

## **CHAPTER 154: SIGNS**

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**DEFINITIONS AND SCOPE**

 **§ 154.001 RULES AND DEFINITIONS.**

(A) The language set forth in the text of this chapter shall be interpreted in accordance with the following rules of construction:

- (1) The singular number includes the plural number, and the plural the singular.
- (2) The word *SHALL* is mandatory; the word *MAY* is permissive.
- (3) The masculine gender includes the feminine and neuter.

(B) Whenever in this chapter the following words and phrases have been used, they shall, for the purposes of this chapter, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except when the context otherwise indicates:

**ADVERTISING STRUCTURE.** Any canopy, awning, or other advertising graphic, other than a sign covered by this code.

**AWNING.** A temporary shelter supported entirely from the exterior wall of a building, composed of non-rigid materials, which are either stationary or can be retracted, folded, or collapsed against the face of the supporting building.

**BILLBOARD.** Any outdoor advertising sign erected upon a single pole or stanchion, and having a face equal to or exceeding 1,200 square feet, the bottom of which face is at least thirty-five (35) feet above the established grade and the top of which face is not more than seventy-five (75) feet above the established grade.

**BUILDING ADMINISTRATOR.** The Chief Inspector of the Bureau of Fire Prevention of the Village and his or her duly authorized agents.

**BUILDING FRONTAGE.** The wall of a building facing a public street. For a corner lot, the owner may elect either street line as the building frontage. In buildings with multiple units, the building frontage for each unit shall be considered as the width of the unit from party wall to party wall.

**BUS SHELTER.** Any structure walled or unwalled, covered or uncovered, placed on public property by any public transportation agency or any public agency for the purpose of providing cover or protection from the weather or elements.

**CANOPY.** A high covering or other roof-type covering or overhanging shelter fastened on and supported by the wall of a building and poles, pillars, or other vertical supports, and extending over a walkway.

**COMMERCIAL DISTRICT.** The area designated by the Zoning Ordinance and Map for commercial use in sales and services.

**CODE.** The Municipal Code of the Village of Schiller Park of 1994, as same may be amended from time to time, including those national and model codes adopted in said Municipal Code by reference.

**ERECT.** To build, construct, attach, hang, place, suspend, or affix, and to paint all signs.

**ESTABLISHED GRADE.** See **GRADE LEVEL.**

**FACE** or **FACING.** The surface of the sign upon, against, or through which the message is displayed or illustrated.

**FIXED AWNING.** Any hood, awning, or canopy made of cloth, plastic, metal, or other approved material with metal frames attached to a building, projecting over a public thoroughfare, and carried by a frame and supported by the ground or sidewalk.

**GRADE LEVEL** or **ESTABLISHED GRADE.** That elevation established by the Village for the proper level of the sidewalk at the street lot line. Where the sidewalk does not adjoin the street lot line, grade at the street lot line shall be determined by taking the elevation established by the Village for the street or curb and adding thereto an amount equal to one-third of an inch for each one foot of horizontal distance between said edge of street curb and said street lot line.

**GROSS SURFACE AREA.** The entire area within a single continuous perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of a face of a sign, as well as the message displayed or illustrated, but in no case passing through or between any adjacent elements of same. Such perimeter shall not include any structural elements lying outside the limits of such sign and not forming an integral part of the display. Both sides of double-faced signs shall be used in this computation.

**INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT.** The area designated by the Zoning Ordinance and Map for industrial uses, manufacturing, and/or warehousing.

**LOT** or **PREMISES.** A portion of platted territory measured, set apart, and subdivided as a distinct parcel having its principal frontage upon a street and shown upon a Plat of Subdivision

or resubdivision approved in accordance with the statutes of the State of Illinois and so recorded by the Recorder of Deeds of Cook County, Illinois.

**MARQUEE.** Any fixed hood or canopy supported solely by the building to which it is attached and extending over a public thoroughfare; a permanent canopy or hood, usually of metal and glass, projecting over an entrance to the building to which it is attached.

**PREMISES.** See *LOT*.

**PUBLIC THOROUGHFARE.** Any designated area, passageway, roadway or sidewalk located on public or private property upon which the general public is permitted free access.

**RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.** The area designated by the Zoning Ordinance and Map for single- and multiple-family residential dwelling units.

