

TOWN SIGN ORDINANCE

To promote the beauty, safety, and general welfare of the town by regulating the erection and use of signs and billboards in the Town of Andover, New Hampshire, the following ordinance is hereby enacted by the voters of the Town of Andover in town meeting convened, March 8, 1966.

I. DEFINITIONS

- A. A Sign -- An identification, description, illustration, or device which is affixed to or represented directly or indirectly upon a building, structure, or land and which conveys some information, knowledge, or idea to the public.
- B. Business Sign -- A sign which directs attention to a business, product, activity, or entertainment sold or offered for sale upon the premises where such sign is located.
- C. Billboard -- A sign which directs attention to a business, product, activity, or service which is not conducted, sold, or offered on the premises where such sign is located.

II. RESTRICTIONS

- A. No sign shall be permitted which constitutes a safety hazard due to flashing, blinking, or otherwise glaring light, nor shall any such illumination simulate a traffic signal light.
- B. Property owners of enterprises shall be allowed two business signs for products sold on the premises, such signs not to total over fifteen feet in area. Property owners shall also be allowed one or more signs pertaining to the lease, sale, or use of a lot or building on which placed, and such signs shall not exceed a total of five square feet in area.
- C. Billboards relating to an enterprise operated in the Town of Andover shall be permitted provided that said billboards for any one enterprise do not exceed on for every two mile length of road; not including those erected to indicate change of direction, also that said billboards cannot be within fifty feet of any other billboard or sign.
- D. No neon, tubular glass, or privately owned flashing electric signs shall be permitted.
- E. A permit must be obtained before erection or location of a sign or billboard.
- F. Any business sign or billboard which is repainted, repaneled or in any way changed from use advertising one business to use advertising another business shall be considered a new sign or billboard, shall require a permit before it may be displayed, and shall be subject to any and all restrictions applied to new signs under the terms of this ordinance.

- G. No post, footing or other remnant of a sign or billboard shall be considered an existing sign or billboard, and any new information displayed upon such a post, footing or remnant shall be considered a new sign or billboard, shall require a permit before it may be displayed, and shall be subject to any all restrictions applied to new signs under the terms of this ordinance.

III. ENFORCEMENT

- A. It shall be the duty of the Board of Selectmen, and the Board is hereby given the power and authority, to enforce the provisions of this ordinance.
- B. The Board of Selectmen shall issue any and all sign permits requested when the sign for which the permit is sought will be in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance. Upon request the Selectmen may permit, at their discretion and when conditions justify the request, slight variances of this ordinance.
- C. Upon any well-founded information that this ordinance is being violated, the Selectmen shall take immediate steps to enforce the provisions of this ordinance by seeking an injunction in the Superior Court or by any appropriate legal action. Whoever violates any of the above regulations shall be punished upon conviction by a fine not exceeding \$10.00 for each day of each violation, plus all legal costs in connection with settling the issue.

IV. SAVING CLAUSE

- A. The invalidity of any provision of this ordinance shall not affect the validity of any other provision.

V. WHEN EFFECTIVE

- A. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

VI. AMENDMENT

- A. This ordinance may be amended by a majority vote of any legal Town Meeting when such amendment is published in the warrant calling for the meeting.