

SIGN ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 2000

An Ordinance to regulate the size, construction, and location of signs within the Township; to establish penalties for violations; and to repeal prior ordinance.

THE TOWNSHIP OF GOODLAND ORDAINS:

Article I. PERMITS AND REVIEW

Section 1.01

A site plan review shall be presented to, authorization received from the Planning Commission, and a building permit obtained before any sign is erected, placed, constructed, or altered except for signs used for the following purposes:

- A. Temporary signs advertising real estate for sale or rent. Only one (1) such sign shall be permitted on the premises and the sign shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.
- B. Temporary signs advertising agricultural produce grown on the premises. Only one (1) such sign shall be permitted on the premises and the sign shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.
- C. Temporary signs advertising personal property owned by a resident of the premises provided such personal property be not purchased for the purpose of resale. Only one (1) such sign shall be permitted on the premises and the sign shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.
- D. Signs advertising home occupations that are permitted pursuant to Goodland Township Zoning Ordinance. Only one (1) such sign shall be permitted on the premises and the sign shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.
- E. Temporary signs promoting political candidates or election issues. Such signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in sign area. Such signs shall be removed within seven (7) days after the election for which the signs were erected.
- F. Signs stating the name of a property owner or farm when located on the same property or farm. Only one (1) such sign shall be permitted on the premises and the sign shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.
- G. Off-site directional advertising signs for service clubs, churches, fraternal organizations and similar organizations and temporary seasonal farm produce signs are permitted in all zones, subject to the following:
 - 1. Only two (2) such signs shall be permitted and the signs shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in area.
 - 2. Such signs are only permitted five (5) months of the year.
 - 3. A signed affidavit shall be filed with the Planning Commission and the Township Clerk stating the following:
 - a. Location of the sign
 - b. The months of the year such sign will be in place
 - c. Signature of property owner giving permission to place the sign on the property.

Section 1.02

Uniform fees for the site plan review of signs shall be established by motion of the Township Board.

Article II. General Regulations

Section 2.01

There shall be no flashing, oscillating or intermittent illumination on any sign.

Section 2.02

No sign shall rotate or contain any moving parts.

Section 2.03

No sign shall interfere with clear vision along any road or at any intersection.

Section 2.04

All illuminated signs shall be positioned as to prevent the rays and illumination there from being directly cast upon any residences or roadways.

Section 2.05

No sign, except those placed and maintained by the Township, County or State shall be located in, overhang or encroach upon any public road right-of-way.

Section 2.06

No sign shall exceed the maximum height limitation of the zoning district in which it is located.

Section 2.07

All signs shall be set back at least twenty (20) feet from all public or private road right-of-way lines and from all property lines.

Section 2.08

Streamers, wind blown devices, spinners, pennants or flags (other than the United States, Michigan, Centennial and Ecological) are expressly prohibited, unless specifically approved by the Township Board for display.

Section 2.09

All signs shall meet the construction standards of the Township electrical and building codes.

Article III. On-Site Signs

Section 3.01

One principal on-site sign shall be permitted on the site of each commercial, industrial, agricultural or institutional facility.

Section 3.02

Principal on-site signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in sign area.

Section 3.03

One (1) secondary on-site sign shall be permitted on the site of each commercial, industrial, agricultural or institutional facility. Two (2) secondary on-site signs may be permitted subject to approval of the Planning Commission.

Section 3.04

Secondary on-site signs shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in sign area.

Article IV. Off-Site Signs

Section 4.01

Off-site signs may only be located on parcels of land that are zoned for commercial or industrial use. This restriction shall not apply to off-site directional signs or to signs legally in existence as of the date of adoption of this Ordinance.

Section 4.02

Off-site signs shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area, except that directional signs shall not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.

Section 4.03

No off-site sign shall be erected within one hundred (100) feet of any other off-site sign.

Article V. Variances

Section 5.01

The Township Board of Zoning Appeals shall have jurisdiction to grant setback variances only, from the provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 5.02

Any variance granted from the provisions of this Ordinance shall be granted only upon showing by the petitioner that strict enforcement of the Ordinance would result in practical difficulties and undue hardships.