**RETRACTABLE AWNING.** Any hood, awning, or canopy made of cloth, plastic, metal, or other approved material with metal frames attached to a building and so erected as to permit its retraction when not in use.

**RIGHT-OF-WAY.** Any publicly-owned open area, including but not limited to parks, playgrounds, forest preserves, waterways, parkways, streets, and alleys.

**SHOPPING CENTER.** An integrated planned business development covering 80,000 square feet of gross land area or more and under unified control, and which provides off-street parking for patrons.

**SIGN.** Any structure or natural object, or part thereof, or device attached thereto, or painted or represented thereon, which may be designated or used to attract the attention to any object, subject, product, place, merchandise, activity, person, institution, organization, business, performance, or which shall consist of, display, or include any letter, word, pattern, emblem, figure, number, character, mark, point, plane, picture, representation, drawing, poster, placard, stroke, stripe, line, trademark, logo, reading matter, illumination, model, banner, streamer, flag, pennant, insignia, or device, used as or which is in the nature of an announcement, direction, or advertisement. For the purpose of this Chapter, the word **SIGN** shall not include any flag, emblem, or insignia of any nation, state, or city, but the word shall include but not be limited to the following specific types of sign:

**ABANDONED.** A sign, the facing of which has no message displayed or illustrated thereon and which has remained in such condition or status for a period of six (6) months or more.

**ACTION SIGN.** Any sign containing movement of the sign body or any segment thereof in a manner such as rotating, revolving, moving up or down, or any other type of action involving a change of the position or the intensity of the light of the sign body or segment thereof, whether caused by mechanical or any other means. An illuminated sign which indicates the time and/or temperature shall not, for that reason alone, be considered an action sign.

**AD-BENCH.** A structure, installed in a public place for the seating use and comfort of the public, upon which advertising is displayed.

**ANIMATED SIGNS.** A sign using the movement of any light used in connection with it such as blinking, traveling, flaring, or the changing of the degree of intensity of the light.

**BANNER** or **FLAG**. A temporary sign consisting of a piece of cloth or plastic often attached to a staff, or to a string or rope, singly or with other similar such temporary signs which may together form a streamer, which temporary sign may have definite colors, patterns, or symbols to attract attention as advertisement for outdoor display but shall not include any banner or flag used as a national or state symbol.

**BILLBOARD**. Any outdoor advertising sign erected upon a single pole or stanchion, and having a face exceeding 2,000 square feet, the bottom of which face is at least thirty-five (35) feet above the established grade and the top of which face is not more than seventy-five (75) feet above the established grade.

**BULLETIN BOARD**. A sign utilizing changeable copy for the purpose of notification to the general public of an event or occurrence, temporary in nature, and of public interest, such as a religious service, civic meeting, or other similar event.

**COMPOSITE SIGN**. See **JOINT IDENTIFICATION SIGN**.

**CONSTRUCTION SIGN**. A sign announcing the subdivision, development, construction, or other improvement of real estate, located on said real estate. For the purpose of this Chapter, a **CONSTRUCTION SIGN** shall not be construed to be a **REAL ESTATE SIGN** as defined herein.

**FLAG**. See **BANNER**.

**FLASHING SIGNS**. An illuminated sign in which, during the period of its operation, such illumination is not kept stationary or constant in intensity and/or color at all times. An illuminated sign which indicates the time and/or temperature shall not, for that reason alone be considered to be a flashing sign.

**FREESTANDING SIGN**. Any sign which is supported on one (1) or more poles, beams, or columns affixed to the ground and not attached to a building or any other sign.

**GROUND BASE** or **MONUMENT SIGN**. A freestanding sign which is mounted to or part of a permanent, independent base and which is designed as an integral part of that base. The height of such base shall not exceed three (3) feet and shall be permanently affixed to the ground.

**GUIDE SIGN**. Any sign used exclusively to show destination, corrections, distances, points of interest, and/or other geographical or cultural information.

**IDENTIFICATION SIGN**. A sign providing the general public with and advertising the name of the business or profession or service then being conducted on the premises located on the same lot.

**ILLUMINATED SIGN**. Any sign which has characters, letters, figures, designs, or outlines illuminated from within or without by electric lights, luminous tubes, or any other means of illumination.

