

CENTRE TOWNSHIP, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO 2018- 162

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CENTRE, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE CENTRE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE OF 2004, AS AMENDED AUGUST 2006, SECTION 504 ENTITLED "SIGN REGULATIONS", TO AMEND SUBSECTION 504.C.4 TO PERMIT CERTAIN SIGNS TO HAVE ELECTRONIC MESSAGE BOARD DISPLAYS.

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 111-2004, Centre Township adopted the Centre Township Zoning Ordinance of 2004 on October 11, 2004, which ordinance has been amended from time to time (the "Zoning Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, Section 504 of the Zoning Ordinance provides regulations for the placement of signs within the Township; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of the use of digital and other electronic technology in signage has increased, and can serve a necessary purpose to businesses and public buildings in communicating information to the local community; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to remove the current prohibition on any sign which has flashing, intermittent or rotating illumination, and instead permit electronic message board signs in certain zoning districts of the Township, subject to certain limitations as set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Centre, Berks County, Pennsylvania as follows:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.

The Centre Township Zoning Ordinance of 2004, as amended, is hereby amended by replacing the existing Section 504 entitled "Sign Regulations", subsection 504.C entitled "General Sign Regulations", subsection 504.C.4, to read in full as follows:

4. Signs located in the A-P, B/VC, LI, and PC zoning districts may contain electronic message boards, provided that they meet the criteria below. Any proposed electronic message sign that does not meet the criteria below shall be permitted only by Conditional Use approval from the Board of Supervisors.

- i. The electronic message board shall be considered a sign and is subject to all applicable regulations of this Ordinance.
- ii. An electronic message board, or the portion of a larger sign that contains an electronic message board, shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet on any one side of any such sign.
- iii. No such electronic message board sign shall be placed within fifty (50) feet of property in a residential zoning district.
- iv. The message board shall not create a safety hazard and shall not be distracting to drivers.

- v. Flashing messages are not permitted, nor are starbursts, simulated firecracker explosions, graphic displays other than text, and similar displays.
- vi. Moving, rotating, and intermittent messages are permitted.
- vii. Electronic message boards shall be either turned off, or set to display a static message, between the overnight hours of 10:00pm and 6:00am, unless the establishment which they serve remains open to the public during such hours.
- viii. No advertising of commercial/for-profit products or services shall be permitted on the electronic message board unless related to a business located on the same property as such sign, or unless otherwise allowed in the subject zoning district.
- ix. Any illumination intensity or contrast of light level shall remain constant, other than to have separate settings for daylight and nighttime hours.

SECTION 2. PROVISIONS TO BE CONTINUATION OF EXISTING REGULATIONS.

The provisions of this Ordinance so far as they are the same as those of ordinances and/or codes in force immediately prior to the enactment of this Ordinance, are intended as a continuation of such ordinances and codes and not as new enactments. The provisions of this Ordinance shall not affect any act done or liability incurred, nor shall they affect any suit or prosecution pending or to be instituted to enforce any right or penalty or to punish any offense under the authority of any of the repealed ordinances.

SECTION 3. REPEALER

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and if any section, sentence, clause or provision hereof shall be held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision of the court shall not affect or impair the remaining sections, sentences, clauses or provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Board that this Ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional section, sentence, clause or provision had not been included herein.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective five (5) days after enactment, as provided by law.

SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE

ENACTED AND ORDAINED as an Ordinance of Centre Township, Berks County,
Pennsylvania, this 26th day of June, 2018.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
CENTRE TOWNSHIP,
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**



Chairman

Vice Chairman



Member

ATTEST:



Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF ENACTMENT

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of Ordinance No. 201 8-162 adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Centre Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania at a public meeting held on June 26, 2018, pursuant to notice as required by law.

Dated: 6/26/2018

Cheryl A. Haus
Township Secretary