

**PARISH OF WEST FELICIANA**  
**ORDINANCE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REENACT SECTION 136-117 OF THE WEST FELICIANA PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES IN REGARD TO SIGN AND OUTDOOR ADVERTISING REGULATIONS; AND TO PROVIDE FURTHER WITH RESPECT THERETO:**

**The West Feliciana Parish Council hereby ordains:**

WHEREAS, Sec. 135-117 provides for some general regulation of signs and outdoor advertising;

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Parish Council to provide for more detail and specificity in regulation of signs and outdoor advertising without unduly burdening property and business owners;

WHEREAS, it is determined that the existing Sec 135-117 of the West Feliciana Parish Code or Ordinances needs to be amended, reenacted and supplemented to facilitate the purposes set forth therein.

Section 1. Sec. 135-117 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Sec. 135-117. - Signs and other outdoor advertising.

a) **Purpose and intent.**

**The purpose of this Section is to establish basic requirements and prohibitions for the placement, installations and maintenance of signs in order to preserve and protect the health, safety, welfare and general well-being of the community's citizens. It is the intent of this section to regulate the size and location of signs such that their purpose can be served without unduly interfering with motorists and causing unsafe conditions. However, it is not the intent of this section that all signs are built to the maximum size. West Feliciana Parish encourages use of the minimum signage necessary to meet the purposes needed.**

**Recognizing that the aesthetic, cultural and historic qualities of West Feliciana Parish are unique and, therefore, vital to the community's interest it is the objective of this section to ensure compatibility to the community and to ensure that these qualities are not compromised.**

~~Regulations for the use of signs, billboards and other outdoor advertising structures are as follows:~~

b) **General provisions.**

**The erection of signs shall be subject to the provisions of the building code, to the extent applicable. Signs association with a construction that requires a building permit shall be included in the plans for the construction.**

c) **Prohibited signs. The following shall be specifically prohibited:**

1. **Animated signs, defined as signs using actual motion or the illusion thereof;**

2. Audible signs, defined as a sign that produces an audible sound discernable by a person or normal hearing from off of the premises;
  3. Billboards or outdoor general advertising signs, defined as an off-site, permanent, freestanding or wall sign that exceeds 32 square feet in size.
  4. Signs imitating traffic control devices or emergency signals;
  5. Signs preventing free ingress or egress to or from any door, window, or fire escape;
  6. Pennants, banners and streamers, except when they are used for a temporary occasion and permitted as set forth herein;
  7. Signs other than public directional signs, public service signs, public informational signs or official notices which encroach into or over public property or a public right-of-way;
  8. Roof signs, defined as a sign that is attached to and supported by the roof of a building and extends above the roofline;
  9. Signs without permission of property owner: Any sign placed or erected on property without permission of the owner of the property.
- d) Exempt signs. The following signs shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.
1. Residential address signs and combination nameplate and address signs that contain no advertising copy and which do not exceed six square feet;
  2. Flags on flagpoles: All flags shall be displayed on purpose-built, professionally fabricated flagpoles, which may be vertical or mast-arm flagpoles. In nonresidential districts flagpoles shall not exceed the allowed height provided for a structure or building in the applicable zoning district, or 50 feet, whichever is greater. Flagpoles in residential districts shall not exceed 25 feet in height, or the height of the primary structure on the lot, whichever is less.
  3. Fuel service station pump signs, oil rack signs, and pricing signs;
  4. Helium/cold-air-filled devices: Helium/cold-air-filled devices that do not exceed 36 inches at any measurement;
  5. Home occupation signs not exceeding two square feet in sign area which are nonilluminated and mounted flat against and parallel to the plane of the wall of the building to which the sign is attached;
  6. Memorial plaques, building identification signs and building cornerstones when cut or carved into a masonry surface or when made of noncombustible material and made an integral part of the building or structure;
  7. Official notices authorized by a court, public body, or public safety official;
  8. Public directional signs, public service signs, public informational signs or official notices which encroach into or over the public right-of-way;
  9. Portable signs not exceeding ten square feet in total sign area;