**ILLEGAL NONCONFORMING SIGN**. Any sign governed by the regulations of this Chapter which, at the passage of this Chapter, was in violation of any of the laws of the Village governing the erection or construction of such sign at the time of its erection, and which sign has never been erected or displayed in conformance with all such laws, including this Chapter, and

which shall include signs which are pasted, nailed, and painted on or otherwise unlawfully displayed upon structures, utility poles, trees, fences, or other signs.

**JOINT IDENTIFICATION SIGN** or **COMPOSITE SIGN**. A sign which serves as a common or collective identification sign for two (2) or more business or industrial uses on the same lot.

**LEGAL NONCONFORMING SIGN**. Any sign which was lawfully erected and maintained prior to the enactment of this Chapter and any amendments thereto, which has not been abandoned, and which does not conform to all the applicable regulations and restrictions of this Chapter.

**MARQUEE SIGN**. Any sign attached to or constructed in or on a canopy or marquee.

**MOBILE SIGN**. A sign attached to a movable vehicle or carried by a person or vehicle.

**MONUMENT SIGN**. See **GROUND BASE SIGN**.

**OFF-PREMISES ADVERTISING SIGN**. Any sign, including a billboard or general outdoor advertising device, which advertises or directs attention to a business, commodity, service, or activity conducted, sold, or offered elsewhere than on the same lot or within the same building upon which the sign is located.

**ON-PREMISES ADVERTISING SIGN**. Any sign which advertises or directs attention to a business, commodity, service, or activity conducted, sold, or offered on the same lot or within the same building upon which the sign is located.

**OPEN HOUSE SIGN**. Any temporary sign which directs traffic to real estate upon which there is located any dwelling for sale by any person, firm, corporation, or joint owners being advertised for sale, rental, lease, or management, provided that the conditions stated in this Chapter are met.

**PERMANENT SIGN**. A sign other than a temporary sign.

**POLE SIGN**. A freestanding sign supported by one (1) or more columns, uprights, poles, or braces, which columns, uprights, poles, or braces extend from the ground or from an object on or in the ground.

**POLITICAL SIGN**. A temporary sign directing attention to the candidacy of a person for public office or urging action on any other ballot issue in a primary, general, or special election or referendum.

**PORTABLE SIGN**. Any freestanding sign not permanently anchored or secured to either a building or the ground.

**PROHIBITED SIGN**. Any sign so identified in this Chapter.

**PROJECTING SIGN**. Any sign which is affixed to any building or other structure and projects outward therefrom more than fifteen (15) inches.

**READER BOARD SIGN**. Any advertising structure having changeable copy for the purpose of advertising special events, sales, or to be changed on a regular basis.

**REAL ESTATE SIGN.** Any temporary sign indicating the availability for sale, rent, or lease of the specific lot, building, or portion of a building upon which the sign is erected or displayed.

**ROOF SIGN.** A sign which is erected, constructed, and maintained on or above the roof of any building.

**SUPERGRAPHIC SIGN.** A sign, consisting of an image projected onto a wall or printed on vinyl, mesh or other material with or without written text, supported and attached to a building wall by an adhesive and/or by using stranded cable and eye-bolts.

**TEMPORARY ADVERTISING SIGN.** A temporary sign, whether an off-premises advertising sign or an on-premises advertising sign, which advertises a multiple-family new construction development located or to be located within the corporate limits of the Village.

**TEMPORARY SIGN.** Any display, informational sign, banner, or other advertising device with or without a structural frame, not permanently attached to a building, structure, or the ground and intended for use during a limited period.

**WALL SIGN.** Any sign which is affixed directly to or painted on, or otherwise inscribed on, an exterior wall, including windows and doors, of any building, retaining wall, or other structure.

**WINDOW SIGN.** Any sign which is painted on, applied, or attached to a window, which sign can be seen through the window from the exterior of the structure. Merchandise which is included in a window display shall not be included as a part of a window sign.

**SITE.** The lot upon which a sign is located or proposed to be located, as the case may be.

**STRIP BUSINESS.** Commercial or business establishments erected at the established building line on a single lot or multiple lots fronting on a dedicated public right-of-way.

**STRUCTURAL TRIM.** Any molding, battens, cappings, nailing strips, and latticing which are attached to sign structures.

