



VILLAGE OF GROVEPORT REPORT TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

To: The Honorable Mayor Lance Westcamp and Members of City Council

FROM: Stephen Moore, Chief Building Official

MEETING DATE: August 14, 2017

TOPIC: Sign Code Update Ordinance # 2017-035

DISCUSSION

Due to a recent Supreme Court ruling, that determined signs could not be regulated based on the content of the sign, a review of our sign code was completed to determine the changes required to bring our code into compliance. Most of the changes were to the temporary sign regulations. We also made changes to temporary signs for the industrial district to be in line with the ordinance Council passed last fall to allow more signs to be displayed during their hiring season. Below find a list of the significant changes that were made to the sign code.

Significant Changes:

- Definition Additions: A-Frame Signs, Banners, Bench, Feather, Fence, Nameplate, Marker/Plaque, Off-Premise, and Yard signs. Wind resistant was added also.
- Definition Changes (Referencing changes in definitions): Standard definition for a sign, Animated sign, directional sign, Portable, and Temporary signs.
- Definition Removal: Snipe Sign, using off-premise signs as an overarching definition.
- Removed all content based language.



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- Reorganized and rewrote prohibited sign section, without changing what is actually banned or not. Made wording and the list easier to read.
- Added a definition to what makes a sign in a condition that can require removal.
- Required most signs to get a permit, this was due to the section of “no permit required” was mostly empty after removing content based regulations.
- Moved all non-content based signs in permit required to the charts in the later sections. Making it easier to find a requirement then reading through text. The section of “permit required signs” just references the charts.
- Requiring all temporary signs to have permits except A-Frame signs.
- Temporary Sign section was changed from written text to charts resembling the original ones in later sections. They state size, duration, and if a permit is required.
- Using the variance passed for hiring seasons, created a one time a year, time duration of 5 months allowing the same amount of signs that council passed.