

## ARTICLE 7 SIGN REGULATIONS

### SECTION 7.1: INTENT

**7.1.1 Intent:** The primary function of signage, as it relates to this Ordinance, is to identify a particular use of a parcel of property. It is not the intent of this Ordinance that open spaces and lines of vision created by public right-of-way be used for unrestricted advertising through the use of signage. Signs will be allowed in such a manner as to provide those similar uses in similar zones the opportunity for identification exposure regardless of parcel size, although the location and size of buildings will influence the amount of signage permitted. This consistent approach is necessary to remove the need for the types of signs which compete for attention of the motorist, thereby creating traffic hazards as well as creating visual blight. It is, therefore, within the health, safety and welfare responsibility of the Village that this article is promulgated.

### SECTION 7.2: DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

**7.2.1 Description and Purpose:** This chapter is intended to regulate the size, number, location, and manner of display of signs in the Village of Port Sanilac in a manner consistent with the following purposes:

- A. To protect and further the health, safety and welfare of Port Sanilac residents;
- B. To prevent traffic hazards and pedestrian accidents caused by signs which obstruct vision, distract or confuse drivers, or are improperly secured or constructed;
- C. To conserve and enhance community character;
- D. To promote uniformity in the size, number or placement of signs within districts;
- E. To promote the economic viability of commercial areas by minimizing visual clutter and allowing for proper placement of signs to safely direct motorists to their destination;
- F. To balance the public's right to be informed and its desire to avoid visual pollution and hazardous conditions with the rights of businesses and other non-business uses to communication;

### SECTION 7.3: DEFINITIONS

**Agricultural Sign:** A sign which identifies items, products, breeds of animals, poultry or fish, materials, variety of crops or farming methods used on a farm; includes signs for farm organizations.

**Awning:** A retractable or fixed shelter constructed of non-rigid materials on a supporting framework projecting from the exterior wall of a building. An awning is the same as a canopy.

**Awning Sign:** A sign affixed to the surface of an awning.

**Balloon Sign:** A sign composed of a non-porous bag of material filled with air or gas.

**Banner Sign:** A portable sign of fabric, plastic, or other non-rigid material without an enclosing structural framework.

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**Billboard:** A sign, which advertises an establishment, product, service or activity available on the lot on which the sign is located.

**Changeable Copy Sign:** “Changeable Copy Sign” means one of the following:

- A. ***Manual:*** A sign on which a copy is changed manually, such as reader boards with changeable letters or pictorials.
- B. ***Automatic:*** An electrically controlled sign, where different copy changes are shown on the same unexposed lamp bank or rotating portion of the face of the sign, used as a message center reader board.

**Commercial Establishment:** A business operating independent of any other business located within a freestanding building.

**Community Service Group Sign:** A sign which displays the name or logo of an agency, organization or group whose primary purpose is to promote or provide community or public service, such as the Rotary Club, Jaycee’s, Lions, or a church club.

**Community Special Event Sign:** A portable sign which is erected for a limited time to call attention to special events of interest to the general public which are sponsored by governmental agencies, schools or other groups which are non-profit and whose purpose is charitable, philanthropic, religious or benevolence.

**Construction Sign:** A sign which identifies the owners, financiers, contractors, architects, and engineers of a project under construction.

**Directional Sign:** A sign which gives directions, instructions, or facility information for the use of the lot on which the sign is located, such as parking or exit and entrance signs.

**Election Sign:** A sign used to advertise a candidate or an issue.

**Essential Services Signs:** Signs strictly for the use of public utilities.

**Exempt Sign:** A sign for which a sign permit is not required.

**Farm Identification Sign:** A sign located at the physical site of a farm which identifies the name of a farm, or the family or person operating the farm.

**Flag Sign:** A flag which is attached to a pole and which contains the name, logo, or other symbol of a business, company, corporation, or agency of a commercial nature.

**Freestanding Sign:** A sign not attached to a building or wall which is supported by one or more poles or braces or which rests on the ground or on a foundation resting on the ground.