**VILLAGE.** The Village of Schiller Park, an Illinois home rule unit and municipal corporation.

**ZONING DISTRICT.** A district set forth in the Zoning Ordinance of the Village.

**ZONING ORDINANCE.** The Zoning Ordinance, including the Zoning Map of the Village.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95; Am. Ord. 07- 2642, passed 7-24-07; Am. Ord. 14-2979, passed 9-18-14; Am. Ord. 15-3015, passed 8-20-15)

## § 154.002 SCOPE OF PROVISIONS.

No person shall place on or suspend from any building or structure any advertising object or structure other than as defined, regulated and prescribed by this chapter.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

## § 154.003 EXEMPTIONS FROM PROVISIONS.

This chapter, with the exception of § [154.060](#), shall not apply to:

(A) Official governmental notices including: those posted by governmental officers in the performance of their duties; and governmental signs to control traffic, to make other regulations known, to identify streets, or to warn of danger.

(B) Temporary decorations or displays when such are clearly incidental to and are customarily and commonly associated with any national, local, or religious holiday or celebration.

(C) Temporary or permanent signs erected by public utility companies or construction companies to warn of danger or hazardous conditions, including signs indicating the presence of underground cables, gas lines, and similar devices.

(D) Signs displayed on trucks, buses, trailers, or other vehicles which are being operated or stored in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance of the Village and in the normal course of business, such as signs indicating the name of the owner or business which are located on moving vans, delivery trucks, retail trucks and trailers and the like, provided that the primary purpose of such vehicles is not for the display of signs and provided that they are parked or stored indoors in areas appropriate to their use and in compliance with other applicable ordinances of the Village. This shall not be construed to permit the parking of a vehicle for display purposes to which signs are attached or for any period of time longer than that necessary for the loading or unloading of such truck, bus, or other vehicle.

(E) Temporary real estate signs, which advertise the sale, rental, lease, or management of the premises upon which said signs are located, provided that the following conditions are met:

(1) *Size limitations.*

(a) Such signs located in Residential Districts shall not exceed six square feet in area.

(b) Such signs located in Commercial Districts shall not exceed 12 square feet in area.

(c) Such signs located in Industrial Districts shall not exceed 32 square feet in area.

(2) *Time and number limitation.* Such signs shall be removed as soon as the premises are leased, hired, or sold, provided further that at any given time not more than one sign of the above character shall be permitted upon any premises.

(F) Temporary open house signs which direct traffic to real estate upon which there is located any dwelling for sale by any person, firm, corporation, or joint owners being advertised for sale, rental, lease, or management, provided that the following conditions are met:

(1) At any given time, for any given tract of real estate, not more than two open house signs shall be permitted, each of which shall not exceed six square feet in gross surface area.

(2) Any such open house sign may be placed on the premises of the aforementioned real estate, and the other may be placed on the parkway of the public right-of-way of the closest major intersection to the aforementioned real estate, provided that the owner of the real property abutting the proposed parkway location does not disapprove of the parkway location upon prior notice to such abutting owner;

(3) Such signs shall only be allowed on Saturdays and Sundays and only between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.;



(4) Each open house sign must have located thereon identification denoting the person or persons who are responsible for the placement and removal of the sign; and

(5) At any given parkway location, not more than one such open house sign may be placed by the same business entity.

(G) Change of copy or of part of a sign which has not been abandoned or unused, which change may be required in the course of normal maintenance, provided, however, that such sign has a permit and a certificate of approval and that such change does not deviate from the conditions of the permit and certificate of approval.

(H) Occupational signs denoting only the name and profession or trade of an occupant in a commercial building, public institutional building, or dwelling house which does not exceed two square feet in area.

(I) Political signs shall be permitted as a matter of right and without permit on private property in the residential districts of the Village only as those districts are set forth in the Zoning Ordinance, provided that the location of such political signs shall be limited to the buildable area of any lot and the total area of all such signs upon any given lot does not exceed 16 square feet.

(J) Bulletin boards maintained by public, charitable, or religious institutions when they are located on the premises of said institutions, provided that they have an area of not over 16 square feet per side.

(K) Signs denoting the architect, engineer, or contractor, placed upon work under construction and not exceeding 16 square feet in area, provided that the following conditions are met:

(1) Such signs located in Residential Districts shall not exceed six square feet in area.

(2) Such signs located in Commercial Districts shall not exceed 12 square feet in area.

(3) Such signs located in Industrial Districts shall not exceed 32 square feet in area.

