

## CITY OF MT. MORRIS

### ORDINANCE NO. 17-02

An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances, City of Mount Morris Michigan, by Amending and Restating certain provisions of Chapter 48 of the City Code entitled “Signs”, specifically the Sub Section of Section 48-5 identified as 48-5 (d) Temporary/Portable Signs, by omitting the word “fence” from Sub-Paragraph (1) a, iv. and, also, by Amending and Restating Section 48-5 (a) (4) relative to the area of walls to be covered by signs, increasing the coverage of walls to 30 percent, adding business fences and providing that business fences may have coverage of 20 percent, and providing that all such wall and fence signs shall be approved by the zoning administrator.

THE CITY OF MT. MORRIS ORDAINS:

#### SECTION 1.

Sub Section (d) of Section 48.5 entitled “Signs Requiring Permits” of the Sign Ordinance to wit; Chapter 48 of the City Code is hereby Amended and Restated as follows:

*(d) Temporary / Portable Signs*

*(1) Requiring a permit.*

- a. The zoning administrator may approve an application for erection of a temporary/portable sign in any district, other than the R-1 and R-2 districts, and shall issue a permit for erection of the temporary sign for a period not to exceed ninety (90) consecutive days and each business shall be permitted four (4) temporary sign permits per calendar year with two (2) signs per permit if all of the following conditions are met. The fee for the permit shall be set by the City Council.
  - i. The sign shall contain no visible moving, revolving or mechanical parts or movement, or other apparent visible movement achieved by electrical, electronic, or mechanical means, including intermittent electrical pulsations, or by the action of normal wind current.
  - ii. The sign shall contain no self-illumination, other than LED (light emitting diode) illumination, and must conform with paragraph vi.
  - iii. The sign location, design, structure, materials, and support will not constitute a hazard to safety, health, or welfare, of the general public during the period of its erection.

- iv. The sign shall not be attached to a tree, utility pole, standpipe, gutter, drain or fire escape or impair access to a roof or ingress or egress of any structure.
  - v. The sign shall not be located on any public property, right of way, or sidewalk, or near any parking area entrance where the sign would obstruct the vision of vehicle drivers.
  - vi. The sign must be located on the property of the applicant.
  - vii. Vehicle sales lots shall be allowed to have up to ten unpermitted items that qualify as temporary signs under this ordinance at any given time.
  - viii. The applicant shall submit the permit fee for a temporary sign which shall be established by a resolution of the city council.
  - ix. A temporary sign erected by or for any governmental or any organization that is considered to be a tax exempt organization by the Internal Revenue Service, shall not require a permit as long as the following conditions are met:
    - 1. Only one sign shall be erected at any time.
    - 2. The sign shall not be erected for more than ninety days during any calendar year.
    - 3. The sign shall not conflict with i – vii above.
- b. If the zoning administrator denies a request for a temporary sign permit, the applicant may appeal the decision to the city manager.
  - c. A temporary sign erected in violation of any provision of this section shall be impounded by the code enforcement officer and may be destroyed or disposed of if not claimed within five business days by the occupant of the property where the sign was erected.
  - d. Banners, flags (other than one American flag), pennants, ribbons, streamers, and balloons, are permitted only on property with at least 100 feet of frontage, and limited to one item for every 20 feet of frontage. These items must be kept in reasonably good condition.

(2) *Temporary signs in residential districts requiring temporary sign permit.* One temporary sign having a maximum area of 32 square feet is permitted in residential districts to

announce the sale of lots or structures in any one subdivision, for a maximum period of one year.

- (3) *Temporary/portable signs not requiring a permit.* Election or political signs are permitted in residential districts provided they have a maximum of four square feet per sign face. In commercial and industrial districts one such sign with a maximum area of eight (8) square feet per sign face is allowed per candidate or issue; provided, however, that commercial and industrial properties shall be allowed to have one thirty two (32) square foot election/political sign if multiple candidates are on one (1) sign. There shall be no more than one (1) sign per lot in all districts per candidate or issue and all such signs must be removed within ten (10) days following the balloting for the election or issue which the sign was referencing. Signs shall not be allowed on public property or right of way.
- (4) All temporary signs must be removed from any business that is no longer operating as a business.

## **SECTION 2.**

Sub-Paragraph (4) of Section 48-5 entitled "Signs Requiring Permits" is hereby restated as follows:

- (4) Wall signs may only be erected on an exterior wall or business fence providing all of the following requirements are met:
  - (a) A business establishment may have up to 30 percent sign coverage on the face of any wall or 20 percent coverage of a business fence. The area of the face of the wall shall include the area of any windows located on the building face.
  - (b) All such signs shall be flat signs, attached and parallel to the face of any building or business fence, all complying with the following requirements:
    1. No such sign shall extend farther than 15 inches from the face of the building or business fence upon which it is attached, provided, however, that where a sign extends more than three inches from the face of said wall or business fence, the bottom of said sign shall not be closer than ten feet from the ground level below said sign.
    2. The maximum height of any single on-site sign shall not exceed five feet.
    3. All wall and business fence signs shall be approved by the Zoning Administrator to ensure compliance with these requirements.

Section 3. All other sections of said Ordinance remain unchanged.


This ordinance shall become effective September 28, 2017.


Moved by Council member Roth, seconded by Council member Michaels, and thereafter adopted by the City Council of the City of Mt. Morris at a regular meeting held Monday, September 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

4 Yea

1 Nay  
(Roth)

2 Absent  
(Daniels)  
(T. Davis)

  
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Duane K. Dunckel, Mayor

  
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Kristina K. Somers, City Clerk

Adopted: September 11, 2017  
Published: September 27, 2017  
Effective: September 28, 2017