

**WYSOX TOWNSHIP**  
ORDINANCE NO. 2017-02

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 15, ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE XV SIGNS OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WYSOX, COUNTY OF BRADFORD, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Under **Chapter 15 -Article XV, Signs, Section 1509- Supplemental Regulation** of the Code of Wysox Township hereby deletes the following portion:

5. Election Signs. Election signs may be displayed no more than 30 days prior to the election and must be removed within 1 week after the election. Signs which are not removed within the time limit may be removed and discarded by the municipality, and the municipality may recover a fee equal to the cost of removal and discarding.

Under **Chapter 15-Article XV, Signs, Section 1509- Supplemental Regulation** of the Code of Wysox Township hereby adds the following portion:

5. Personal Expression Signs: non-commercial signs regardless of whether they contain political, religious or any other non-commercial message subject to the time, place and manner criteria set forth below in Section 1509.

Under **Chapter 15-Article XV, Signs, Section 1509- Supplemental Regulation** of the Code of Wysox Township hereby adds the following portion:

Personal Expression signs.

A. Definition. "Personal Expression Signs" are non-commercial signs regardless of whether they contain political, religious or any other non-commercial message.

B. Personal Expression Signs on public property.

(1) It is unlawful to place, erect or maintain personal expression signs on or in public buildings and structures, including Township buildings or on/in public parks, lawns, vehicles, trees, shrubs, fences, walls, traffic signs or fire hydrants.

(2) It is unlawful to place, erect or maintain any personal expression sign in any manner that damages or defaces public property.

(3) It is unlawful to place, erect or maintain any personal expression sign so as to create a visibility hazard to pedestrian or motor vehicle traffic along streets or sidewalks or at street.

C. Personal Expression signs on private property.

(1) It is unlawful to place, erect or maintain any personal expression sign on private property without the consent of the owner of said premises.

(2) It is unlawful to place, erect or maintain any personal expression signs to create a visibility hazard to pedestrian or motor vehicle traffic along streets or sidewalks or on street corners.

(3) It is unlawful to place, erect or maintain any personal expression sign that shall exceed a 3 foot x 3 foot sign (nine square feet). It is lawful to utilize both sides of the sign for a maximum area of 18 (eighteen) square feet per sign. The property owner shall be limited to a total of (3) three (3 foot x 3 foot signs [9 square feet per side or both sides for a total of 18 square feet.]

This will allow (3) three signs for the property for a maximum total square footage of 54 (fifty four) square feet of signage.

(4) Length of Personal Expression Signs relating to candidates for public office: It is unlawful to maintain any personal expression signs relating to a candidate for public office more than thirty (30) days prior to the primary election and more than ten (10) days after the primary election. It is unlawful to maintain any personal expression signs relating to a candidate for public office more than thirty (30) days prior to the general election and more than ten (10) days after the general election; provided, however, that in the event of a subsequent runoff election, the signs of the runoff candidates may be maintained until the 7th day after the runoff election. The Township will notify the candidate and/or campaign on whose behalf the sign appears of the violation of this chapter, and said candidate or campaign shall be given seven days to remove said signs or be assessed the costs of removal by the Township. In the event that such signs are not removed, the Township is authorized to remove and destroy said signs and to charge the candidate or campaign on whose behalf the signs were erected for the costs of removal and disposal.

(5) Length of Personal Expression Signs not relating to a candidate for public office: It is unlawful to maintain any personal expression signs more than eighty (80) days in a calendar year running from January 1 to December 31 of any year. This provision is intended to be content neutral allowing for the sign to be displayed the same length of time as a personal expression sign relating to a political candidate in a calendar year. If a personal expression sign remains erected for over eighty (80) days in a calendar year the Township will notify the property owner of the violation of this chapter, and said property owner shall be given seven days to remove said signs or be assessed the costs of removal by the Township. In the event that such signs are not removed after the seven day period, the Township is authorized to remove and destroy said signs and to charge the property owner for the costs of removal and disposal.

D. The following non-commercial displays shall be exempt from the Personal Expression sign restrictions:

Flags, Pennants, Banners, Signs for sports teams, including but not limited to School, College, Professional, Holiday decorations celebrating a secular and/or religious holiday, artistic expressions incorporated into lawn ornaments or monuments as long as they are not political expressions, and government recognition for Veterans such as gold star parents and veterans.

E. No sign shall be posted which shall:

- a. Be located within a street right-of-way, except a Government sign, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation sign, a public utility sign or a non-profit organization sign approved by the Township or Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.
- b. Be painted, pasted, nailed, stapled or otherwise attached to utility poles, trees, fences, rock, and fire hydrants or in any unauthorized manner to walls, unless authorized by the Township or allowed under the Sign Ordinance.
- c. No sign shall be placed, erected or posted that is not allowed under the current Sign Ordinance.

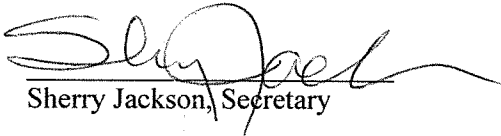
F. Enforcement. Signs that are placed on Township property and signs that are prohibited in the public right-of-way maybe removed by the Zoning Officer or his designee using the following guidelines:

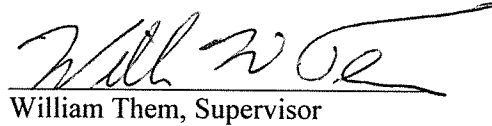
- a. Prior to removal the Zoning Officer shall give three (3) business days' notice to the sign owner or organization on the sign if identified by name, phone number or address if possible.
- b. If the sign is not removed after the three (3) business day notification or not removed after three (3) business days without notification the sign may be removed by the Zoning Officer.
- c. Prohibited signs which are not removed within the time limits may be removed and impounded by the Township, and the Township may recover a fee equal to the cost of removal and storage.
- d. Unclaimed signs after thirty (30) days storage may be destroyed by the Township.


This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

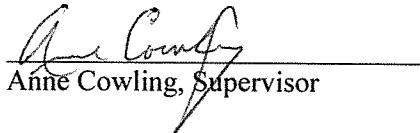
ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WYSOX THIS 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF  
MARCH, 2017.

ATTEST:

  
Sherry Jackson, Secretary

  
William Them, Supervisor

  
Evan Barnes, Supervisor

  
Anne Cowling, Supervisor