(L) Signs or tablets, with the names of buildings and the date of erection, when cut into any masonry surfaces or when constructed of bronze or other nonferrous materials and attached to the building.

(M) Traffic or other Village signs, legal notices, railroad crossing signs, danger and such temporary emergency or non-advertising signs as may be approved by the President and Board of Trustees.

(N) Temporary advertising signs having a single or double face, each of which shall not be erected for longer than twelve (12) months; and provided further that:

(1) Only one (1) such on-premises advertising sign shall be allowed per development, and each face thereof shall not exceed a maximum of fifty (50) square feet (50 s.f.); and

(2) Only one (1) such off-premises advertising sign shall be allowed per development, and each face thereof shall not exceed a maximum of forty (40) square feet (40 s.f.).

(O) Unilluminated real estate signs advertising the sale of the premises in the dimensions located below, but they shall be subject to subsection § [154.125\(G\)](#) of this chapter:

- (1) Such signs located in Residential Districts shall not exceed six square feet in area.
- (2) Such signs located in Commercial Districts shall not exceed 12 square feet in area.
- (3) Such signs located in Industrial Districts shall not exceed 32 square feet in area.

(P) Unilluminated signs advertising the sale of the owner's private personal property on the owner's property or premises and not exceeding 12 square feet in area, provided that they comply with and otherwise comport with the exemption requirements contained in § [154.125\(G\)](#) of this chapter.

(Q) Window signs which are temporary signs in commercial districts not exceeding 50% percent window coverage in area per window and which announce or advertise sales of goods and/or other related functions shall not be subject to the conditions of this Chapter.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95; Am. Ord. 96-2007, passed 6-11-96; Am. Ord. 07-2642, passed 7-24-07) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

## **NONCONFORMING SIGNS**

### **§ 154.010 CONTINUANCE OF NONCONFORMITY.**

(A) *Authorization.* Except as set forth regarding any legal nonconforming sign regulated herein, any such legal nonconforming sign exceeding \$100 in current value and existing on the date of adoption hereof, and which does not conform to the provisions contained herein may be continued or maintained in good condition for the periods set forth in § [154.011](#), but subject to the conditions set forth in division (B) of this section.

(B) *Conditions on a legal nonconforming sign.*

- (1) Neither it nor its facing shall be changed to another nonconforming sign;
- (2) Continuing legal nonconforming signs:
  - (a) Shall not be structurally altered (except to meet safety requirements) so as to prolong the life of the sign;
  - (b) Shall not be altered so as to increase the degree of nonconformity of the sign;
  - (c) Shall not be expanded;
  - (d) Shall not be reestablished after its discontinuance for 90 days;
  - (e) Shall not be continued in use after cessation or change of the business or activity to which the sign pertains; or
  - (f) Shall not be reestablished after damage or destruction if the estimated cost of reconstruction exceeds 50% of the appraised replacement cost (as determined by the Building Administrator).

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

### **§ 154.011 REMOVAL OF NONCONFORMITY.**

(A) Any such nonconforming sign of less than \$100 in current value must be removed within 30 days after the effective date of this chapter.

(B) Any nonconforming temporary sign erected or displayed more than 60 days prior to the effective date of this chapter shall be removed immediately upon notice given by the Building Administrator to the owner of the land upon which the temporary sign is located.

(C) Any legal nonconforming sign of more than \$100 in current value, at the option of its owner thereof, shall be made to conform therewith within 18 months from the date of the adoption of this chapter or shall be removed on or before June 15, 1997.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

#### **§ 154.012 ACTION SIGNS.**

All action signs exceeding \$100 in current value and existing on the effective date hereof shall be modified, corrected, or made to conform to this chapter by eliminating the action, animation, flashing, or motion within 120 days from the effective date of this chapter.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

#### **§ 154.013 ALTERATIONS, RELOCATION, AND REPLACEMENT.**

All such nonconforming signs which are structurally altered, relocated, or replaced hereafter for any reason shall comply immediately with all provisions of this chapter.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

### **SIGN PERMITS**

#### **§ 154.020 PERMIT REQUIRED.**

It shall be unlawful to erect, alter, relocate, or display any sign or other advertising structure without a building permit and annual operation permit issued by the Building Administrator. All signs shall, in addition, be subject to the provisions of all Village building codes.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

#### **§ 154.021 APPLICATION FOR PERMITS.**

An application for a building permit for a sign or other advertising structure shall be made upon forms provided by the Building Administrator and shall contain or have attached thereto the following information:

(A) The name, residence address, telephone number, business address, and business telephone number of the applicant.

