

Memo

To: Area Candidates
From: William Woodruff, Zoning Administrator
Re: Political Signs

Several candidates have inquired as to Union Township's regulations on political signs, so I wanted to send a memo to all registered candidates so you are all on a level field. The following excerpts are from the Union Township Zoning Ordinance 1991-5. These regulations only apply to signs placed in Union Township, excluding the City of Mount Pleasant. Union Township's borders are Baseline Road to the North, Millbrook Road to the South, Summerton Road to the East and Meridian Road to the West. I have not mailed this to township candidates outside of Union Township. Also enclosed is a zoning map necessary to determine the correct maximum sign size. This map is also found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.uniontownshipmi.com> follow the link to Maps or Zoning. To summarize the following: 8 square feet signs are permitted in all zones if you do not wish to order different size signs, keep them out of the Right of Way (typically beyond the power poles) and off of fences, poles rocks, etc., please remove them 7 days after the election (I suggest that when you get the owners permission to place them, you ask the owner to remove them, but that is up to you.)

11.7 SIGN REGULATIONS - REFER TO EACH DISTRICT CHART FOR AREA, HEIGHT AND SETBACK REGULATIONS.

D. Temporary Signage Types - No Permit Required

7. Political:
 - a. Political signs may be placed only with the permission of the property owner or occupier.
 - b. A political sign may be erected no sooner than sixty (60) days before said election.
 - c. Removal: (Amended, Ord 2002-03)
Signs shall be removed seven (7) days following such referendum or election.
Candidates remaining in a November general election following an August primary election in the same year are not required to remove signs until seven (7) days after the general election.
 - d. Candidate/property owner is responsible for the removal of sign.

PROHIBITED SIGNS

The following types of signs are specifically prohibited:

- A. Signs that obstruct the vision clearance area of a street or driveway intersection and result in a traffic hazard;
- B. Signs that obstruct ingress or egress through any door, window, fire escape, or like facility, required or designated for safety or emergency use;
- C. Signs that may be confused with public traffic signs or highway identification signs, such as signs that use words like **“STOP”**, **“SLOW”**, **“CAUTION”**, **“LOOK”**, **“DANGER”**, or any other word, phrase, symbol, or character that may mislead or confuse vehicle operators;
- D. Signs or sign structures determined by the Building Official or Zoning Administrator to constitute a hazard to the public safety or health by reason of poor structural design or construction, inadequate maintenance, lack of repair, or dilapidation or obsolete and abandoned signs;
- E. Illuminated flashing signs which flash, blink, fluctuate, or have chaser, or scintillating ability.
- F. Strings of light bulbs used in connection with commercial premises for commercial purposes, other than in season traditional holiday decorations;
- G. Signs that are moving or have any moving part. This includes movement in mechanical, electrical, or kinetic means, wind currents or any other means except a Message Center;
- H. Roof Signs;
- I. Signs with visible A-frames, trusses, or guide wires as part of the sign or sign structure;
- J. Billboard Trailer signs not attached to a licensed and insured motorized vehicle carrying the logo or name of the primary business.
- K. Signs placed on, affixed to, or painted on any motor vehicle, trailer, or other mobile structure not registered, licensed, and insured for use on public highways;
- L. Illuminated signs in the Agricultural Districts under ten (10) acres, and Residential Districts;
- M. Signs on fences, trees, rocks or utility poles.

**Chart 11.8b SIGNAGE ALLOTMENT - AGRICULTURE DISTRICT OVER
TEN (10) ACRES**

<u>TEMPORARY SIGNAGE - NO PERMIT</u>	MAX. AREA PER SIGN (SQ. FT.)	MAX. HEIGHT (LINEAR FT.)	MAXIMUM PROJECTION (INCHES)	MIN. HEIGHT (LINEAR FT.)
POLITICAL	16	6	N/R	N/R

**Chart 11.9b SIGNAGE ALLOTMENT - AGRICULTURE DISTRICT UNDER TEN (10)
ACRES**

POLITICAL	8	6	N/R	N/R
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Chart 11.10b SIGNAGE ALLOTMENT - RESIDENTIAL

POLITICAL	8	4	N/R	N/R
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Chart 11.11b SIGNAGE ALLOTMENT - BUSINESS

POLITICAL	16	6	N/R	N/R
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Chart 11.12b SIGNAGE ALLOTMENT - INDUSTRIAL

POLITICAL	16	6	N/R	N/R
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Thank You,

William Woodruff

Union Township Zoning Administrator