**Government Sign:** A sign erected or required to be erected by the Village of Port Sanilac, Sanilac County, or the state or federal government.

**Ground Sign:** A freestanding sign supported by a base which rests directly on the ground. The width of the base shall be at least 50 percent of the width of the sign in order to be a ground sign.

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**Incidental Sign:** A small sign, emblem or decal informing the public of goods, facilities or services available on the premises (e.g., a credit card sign or restroom sign or sign indicating hours of businesses, or signs on gas pumps).

**Memorial Sign:** A sign, tablet, or plaque memorializing a person, event, structure or site.

**Marquee:** A permanent structure constructed of rigid materials that project from the exterior wall of a building.

**Marquee Sign:** A sign affixed flat against the surface of a marquee.

**Mural:** A design or representation painted or drawn on a wall which does not advertise an establishment, product, service, or activity.

**Nameplate:** A non-illuminated, on-premises sign giving only the name, address and/or occupation of an occupant or group of occupants.

**Non-Commercial Sign:** A portable or non-portable sign that does not advertise commerce, trade, or location and otherwise not defined herein.

**Off-Premises Sign Cluster:** A sign used for the advertisement of a business at the corner of a street or road. These types of signs allow collocation.

**Placard:** A sign not exceeding two (2) square feet which provides notices of a public nature, such as "No Trespassing," "No Hunting," or "Gas Main" signs.

**Pole Sign:** A freestanding sign which is supported by a structure, or poles or braces which are less than fifty percent (50%) of the width of the sign.

**Portable Sign:** A sign that is not permanent or affixed to a building or structure and by its nature may be or is intended to be moved from one location to another such as A-Frame signs or signs on movable trailers whether rented or owned.

**Projecting Sign:** A double-faced sign attached to a building or wall that extends more than twelve (12) inches but not more than thirty-six (36) inches from the face of the building or wall.

**Reader Board:** A portion of a sign on which copy is changed manually.

**Real Estate Sign:** A sign advertising the real estate upon which the sign is located as being for sale, rent, or lease.

**Residential Subdivision Sign:** A sign identifying or recognizing a platted subdivision, site condominium, multi-family or other residential development.

**Roof Line:** The top of a roof or parapet wall, whichever is higher, but excluding any cupolas, chimneys, or other minor projections.

**Roof Sign:** A sign erected above the roof line of a building.

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**Sign:** A device, structure, fixture, or placard which may or may not use graphics, symbols, and/or written copy designed specifically for the purpose of advertising or identifying an establishment, product, service, or activity.

**Wall Sign:** A sign painted or attached directly to and parallel to the exterior wall of a building extending no greater than twelve (12) inches from the exterior face of a wall to which it is attached.

**Window Sign:** A sign installed inside a window and intended to be viewed from the outside.

**Vehicle Sign:** A vehicle which is primarily located or used to serve as a sign rather than as transportation. This includes semi-trailers either attached or detached from a truck tractor.

#### **SECTION 7.4: PROHIBITED SIGNS**

**7.4.1 Prohibited Signs:** A sign not permitted by this Ordinance is prohibited. The following types of signs are expressly prohibited:

- A. Billboards;
- B. Roof signs;
- C. Signs larger than thirty-two (32) square feet;
- D. Searchlights, laser lights, strobe lights, and other methods of illuminating the sky with the intent to advertise;
- E. Vehicle signs;
- F. Illuminated signs in residential zones;
- G. Permanent free standing signs;
- H. All signs on utility poles.

(amended 12/15/2020)

#### **SECTION 7.5: EXEMPT SIGNS**

**7.5.1 Exempt Signs:** The following signs shall be exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance:

- A. Government signs two (2) square feet or less;
- B. Election signs – One (1) per candidate or issue with each sign not to exceed six (6) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height. All election signs shall be setback a minimum of ten (10) feet from all lot lines. Signs must be removed within one (1) week after the election.
- C. Window signs;
- D. Memorial signs;
- E. Murals;
- F. Signs not visible from any street;
- G. Signs for essential services which are two (2) square feet or less;
- H. Placards;
- I. Community service group or agency signs two (2) square feet or less;
- J. Nameplates two (2) square feet or less;
- K. Newspaper box signs;

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- L. Farm identification signs;
- M. Incidental signs two (2) square feet or less;
- N. Flags or insignia of any nation, state, Village, community organization, educational institution, or flags of a non-commercial nature;
- O. Non-commercial signs.