(B) The location of the building, structure, or lot to which or upon which it is to be attached or erected.

(C) The position of it in relation to nearby buildings or structures.

(D) Two sets of drawings of the plans and/or specifications of it and the method of its construction and attachment to the building or the ground, and one copy of the plat of survey showing all lot lines and buildings on the lot.

(E) If required by the Building Administrator, a copy of stress sheets and calculations showing that the structure is designed for dead load and wind pressure in any direction in the amount required by this chapter and all other laws and ordinances of the Village; a legal survey indicating the property lines; and a drawing which shows the mounting technique and the underground details of the sign's installation.

(F) The name of the person erecting it.

(G) Written consent of the owner (or the authority to act on behalf of such owner) of the building, structure, and land on which the sign is to be erected.

(H) Any electrical permit required and issued for it.

(J) The insurance policy or bond required by § [154.040](#) of this chapter.

(K) A statement to the effect that by applying for the building permit, the applicant does appoint the Building Administrator as his true and lawful agent for purposes of enforcing compliance with the regulations set forth in this chapter.

(L) Photographs, prints, or artist's renderings showing the proposed sign and its relationship to the building to which it is to be mounted or the surrounding area if it is not a wall sign.

(M) Two accurate color sketches or renderings showing the proposed color combination with proposed and existing surrounding materials.

(N) Such other information as the Building Administrator shall require to show full compliance with this chapter and all other laws and ordinances of the Village.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95)

## § 154.022 FEES AND INSPECTIONS.

(A) *Permit fees.* The building permit fee per item to be charged for a permit issued for the erection, construction, or alteration of any sign or other advertising structure, canopy, or awning shall be as follows:

(1) Non-illuminated signs (unless temporary): \$50 per sign, plus \$.50 per square foot of gross surface of area of each face thereof.

(2) Temporary signs: \$50.

(3) Awnings and canopies: \$50 per sign, plus \$.50 per square foot of gross surface of area of each face thereof.

(4) Illuminated and Digital signs: \$12 per \$1,000 of the sign's cost, including the cost of erection, electrical permit and plan review.

(B) *Annual operation permit fees.* The permit holder for every sign or other advertising structure shall pay by June 1 of each year the required fee to the Village Collector and receive an annual operation permit. Such annual fees shall be as follows for the indicated structures:

(1) On-premises non-illuminated signs: \$50.00 per sign, plus \$.50 per square foot of surface area of each face thereof.

(2) On-premises illuminated signs: \$50.00 per sign, plus \$1 per square foot of surface area of each face thereof.

(3) On-premises digital signs: \$50.00 per sign, plus \$1.50 per square foot of surface area of each face thereof.

(4) Billboards:

(a) Static billboard(s): \$100.00 per sign, plus \$2.50 per square foot of surface area of each face thereof.

(b) Digital billboard(s): \$100.00 per sign, plus \$5.00 per square foot of surface area of each face thereof.

(C) If the annual fee has not been paid within thirty (30) days of the date on which it is billed, an additional amount equal to fifty percent (50%) of such fee shall be paid.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95; Am. Ord. 07- 2631, passed 4-24-07; Am. Ord. 15-3015, passed 8-20-15)

#### § 154.023 EXPIRATION OF PERMIT.

If the work authorized under a building permit for a sign or other advertising structure, canopy, or awning has not been completed within six months after date of issuance thereof, the permit shall become null and void and a new permit shall be required.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

#### § 154.024 REVOCATION OF PERMIT.

All rights and privileges acquired under a building permit for a sign or other advertising structure, canopy, or awning are revocable at any time by the Building Administrator for causes relating to unlawful erection or unsafe structural or electrical conditions.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95)

#### § 154.025 BOND.

(A) Every applicant for a permit to erect, alter, or maintain a sign over or on public property shall file with the Building Administrator for each such sign, or for each premises on which signs are erected, a continuing bond in the penal sum of \$50,000, executed by the applicant and approved surety company, conditioned to indemnify, save, and keep harmless the Village from all claims, damages, liabilities, losses, actions, suits, or judgments which may be presented, sustained, brought, or secured against the Village on account of the erection, alteration, or maintenance of said signs, or by reason of any accident caused by or resulting therefrom.

