

TOWNSHIP OF MARLETTE

SIGN ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 92-1

An Ordinance to regulate the type, size, construction, lighting, location, and maintenance of signs within the Township; to provide for site plan review; to establish penalties for violations; and to provide for the removal of signs in violation of this Ordinance.

THE TOWNSHIP OF MARLETTE ORDAINS:

ARTICLE I. PERMITTED SIGNS

Section 1.01. The following signs may be erected in the Township without prior Planning Commission approval, provided the specified requirements are complied with:

- A. Signs advertising real estate for sale or rent. Such signs may not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.
- B. Signs advertising agricultural produce grown on the premises. Such signs may not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.
- C. Signs advertising personal property owned by a resident of the premises; provided such personal property was not purchased for the purpose of resale. Such signs may not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.
- D. Signs advertising home occupations which have received approval pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance. Such signs may not exceed nine (9) square feet in sign area.
- E. Signs promoting political candidates or election issues. Such signs may not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in sign area. Such signs shall not be erected more than sixty (60) days prior to an election and shall be removed within ten (10) days after the election.
- F. Signs stating the name and/or address of a property owner. Homeowner signs may not exceed four (4) square feet in sign area. Farm owner signs may not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet in sign area.

Section 1.02. All signs permitted by Section 1.01 shall also comply with the general regulations contained in Article III of this Ordinance.

ARTICLE II. SITE PLAN REVIEW REQUIRED

REVISED
BY ORD 94-1

*repealed
by
94-1*
Section 2.01. A sign site plan shall be approved by the Township Planning Commission before any sign is erected, constructed, or altered, except for signs permitted by Section 1.01 of this Ordinance.

Section 2.02. Each sign site plan submitted to the Township Planning Commission shall be drawn to scale and shall contain the following items:

- A. Name, address, and telephone number of the applicant.
- B. The specific location where the sign is to be placed.
- C. The location of all property lines, public right-of-ways, and roads adjacent to the property on which the sign is to be placed.
- D. The position of the sign in relation to the main building on the property, if any.
- E. The setback distances of the sign from all lot lines and right-of-way lines.
- F. The height, area, and dimensions of the sign.
- G. A drawing of the sign showing the sign structure, lettering, and any other features.
- H. Any other information requested by the Planning Commission.

Section 2.03. No sign site plan shall be approved by the Planning Commission unless all the information required by Section 2.02 is shown on the site plan.

Section 2.04. The Planning Commission shall review each site plan as to location, height, aesthetics, compatibility with the surrounding buildings and facilities, and compliance with Township ordinances. The Planning Commission may require revisions to the sign site plan. Approval of a sign site plan shall only be granted by a recorded vote of the Planning Commission.

Section 2.05. Any Planning Commission approval granted pursuant to this Ordinance shall expire one (1) year from the date of the meeting at which the approval was granted unless the sign has been erected within that one year period.

ARTICLE III. GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 3.01. No sign shall include any flashing, oscillating, or intermittent illumination.

Section 3.02. All illuminated signs shall be so placed as to prevent the rays and illumination therefrom from being directly cast upon any residences or roadways.

Section 3.03. No sign shall rotate nor contain any moving parts.

Section 3.04. No sign shall interfere with clear vision along any road or intersection.

Section 3.05. 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 3.06. No sign shall exceed the maximum height limitation of the zoning district in which it is located.

Section 3.07. All signs shall be set back from all property lines no less than the minimum distance required by the Zoning Ordinance for buildings and structures.

Section 3.08. All signs shall set back from all road right of way lines at least ten (10) feet.

Section 3.09. All signs shall meet the standards of any applicable electrical and building codes.

Section 3.10. All signs shall be maintained so that they comply continuously with all requirements of this Ordinance and are kept in a good state of repair.

ARTICLE IV. ON-SITE SIGNS

Section 4.01. One principal sign shall be permitted on the site of each commercial, industrial, or institutional facility.

Section 4.02. Principal on-site signs shall not exceed sixty-four (64) square feet in sign area.

Section 4.03. No more than two secondary signs shall be permitted on the site of each commercial, industrial, or institutional facility.

Section 4.04. Secondary on-site signs shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in sign area.

Section 4.05. All on-site signs shall comply with the general regulations contained in Article III of this Ordinance.

ARTICLE V. OFF-SITE SIGNS (BILLBOARDS)

Section 5.01. Off-site signs may only be located on parcels of land which are zoned for commercial or industrial use.

Section 5.02. Off-site signs shall not exceed sixty-four (64) square feet in sign area.

Section 5.03. No off-site sign shall be erected within three hundred (300) feet of any other off-site or on-site sign.

Section 5.04. All off-site signs shall comply with the general regulations contained in Article III of this Ordinance.

ARTICLE VI. VARIANCES

Section 6.01. The Township Board of Zoning Appeals shall have jurisdiction to grant variances from the provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 6.02. Any variance granted from the provisions of this Ordinance shall be granted only upon a showing by the petitioner that strict enforcement of the Ordinance would result in both practical difficulties and undue hardship.

Section 6.03. 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 three hundred (300) 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 VII. DEFINITIONS

Section 7.01. COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL FACILITY. Any business or industry located on a parcel of land which has been zoned for commercial or industrial use or which is recognized by the Township as a legal non-conforming use which existed prior to the adoption of the May 11, 1982 Zoning Ordinance.

Section 7.03. INSTITUTIONAL FACILITY. Any church, school, governmental building or facility, lodge hall, veterans organization building, or similar non-profit facility serving the community.

Section 7.04. OFF-SITE SIGN (BILLBOARD). A sign advertising something other than the facility which is located on the same parcel of land as the sign.

Section 7.05. PRINCIPAL ON-SITE SIGN. A sign advertising the name of a facility located on the same parcel of land as the sign.

Section 7.06. 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.

Section 7.07. SIGN. Any outdoor sign, display, device, figure, painting, writing, drawing, message, placard, poster, billboard, or other thing designed, intended, or used to advertise or inform persons who are on the public roads.

Section 7.08 SIGN AREA. The total surface area of a sign. In the case of signs having two sides back-to-back, the sign area shall be the total surface area of one side of the sign.

ARTICLE VIII. VIOLATIONS

Section 8.01. Violation of this Ordinance shall be a misdemeanor and shall be punishable upon conviction thereof by a fine not to exceed Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars and/or by imprisonment not to exceed ten (10) days.

Section 8.02. Each day that a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 8.03. The imposition of any sentence for violations shall not exempt the offender from compliance with the requirements of this Ordinance.

Section 8.04. The Township may also seek injunctive relief from Circuit Court to prevent or terminate any violations of this Ordinance.

ARTICLE IX. REMOVAL OF SIGNS

Section 9.01. The owner of any sign which is in violation of this Ordinance and the owner of the property on which such a sign is located shall each be responsible to remove the sign upon notification from the Township.

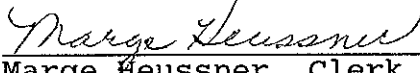
Section 9.02. If a sign in violation of this Ordinance is not removed within thirty (30) days of the date of mailing of a notice to the owner of the property on which the sign is located, and to the owner of the sign (if known), the Township may remove the sign and assess the costs of removal against the property on which it is located.

ARTICLE X. ENACTMENT AND EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 10.01. This Ordinance was adopted by the Marlette Township Board at a meeting duly held on the 5th day of November, 1992 and a summary of the Ordinance was published in the Marlette Leader on the 18th day of November, 1992.

Section 10.02. This Ordinance was made effective thirty (30) days after said date of publication.


Wayne Wood, Supervisor


Marge Heussner, Clerk