**SECTION 7.6: SIGNS NOT NEEDING A PERMIT**

**7.6.1 Signs Not Needing a Permit:** The following signs shall not require a permit but shall be subject to all other applicable regulations of this Ordinance.

- A. Government signs;
- B. Non-commercial signs;
- C. Directional signs;
- D. Construction signs;
- E. Signs for residential yard and garage sales;
- F. Real estate signs advertising the premises (on which the sign is located) for sale, rent or lease, if such signs are not more than six (6) square feet in area for residential property or thirty-two (32) square feet in area for non-residential property;
- G. Help wanted signs of a temporary nature not to exceed six (6) square feet.

**SECTION 7.7: SIGN PERMITS AND APPLICATIONS**

**7.7.1 Permits Required:** A sign permit shall be required for the erection, use, construction or alteration of all signs except those exempted herein. For purposes of this section, alteration shall mean any change to an existing sign including changing the copy to promote, advertise, or identify another use. Alteration shall not mean normal maintenance of a sign.

**7.7.2 Application:** An application for a sign permit shall be made to the Zoning Administrator along with a fee as required by Village Council resolution. The application, at a minimum, shall include the following:

- A. Name, address, and telephone number of applicant and the person, firm or corporation erecting the sign;
- B. Address or permanent parcel number of the property where the sign will be located;
- C. A sketch showing the location of the building, structure, or lot upon which the sign is to be attached or erected, and showing the proposed sign in relation to buildings and structures, along with the setback, from lot lines;
- D. Blueprints or drawings of the plans and specifications, method of construction and attachment to structures or ground;
- E. Any required electrical permit shall be attached to the application;
- F. The zoning district in which the sign is to be located;
- G. For a pole sign which is to be ten (10) feet or higher, design plans sealed by a professional engineer shall be submitted with the application;
- H. Any other information which the Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator may require in order to demonstrate compliance with this Ordinance;
- I. Signature of applicant or person, firm or corporation erecting the sign.

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**7.7.3 Issuance of Sign Permit:** The Zoning Administrator shall issue a sign permit if all provisions of this Article and other applicable Village Ordinances are met. A sign authorized by a permit shall be installed or under construction within six (6) months of the date of issuance of the sign permit or the permit shall expire. A new permit may be issued upon the filing of a new application and fee.

- A. Cost of the permit is listed in the fee schedule.
- B. Enforcement shall be by the Village of Port Sanilac Zoning Administrator.

**SECTION 7.8: DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND LOCATION STANDARDS**

**7.8.1 Design, Construction, and Location Standards:**

- A. All signs shall be properly maintained and shall not be allowed to become unsightly through disrepair or as a result of weather.
- B. Sign support, braces, guys and anchors shall be maintained in such a manner as not to cause a hazard.
- C. Signs shall be constructed to withstand all wind and vibration forces which can normally be expected to occur in the vicinity.
- D. Signs may be internally or externally illuminated. The source of the light shall be enclosed and directed to prevent the source of light shining directly onto traffic or residential property.
- E. Signs shall not be placed in, upon or over any public right-of-way, alley, private road or other place, except as may be otherwise permitted by the Sanilac County Road Commission or the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).
- F. A light pole or other supporting member shall not be used for placement of any sign unless specifically designed and approved for such use.
- G. A sign shall not extend beyond the edge of a wall to which it is affixed, and no wall sign shall extend above a roof line of a building.
- H. A sign and its supporting mechanism shall not extend beyond any lot lines of the property on which it is located.