(B) In addition, a cash deposit shall be deposited with the Village Treasurer for each permit obtained to guarantee removal of the sign upon expiration of the permit. The amount of the deposit shall be in such amount as shall be determined from time to time by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Schiller Park.

(C) Such cash deposit shall be refunded upon the removal of the sign. If the sign is not removed upon expiration of the permit, the Building Administrator may cause same to be removed at the expense of the owner of the premises upon which the sign is located. The Building Administrator shall deduct the cost of removal or damage to the public property if damaged by said sign or by the contractor in prosecution of the work for which the permit has been issued. Nothing contained herein shall excuse the owner of the premises or of the sign, the contractor, or the permittee from any liability or obligation herein or imposed by law.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95)

## PERMITTED SIGNS

### § 154.040 PERMITTED SIGNS.

Unless exempted from this chapter, it shall be unlawful to erect or permit to be erected and/or display or permit to be displayed any sign not permitted by this chapter. Unless exempted from this chapter, only signs permitted by this subchapter shall be allowed and then only in designated zoning districts, following the issuance of a building permit in accord with the Code.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

### § 154.041 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS.

#### (A) *Nameplates and identification signs.*

(1) *Family and two-family dwellings.* For single-family and two-family dwellings, there shall be not more than one non-illuminated name-plate not exceeding one square foot in area for each dwelling unit indicating the name and/or address of the occupant or permitted occupation. It is understood, however, that any sign containing an address (street number) only and otherwise meeting the requirements set forth in this Code shall be exempt from the remaining regulations contained in this section.

(2) *Other multiple-family dwellings and other buildings.* For other multiple-family dwellings, apartment hotels, and uses other than dwellings, a single non-illuminated identification sign not exceeding nine square feet in area and indicating only the name and address of the building and the name of the management thereof may be displayed.

(B) *Construction or remodeling signs.* In connection with the construction or remodeling of a building in a residential district, there shall be permitted one sign not exceeding 25 square feet in area; on corner lots, two such signs, one facing each street, shall be permitted. Said signs shall be removed by the person or persons erecting same within two weeks after completion of the structure indicated.

(C) *Parking and exit signs.* Signs designating parking area entrances or exits in residential districts shall be limited to one sign for each such exit or entrance, each with a maximum size of two square feet. One sign per parking area, designating the conditions of use or identity of such parking area and limited to a maximum size of nine square feet, shall be permitted. On a corner lot, two such signs, one facing each street, shall be permitted.

(D) *Garage/yard sale signs.* Signs used for the purpose of conducting a sale involving open and public display of used household merchandise and materials as regulated in accordance with §§ 119.75 et seq. of this Code.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

### § 154.042 COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS.

(A) Subject to the requirements set forth in this chapter, the following signs are permitted in the C-1 Neighborhood Convenience District:

- (1) All signs and nameplates permitted in residential districts.
- (2) Identification signs, whether awning, canopy, freestanding, projecting, temporary, and/or wall type signs.
- (3) Other temporary signs.
- (4) Canopies and awnings.
- (5) Signs shall be permitted subject to the following:
  - (a) No such sign may be placed or erected upon any public right-of-way or place;
  - (b) No such sign shall be other than a freestanding sign;
  - (c) In the case of wall signs, no such sign shall exceed eight square feet in area. The total area of all political signs upon a zoning lot shall not exceed 16 square feet;
  - (d) Such signs may be constructed of approved combustible materials but shall be maintained in good condition and kept free of rips, holes, peelings, or defacement and kept well fastened and secure; and
  - (e) The person or organization responsible for the erection or distribution of any political sign, or the owner of the property upon which such signs are located, shall only be posted during the 45 day period immediately preceding the primary, general, or special election, and such person or owner shall remove such signs within seven days after the election to which the signs pertain.

