

JACKSON TOWNSHIP
MONROE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 2017 - 100

AN ORDINANCE OF JACKSON TOWNSHIP, MONROE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE RELATING TO REGULATIONS OF THE SIZE AND MANNER OF DISPLAY FOR CERTAIN CHANGEABLE PANEL SIGNS AND ELECTRONIC MESSAGE SIGNS.

WHEREAS, Section 609 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, found at 53 P.S. § 10609, authorizes a municipality to enact a zoning ordinance amendment;

WHEREAS, Section 1408 of the Jackson Township Zoning Ordinances provides for the Board of Supervisors to amend the Zoning Ordinance;

WHEREAS, there are existing regulations in the Zoning Ordinance pertaining to the size and manner of commercial, manufacturing, public use and semi-public use signs and electronic message signs in the Commercial District and their respective displays;

WHEREAS, the Board finds that certain changes outlined in detail in the following ordinance will not alter the characteristics of the neighborhoods in the Township and are in the best interest of the Township and its residents.

The Board of Supervisors of Jackson Township, Monroe County, Pennsylvania does hereby ENACT and ORDAIN:

SECTION 1 – AMENDMENT OF ZONING ORDINANCE, SECTION 27-1707 (COMMERCIAL, MANUFACTURING, PUBLIC USE AND SEMI-PUBLIC USE SIGNS).

Section 27-1707.7 is hereby amended and shall be replaced with the following new subparagraph (C):

- C. **Area.** The gross surface area of a changeable panel sign shall not exceed 20 square feet for each exposed face.

SECTION 2 – AMENDMENT OF ZONING ORDINANCE, SECTION 27-1710 (ELECTRONIC MESSAGE SIGNS IN THE C – COMMERCIAL DISTRICT).

Section 1710.2.C is hereby amended and shall be replaced with the following new subparagraph (2):

(2) **Standards.** In addition to the other applicable requirements of this Chapter, electronic message signs shall comply with the following:

- A. **One Sign.** Only one electronic message sign shall be permitted per development parcel. If the sign structure has two sign faces, each sign face may be an electronic message sign.
- B. **Size.** The electronic message sign shall not exceed 80 percent of the maximum allowable size of a non-electronic message sign of the same type.
- C. **Message Display.**
 - (1) **Motion.** Electronic message sign motion shall be limited to the transition from one message to another. The image shall be static, with no animation, streaming video, flashing, scrolling, or other illusions of motion.
 - (2) **Transition.** Transitions for electronic message signs may utilize fade or dissolve and content shall not change more than once every eight seconds with a transition time not exceeding one second.
 - (3) **Continuation.** The images and messages displayed shall be complete on display without continuation in content to the next image or message or to any other sign.
 - (4) **Projection.** Images or messages projected onto buildings or other objects shall be prohibited.
- D. **Luminance.** Electronic message signs shall not display light of such intensity or brilliance to cause glare, hazard or impair the vision of the motorist, or interfere with the effectiveness of an official traffic sign, device or signal.
 - (1) **Maximum.** Electronic message signs shall have a maximum luminance of 5,000 nits during daylight hours. During the nighttime, such signs shall be limited to a maximum luminance of 150 nits.
 - (2) **Luminance.** A measure of the brightness of a surface which is emitting or reflecting light. The unit of measurement is candelas per square meter or nits (1 nit – 1 cd/m²).
 - (3) **Nit.** A unit of measure of Luminance.

- (4) Dimmer Control. All electronic message signs shall be equipped with both a dimmer control and a photocell that automatically adjusts the display's luminance according to natural ambient light conditions.
- (5) Light Trespass. Electronic message signs shall comply with the light and glare requirements of Section 27-1008.8. The maximum light trespass limit at the property line of residential districts and permanent open space shall be 0.1 foot-candles.
- (6) Measurement. Surface luminance measurements shall be made directly with a calibrated luminance meter in accord with manufacturer's specifications. Readings shall be taken from the area from which the sign will be visible, usually the road, and which is closest to being directly in front of the sign where the luminosity output is most focused. This reading shall be the measurement of all-white image display to evaluate the worst-case scenario. With an all-white display, a maximum of 200 nits shall be permitted during nighttime.
- (7) Certification. Prior to issuance of a sign permit, the applicant shall provide written certification from the sign manufacturer that the sign luminance has been factory pre-set to not exceed 5,000 nits and that the intensity has been protected from end-user manipulation by password-protected software.
- E. Height. The electronic message sign shall not exceed the maximum allowable height of a non-electronic message sign of the same type.
- F. Structural Support. No more than one digital sign or billboard may be installed on a single structural support; that is, signs shall not be stacked vertically or horizontally.
- G. Emergency Messages. The applicant shall be required to coordinate and permit message access from local, regional, state and national emergency services during emergency situations and such messages shall not be required to conform to the message standards in this Section 27-1710.

SECTION 3 – SEVERABILITY.

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and in the event that any provision is held invalid, void, illegal, or unconstitutional by any court, it is the intent of the Board of Supervisors that such determination by the Court shall not affect or render void the remaining provisions of this Ordinance. It is the declared intent of the Board of Supervisors that this Ordinance would have been enacted if any provision subsequently declared to be void, invalid, illegal or unconstitutional had not been included at the time of enactment.

SECTION 4 – REPEALER.

Any specific provisions of the Jackson Township Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map that are in direct conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5 – AUTHORITY.


This Ordinance is enacted under the authority conferred by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act of 1968, P.L. 805, No. 247 as reenacted and amended.

SECTION 6 – EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall take effect five (5) days after the date of its enactment.

ENACTED and ORDAINED this 9th day of February, 2017.

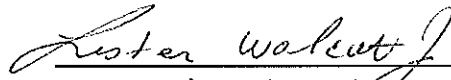
**JACKSON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



Donald C. Kresge, Sr., Chair




David B. Thomas, Vice Chair



Lester Wolcott, Supervisor

ATTEST:



Secretary

(TOWNSHIP SEAL)