**7.8.2 Off-Premises Sign Clusters:**

- A. The erector of the sign shall obtain written permission from the property owner where the sign is to be erected. The proper form can be obtained from the Village of Port Sanilac Zoning Administrator.
- B. Off-premises sign clusters shall be located as close as possible to the intersection of the right-of-way lines at the intersection of two (2) roads, but shall not be located in the right-of-way.
- C. Off-premises sign clusters must be erected of two (2) treated six (6) inch x six (6) inch posts set four (4) feet in the ground, three (3) feet apart embedded in concrete sixteen (16) inches in diameter. The post shall extend twelve (12) feet above the ground to facilitate collocation of multiple signs. They shall be erected perpendicular to the main roads direction of travel.
- D. Each sign shall be on two (2) plastic laminate sign boards – no larger than thirty (30) inches – attached to opposite sides of the 6 x 6 posts at a uniform height. The background color shall be Safety Blue with white lettering no more than ten (10) inches high and shall contain only the business name, company logo, type of business, hours of operation, a directional arrow, and distance (in miles or fraction thereof) to the business location.
- E. Each sign cluster shall be erected to facilitate the collocation of multiple signs. No additional sign clusters shall be erected at a given intersection until all slots for additional signage have been utilized on the original cluster and no more than two (2)

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clusters shall be erected at any intersection. The fees assessed for additional signs on a cluster shall be established as follows. The original sign erector shall pay all costs associated with the erection of the sign cluster (material and erection costs, rent to property owner permit costs, etc.) and costs for their own signage. Each subsequent sign erector that collocates on the sign cluster shall pay all costs for their own signage and one quarter (¼) of the costs of the original erection of the sign cluster to be paid to the original erector of the cluster. The original erector of the cluster shall not be allowed to discriminate on who is allowed to collocate.

**7.8.3 Maintenance:** A sign shall be maintained to a like-new condition. Signs must be level and perpendicular to the ground, not have paint that is peeling, and any broken boards. If the Zoning Administrator determines that any sign defined in this Ordinance needs maintenance to restore the sign to its like-new appearance, he/she shall notify the owners of the sign that maintenance must be performed. If the needed maintenance is not performed, the owner is in violation of this Ordinance and is subject to the penalties of Article 23 of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 7.9: SIGN REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL DISTRICTS**

**7.9.1 Sign Regulations Applicable to All Districts:** The following sign regulations are applicable to all zoning districts:

- A. All signs shall be stationary and shall pertain only to the business or activity conducted on the premises.
- B. All wall and freestanding signs may include non-electric reader boards.
- C. Any pole sign, including awnings to which signs are affixed or displayed shall maintain a minimum clear space of eight (8) feet from the bottom of the sign to the ground.
- D. Licensed commercial vehicles which bear signs may be parked on site provided they are located in such a manner that they do not function as signs.
- E. Real estate signs are permitted in any zoning district but shall be removed within thirty (30) days after completion of the sale or lease of the property.
- F. Construction signs are permitted within any district, subject to the following restrictions:
  1. Construction signs shall be no larger than thirty-two (32) square feet and not exceed eight (8) feet in height.
  2. Construction signs shall not be erected until a building permit has been issued for the project that is the subject of proposed sign and construction activity has begun.
  3. Construction signs shall be removed immediately upon the issuance of any Occupancy Permit for the building or structure, which is the subject of the construction sign.
- G. Community special event signs, including banner signs, are permitted in any zoning district, subject to the following restrictions:
  1. Signs may be located either on or off the lot on which the special event is held.
  2. The display of such signs shall be limited to the thirty (30) days immediately preceding the special event that is being advertised.
  3. Such signs shall have a maximum size of thirty-two (32) square feet in area, and a maximum height above ground level of six (6) feet and shall be set back from any side or rear property line a minimum of fifteen (15) feet. The front setback shall be as required for signs in the zoning district in which the sign is to be located.

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4. Such signs shall be removed within ten (10) days of the conclusion of the special event that is being advertised.
- H. Directional signs are permitted in any zoning district, subject to the following restrictions:
1. A directional sign may contain a logo of an on-premises establishment, but no advertising copy.
  2. Directional signs shall not exceed three (3) square feet in area or three (3) feet in height, and shall be set back a minimum of five (5) feet from any lot line.
  3. Directional signs shall be limited to traffic control functions only.
- I. Garage or estate sales, auctions, roadside stand signs and signs for graduation, birthday, or anniversary parties are permitted in any zoning district, subject to the following restrictions:
1. One (1) sign located on the premises at which the event is to be held is permitted. Such sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area or three (3) feet in height.
  2. Additionally, one (1) directional sign is permitted at each end of the street of the location at which the event is taking place. Such signs shall be set back a minimum of five (5) feet from any side or rear property line and shall conform to the area and height requirements for directional signs, as detailed in subsection H(2) above.
  3. The signs described in subsections I(1) and I(2) above shall be erected no more than three (3) days prior to the day(s) of the sale or event and shall be removed within three (3) days after the completion of the sale or event.
- J. Signs advertising the sale of farm products or farm operations which are not located on the property that contains the farm are permitted in any zoning district, subject to the following restrictions:
1. No more than three (3) such signs shall be displayed within the Village.
  2. Such signs shall be no larger than thirty-two (32) square feet and no higher than six (6) feet above grade.
  3. The minimum front setback shall be as required for signs in the zoning district in which the sign is to be located.
  4. Such signs shall not be placed on land where another sign is located or which contains a principal use except for a single-family dwelling or farm operation.

**SECTION 7.10: NONCONFORMING SIGNS, ILLEGAL SIGNS, AND SIGN  
ACCESSORY TO NONCONFORMING USES**

**7.10.1 Nonconforming Signs, Illegal Signs, & Signs Accessory to Nonconforming Uses:**

- A. Every legal permanent sign which does not conform to the height, size, area or location requirement of this Ordinance as of the date of the adoption of this Ordinance, is hereby deemed to be nonconforming.
- B. Nonconforming signs may not be altered, expanded, enlarged, or extended; however, nonconforming signs may be maintained and repaired so as to continue the useful life of the sign.
- C. For the purposes of this Ordinance, a nonconforming sign may be diminished in size or dimension and the copy of the sign amended or changed without jeopardizing the privilege of nonconforming use.
- D. A sign accessory to a nonconforming use may be erected in the Village in accordance with the sign regulations for the zoning district in which the property is located.



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- E. Signs in existence in 2019 that do not conform to the provisions of this Ordinance shall be allowed to continue for a period of five (5) years after adoption of this Ordinance, at which time all nonconforming signs shall be removed or altered to conform to the provisions of this Ordinance.
- F. All existing signs must apply for a free permit at the time the Sign Ordinance is adopted.

**SECTION 7.11: MEASUREMENT OF SIGNS**

**7.11.1 Measurement of Signs:**

- A. The area of a sign shall be measured as the area within a single, continuous perimeter composed of any straight line geometric figure which encloses the extreme limits of writing, representation, emblem, logo, or any other figure of similar character, together with any frame or other material or color forming an integral part of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the background against which it is placed, excluding only the structure necessary to support the sign.
- B. The area of a freestanding or projecting sign that has two (2) or more faces shall be measured by including the area of all sign faces, except if two (2) such faces are placed back-to-back and are of equal size, and are no more than two (2) feet apart at any point the area of the two (2) back-to-back faces are of unequal size, the larger of the two (2) sign faces shall be counted as the one (1) face.
- C. The height of a sign shall be measured as the vertical distance from the highest point of the sign to the grade of the adjacent street or the average grade of the ground immediately beneath the sign, whichever is less.

**SECTION 7.12: PERMITTED SIGNS BY ZONING DISTRICT**

**7.12.1 Agricultural-Residential (A-R):** The following signs are permitted in the Agricultural-Residential Zoning District on the property on which the business is located:

- A. Wall Sign – For permitted uses other than dwellings.
  - 1. One (1) sign per street frontage to be placed on that side of the building which directly faces the street.
  - 2. A wall sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet.
- B. Ground Sign – For permitted uses other than dwellings.
  - 1. One (1) sign per parcel not to exceed six (6) square feet in area.
  - 2. The height of a ground sign shall not exceed six (6) feet above grade.
  - 3. Ground signs shall be setback a minimum of ten (10) feet from the front lot line and a minimum of fifty (50) feet from all other lot lines.
- C. Pole Sign
  - 1. Pole signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area.
  - 2. Pole signs shall be setback a minimum of twenty (20) feet from the front lot line and a minimum of one hundred (100) feet from all other lot lines.
- D. Election Sign – One sign per candidate or issue with each sign not to exceed six (6) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height. Such signs shall be setback a minimum of ten (10) feet from the front lot line and fifty (50) feet from all other lot lines. Election signs can be displayed starting sixty (60) days before the election and must be removed within one (1) week after the election.
- E. Agricultural Sign – Such signs shall not exceed thirty two (32) square feet per sign. Such signs shall not be limited in number or placement except that they shall not be placed to create a hazard or visibility problem for motorists, pedestrians or cyclists.

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- F. Off-Premises Sign Clusters – Off-premises sign clusters shall comply with the provisions in Section 7.8.2 above.

**7.12.2 Residential Zoning District:** The following signs are permitted in the R-1 and R-2 Residential Zoning Districts:

- A. Wall Sign – For non-residential uses only.
1. One (1) sign per street frontage to be placed on that side of the building which directly faces the street.
  2. A wall sign shall not exceed six (6) square feet.
- B. Ground Sign – For residential subdivisions or site condominiums, multiple family developments, elderly housing, manufactured homes or manufactured home parks, schools, churches or other permitted non-residential uses.
1. One (1) per parcel not to exceed six (6) square feet in area.
  2. The height of a ground sign shall not exceed six (6) feet above grade.
  3. Ground signs shall be setback a minimum of twenty (20) feet from all lot lines.
  4. For residential subdivisions the following regulations shall apply:
    - a. A ground sign identifying the development is permitted only if a subdivision or homeowners' association is established and provisions are made for such an association to maintain the sign.
    - b. Ground signs shall be constructed primarily with carved wood, brick, stone wrought iron, terra cotta, glazed tile or similar decorative material in order to reflect and enhance the residential character of the area.
- C. Election Sign – One sign per candidate or issue with each sign not to exceed six (6) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height. Such signs shall be setback a minimum of ten (10) feet from the front lot line and fifty (50) feet from all other lot lines. Election signs can be displayed starting sixty (60) days before the election and must be removed within one (1) week after the election.
- D. Real Estate Sign – For single and two-family dwellings, one (1) sign per parcel is permitted. Such signs shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height and shall be set back a minimum of ten (10) feet from all lot lines.
1. For new subdivisions, site condominiums, and mobile or manufactured home parks, one (1) sign advertising the project is permitted at the main entrance. Such sign shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area or six (6) feet in height and shall be set back a minimum of twenty (20) feet from all lot lines.
  2. For non-residential uses, a real estate sign not to exceed fourteen (14) square feet in area is permitted. Such sign shall not exceed six (6) feet in height and shall be set back a minimum of twenty (20) feet from all lot lines.
- E. Off-Premises Sign Clusters – Off-premises sign clusters shall comply with the provisions in Section 14.8.2 above.

**7.12.3 Commercial, Central Business District, and Industrial Zoning Districts:** The following signs are permitted in the Commercial (C), Central Business District (CBD), and Industrial (I) Zoning Districts:

- A. Wall Signs –
1. Each commercial establishment shall be permitted to have one (1) wall sign. For each commercial establishment on a corner lot, one (1) wall sign per public or private street frontage is permitted. Each commercial establishment shall have no more than one (1) sign per wall. These wall signs shall be subject to the following regulations:

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- a. Wall signs shall not face a residential zoning district unless the district and the building are separated by a public or private street or other non-residential zoning district.
- B. Freestanding Sign – One (1) ground sign or pole sign per lot subject to the following regulations:
  - 1. Pole Sign – A pole sign at a maximum of thirty-two (32) square feet shall be permitted for each lot and shall also be subject to the following:
    - a. The support structure or poles for a pole sign shall be set back a minimum of twenty (20) feet from the front lot line and fifteen (15) feet from the front lot line and fifteen (15) feet from the side lot line. In no case shall a sign support or pole be placed closer than ten (10) feet from the front lot line.
    - b. Pole signs shall not exceed twenty (20) feet in height and shall have a minimum height between the bottom of the sign and the ground of eight (8) feet. The support structure(s) for a pole sign shall not be more than three (3) feet wide on any one (1) side.
    - c. The design plans for any pole sign which is ten (10) feet or higher, shall be sealed by a professional engineer to ensure the structure integrity of such signs for the safety of the public.
  - 2. Ground Sign – A ground sign at a maximum of thirty-two (32) square feet shall be permitted for each lot and shall be subject to the following:
    - a. The height of a ground sign shall not exceed six (6) feet above the ground.
    - b. Ground signs shall be set back a minimum of fifteen (15) feet from the front lot line and fifteen (15) feet from the side lot lines.
- C. Election or Non-Commercial Sign – One (1) per candidate or issue with each sign not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height. Such signs shall be set back a minimum of fifteen (15) feet from the front lot line and at least fifteen (15) feet from all other lot lines. Election signs can be displayed starting sixty (60) days before the election and must be removed within one (1) week after the election.
- D. Real Estate Sign – One (1) real estate sign per lot not to exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area and six (6) feet in height shall be permitted. Such signs shall be set back a minimum of fifteen (15) feet from the front lot line and fifteen (15) feet from all other lot lines.
- E. Vehicle Service Station Signs – Establishments that provide repair services and/or gasoline for vehicles either as a principal or accessory use may display directional signs over individual doors or bays. The size of such signs shall not exceed three (3) square feet in area. Customary lettering, insignias or symbols which are a permanent or structural part of the gasoline pump shall also be permitted.
- F. Industrial Park Identification Sign – One (1) sign may be erected at each industrial park entrance in accordance with the requirements for ground signs to identify the park and the industries within. Such signs may be ground signs or attached to a wall and shall be constructed primarily with carved wood, brick, stone wrought iron, terra cotta, glazed tile or other similar decorative material. Such signs shall be appropriately landscaped with low level lighting.
- G. Flag Signs – One (1) per lot not to exceed twenty-four (24) square feet. The flag sign shall be displayed on a pole. When displayed in the presence of the United State Flag, the United States Flag shall be displayed higher.
- H. Off-Premises Sign Clusters – Off-premises sign clusters shall comply with the provisions in Section 7.8.2 above.
- I. Video Screens, LED Signs and Electronic Reader Boards
  - 1. The intensity of lights shall not interfere with traffic control devices, nor

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shall they distract motorists or otherwise create a traffic hazard.

2. A digital sign must have installed an ambient light monitor, which shall continuously monitor and automatically adjust the brightness level of the display based on ambient light conditions consistent with the terms of this section.

3. The maximum brightness levels for digital signs shall not exceed .02 (two tenths) foot-candles over ambient light levels measured within 150 feet of the source.

4. The frequency of message change shall not be more frequent than once every 5 seconds. (amended 7/23/2019)

**SECTION 7.13: VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES**

**7.13.1 Violations and Penalties:**

- A. The Zoning Administrator, together with officers of the Village of Port Sanilac Police Department, is authorized to issue municipal civil infraction citations and municipal civil infraction violation notices for any violations of this Ordinance.
- B. It shall be unlawful for any person to erect, construct, maintain, enlarge, alter, move, or convert any sign in the Village, or cause or permit the same to be done on his/her property contrary to or in violation of any of the provisions of this Ordinance.
- C. Any sign which is erected, constructed, enlarged, altered, moved, or converted in violation of any of the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby declared to be a public nuisance per se, and may be abated by order of any court of competent jurisdiction.
- D. In addition to the remedies otherwise provided, the Village may remove and dispose of any unlawful sign on public property, in accordance with a court order.