10. Private directional signs not exceeding four square feet in sign area per sign;
  11. Professional nameplates not exceeding two square feet in sign area;
  12. Religious symbols and seasonal decorations within the appropriate public holiday season;
  13. Temporary signs, including window signs, real estate signs, construction signs, and free expression signs.
  14. Warning and safety signs.
  15. Menu boards.
  17. Sandwich board (A-frame) signs. Sandwich board signs are permitted for nonresidential uses within commercial areas. Only one sandwich board sign per business shall be permitted and shall only be displayed during the regular business operating hours or special event and must be stored indoors at all other times.
  17. Signs placed by parish departments of public works, planning, code enforcement or any other parish department, by order of the parish president to direct, warn, caution or inform the traveling public for the convenience and safety thereof, including public parking.
- e) Temporary signs; additional requirement for erection or display without necessity of permit.
1. Temporary construction signs. Temporary construction signs not exceeding 32 square feet in sign area, or eight feet in height; however, temporary construction signs shall not exceed six square feet in sign area, or four feet in height in residential zones unless the parcel exceeds three acres in size and is not located in a final recorded subdivision. Temporary construction signs shall be removed within ten days after the construction is completed.
  2. Temporary free expression signs: Temporary free expression signs, not located within the public right-of-way and placed no closer than ten feet to the back of the curb of a public roadway.
  3. Temporary real estate signs.
  4. Temporary window signs. Signs located on the inside of windows intended for the purpose of viewing from outside the premises, provided that such signs are not permanently attached, and are constructed of such materials that clearly indicates that they are temporary.
  5. Temporary yard or garage sale signs, but such sign shall be removed within 24 hours of the completion of the yard or garage sale.
  6. Personal convenience signs. In order to ensure fairness to property owners and to allow reasonable exposure to the public, the following signs are allowed without permit. In all instances these signs are restricted to placement on private property, with permission from the property owner or lessee of the

property, and are not allowed on public streets, rights-of-way, sidewalks and other public areas.

- a. Warning or caution signs such as "No Trespassing," "Condemned Building," etc.
  - b. Signs that announce or advertise temporary public, civic, charitable, educational, home instruction, nonprofit, philanthropic or religious events or functions in pursuit of their purpose. Placement of such event signs should be for a maximum 14-day period and allowed twice per year.
  - c. Flag signs of noncommercial or non-advertising display to include, but not limited to, flags, emblems or insignias of any nation, state or political subdivision, religious, charitable, political, social or fraternal organization or similar.
  - d. Lost/found pet signs. Placement of such signs should be for a maximum period of 30 days.
  - e. Special event signs. Placement of such signs should be for a maximum period of 14 days prior to the event and removed immediately after the event.
  - f. Directional signs with the purpose of directing guests, members of organizations or other persons to a spot or location where a permitted special event will be held. Such signs shall be removed within three days after the event for which the signs pertain.
  - g. Expressive signs in connection with an organized campaign in support of or opposition to any candidacy, political slate or ticket, or ballot proposal.
- f) Temporary special event signs on private property requiring permit. The following temporary special event signs may be erected and displayed only upon the issuance by the public works director, or his designee of a temporary sign permit:
1. Proposed project signs. One nonilluminated temporary sign announcing a proposed development may be erected on the premises proposed for the project provided that such sign does not exceed 32 square feet in area, is set back at least ten feet from any property line and is removed within one year from the date the sign permit for its erection was issued or upon the issuance of the sign permit for a construction sign or the lapse of 60 days from the issuance of a building permit for the project, whichever is first to occur;
  2. Temporary signs preceding permanent sign approval. Upon the filing of a complete application for sign approval by the public works director, or his designee, one temporary identification sign not to exceed 32 square feet may be permitted by the public works director, or his designee for a period of not more than 30 days for an occupant who has no other sign to identify the occupant's business. An additional 60-day extension for a temporary sign may be granted by the public works director, or his designee.
  3. Flags, streamers, banners, and pennants. Flags, streamers, banners or pennants may be displayed, upon the issuance of a temporary permit by the public works director, or his designee, in connection with grand openings or special events no

**more than four times per year for any one business entity or applicant. Such signs may be displayed for a period of 14 days prior to an event; but in no case shall the total display time be greater than 30 consecutive calendar days.**

4. **Application for permit. Applications for such a temporary permit shall be made to the director of public works, or his designee, and must state the name of the person, firm, corporation or organization sponsoring the event; the locations where such device(s) are to be installed and the contemplated dates during which such devices shall remain on display.**

This ordinance shall take effect five (5) days after its publication in the official journal.

Introduced by: Parish President Kevin Couhig at the regular meeting of the West Feliciana Parish Council on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017

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Publication of Summary and Notice of Public Hearing on \_\_\_\_\_

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Full reading and passage on \_\_\_\_\_

Moved for adoption by . Seconded by .

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST: