs must be setback at least eight feet from the curb/edge of the street, road, or state route and/or at least two feet from the edge of the sidewalk farthest from the street, road, or state route, whichever is greater.~~

SECTION VI. That Section 152.154, Sign Standards in Business Districts, as it existed prior to the adoption of this Ordinance and all provisions inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION VII. That the Amelia Village Council finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the passage of this ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and, that all deliberations of the council and of its committees, if any, which resulted in the formal action, were taken in meetings open to the public, in full compliance with applicable legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION VIII. This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and general welfare of Amelia Village and its inhabitants. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to increase court costs to fund the daily operational costs of Mayor's Court. Therefore, provided this emergency clause receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of Council this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Derrick moved to suspend the rules requiring three readings on three separate dates.

Chris seconded the motion.

	Yea	Nay	Absent
Derrick Campbell.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chris Dickerson.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susan Elliott.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renee Gerber.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon Hatton.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Katie Krafska.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Derrick moved for the adoption of the ordinance.

Chris seconded the motion.

	Yea	Nay	Absent
Derrick Campbell.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chris Dickerson.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susan Elliott.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renee Gerber.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon Hatton.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Katie Krafska.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Derrick moved for the approval of the emergency clause.

Chris seconded the motion.

	Yea	Nay	Absent
Derrick Campbell.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chris Dickerson.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Susan Elliott.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renee Gerber.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon Hatton.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Katie Krafska.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Adopted: October 28, 2014

Dick Campbell
~~Katie Krafska~~, Clerk Pro-Tempore

Todd Hart
Todd Hart, Mayor

Derrick Campbell

**New language is underscored; language to be deleted is shown as ~~stricken~~.