Section 5.03

The Board of Zoning Appeals may consider requests for variances from the provisions of this Ordinance only at a public hearing, of which all property owners within six hundred sixty (660) feet of the proposed sign have been notified in writing. Said notification shall be mailed or hand delivered at least seven (7) days before the hearing date. Property ownership shall be determined by the most recent assessment roll.

Article VI. Definitions

Section 6.01

For the purpose of this Ordinance, certain terms are herewith defined. The word “shall” is always mandatory and not merely directory. Terms not herein defined shall have the meanings customarily assigned to them.

AGRICULTURAL FACILITY—all of the associated land, operated as a single unit on which bona fide farming is carried on, including livestock and poultry raising, dairying, crop

production, forestry, tree and shrub nurseries, greenhouses, sod farms and similar enterprises involving agricultural activities

COMMERCIAL or INDUSTRIAL FACILITY—any business or industry located on a parcel of land which has been zoned for commercial or industrial use.

CLEAR VISION—an area described as starting at least one hundred (100) feet back from a road intersection center line and then extending two hundred (200) feet to either or both sides back to the center line of said road.

DIRECTIONAL SIGN—a sign which only advertises the name of a business and the directions for locating that business.

INSTITUTIONAL FACILITY—any church, school, township building, governmental facility, lodge hall, veterans organization building, or similar non-profit facility serving the community.

OFF-SITE SIGN—a sign advertising something which is not located on the same parcel of land as the sign.

PRINCIPAL ON-SITE SIGN—a sign advertising the name of a facility located on the same parcel of land as the sign.

SECONDARY ON-SITE SIGN—a sign advertising a service or product available at a facility located on the same parcel of land as the sign.

SIGN—any writing, picture, or object to convey a message to persons who are on the public roads or who are on property other than the premises where the sign is located. This message can be on either or both sides of the sign.

SIGN AREA—the total surface area of one side of a sign.

Article VII. Penalty

Section 7.01

Any person, firm or corporation who violates any of the provisions of this Ordinance is responsible for a municipal civil infraction, subject to the payment of a civil fine of not less than \$50.00, plus costs and other sanctions, for each infraction. Repeat offenses under this Ordinance shall be subject to increased fines as provided for in the Civil Infraction Ordinance.

Section 7.02

Each day a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 7.03

The imposition of any sentence shall not exempt the offender from compliance with the requirements of this ordinance.

Article VIII. Removal of Signs

Section 8.01

Any sign, which is erected in violation of this Ordinance, shall be removed.

Section 8.02

Any sign, which is not kept in good repair, shall be removed.

Section 8.03

If a sign is not removed within thirty (30) days of the date of a notice which is mailed to the owner of the property on which the sign is located, and to the owner of the sign—if known—the

Township may remove the sign and assess the cost of removal against the property on which it is located or against any property belonging to the owner of the sign.

Article IX. Severability

Section 9.01

This Ordinance and the various articles, sections, sentences and clauses thereof, are hereby declared to be severable. If any article, section, sentence or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Article X. Repeal of Inconsistent Ordinance Provisions

Section 10.01

The former Zoning Ordinance Number 100, Section 9.09 is hereby repealed.

Article XI. Enactment and Effective Date

Section 11.01

This Ordinance was adopted by the Goodland Township Board at a meeting duly held on the 25th day of November 1997 and was published in the Tri-City Times on the 17th day of December 1997.

Section 11.02

This Ordinance was made effective thirty (30) days after the date of said publication.

Ronald Cischke, Supervisor

Nelson Cheney, Clerk

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Ordinance 2000, Goodland Township Sign Ordinance, which was adopted at the November 25, 1997 regular meeting of the Goodland Township Board. Motion was made by Winslow, supported by Cheney. Roll call vote Cischke, yes; Steckly, yes; Winslow, yes; Cheney, yes. Motion Carried.

Nelson Cheney, Clerk