(B) Subject to the requirements set forth in this chapter, the following signs are permitted in the C-2 Community Shopping District and the C-3 Highway Commercial District:

- (1) All signs and nameplates permitted in the residential districts and the C-1 Neighborhood Convenience District.
- (2) Billboards, provided that:
  - (a) The premises upon which any given billboard is located:
    1. Contains a minimum of five contiguous acres, the title to which is held under one ownership; and
    2. Lies west of and within 100 feet of Interstate Highway I-294; and

(b) No such billboard shall be located so as to exceed 75 feet in height when measured from grade level; and

(c) No more than two such billboards shall be located on six or more contiguous acres, the title to which is held under one ownership.

(3) Shopping center signs, provided that not more than one such sign, not exceeding 100 square feet in area, may be erected advertising only the name and the location of an integrated shopping center premises upon which it is located. Such sign shall be placed so as to be entirely within the property lines of the premises upon which it is located, the bottom edge of such sign shall be at least eight feet above the level of the ground, and its height shall not exceed 25 feet above the crown of the street.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95; Am. Ord. 14- 2979, passed 9-18-14; Am. Ord. 16-3063, passed 7-21-16) Penalty, see § [10.99](#)

#### § 154.043 INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS.

In all industrial districts, all signs permitted in residential and commercial districts are permitted, except billboards.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

### GENERAL PROVISIONS AFFECTING ALL SIGNS

#### § 154.060 DANGEROUS OR UNLAWFUL SIGNS.

If the Building Administrator should find that any sign or other advertising structure is unsafe or insecure or is a menace to the public or has, subsequent to the effective date of this chapter, been constructed or erected in violation of this chapter, he shall give written notice to the permittee thereof. If the permittee fails to remove or alter the structure so as to comply with the standards herein set forth within 20 days after such notice, such sign or other advertising structure may be removed by the Building Administrator at the expense of the permittee or owner of the property upon which it is located. The Building Administrator may cause any sign or any other advertising structure which in his judgment constitutes an immediate peril to persons or property to be removed, summarily, without notice.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95)

#### § 154.061 REQUIRED INFORMATION ON SIGNS.

Every sign or other advertising structure hereafter erected shall have affixed in a conspicuous place thereon, in legible letters, the date of erection, the name of the permittee, and the voltage of any electrical apparatus used in connection therewith.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

#### § 154.062 MAINTENANCE.

The permittee or owner of any sign or other advertising structure as defined in this chapter shall maintain all parts and supports of said sign in condition so as to prevent rust, rotting, or other deterioration.



(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

### § 154.063 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS.

(A) No sign which is constructed over public thoroughfares or within five feet thereof shall have nails, tacks or wires, or other hazardous projections protruding therefrom, except electrical reflectors and devices which may extend over the top and in front of such structures.

(B) All letters, figures, characters, or representations in cut-out or irregular form maintained in conjunction with and attached to or superimposed upon any sign shall be safely and securely built or attached to the sign structure and shall comply with all requirements in division (A) above and the BOCA Code.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

## REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE ERECTION OF PERMITTED SIGNS BY TYPE

### § 154.090 ILLUMINATED SIGNS.

(A) *Flashing or intermittent intensity signs.*

(1) No illuminated signs shall be of the flashing or intermittent intensity type.

(2) No indoor illumination of any type or illuminated sign, when viewed from the outdoors, shall be of the flashing or intermittent intensity type.

(B) *Spotlights and floodlights.* It shall be unlawful to maintain any sign which is wholly or partially illuminated by floodlights or spotlights unless such lights are completely concealed from view from street levels.

(C) *Goose-neck reflectors and lights.* Goose-neck reflectors and lights shall be permitted on freestanding signs, projecting signs, and wall signs, provided, however, that the reflectors shall concentrate the illumination only upon the area of the sign in a manner so as to prevent glare upon the street or adjacent property.

(D) *Interior illumination.* The lettering or advertising design to be illuminated from the interior of a sign shall be composed of transparent or semi-transparent, incombustible or approved combustible materials.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

### § 154.091 MARQUEE, CANOPY, AND AWNING SIGNAGE.

Signs may be displayed on canopies, fixed awnings, and architectural projections such as marquees, provided, however, that there is compliance with the provisions and restrictions of the Zoning Ordinance and further provided that there is adherence to the following regulations:

(A) *Construction requirements.*

(1) Canopies and awnings shall be constructed of cloth, metal, plastic, or other approved materials, but all frames and supports shall be of metal.

(2) The framework of all canopies and awnings shall be approved by the Building Administrator and shall be in compliance with the BOCA Basic Building Code.

(3) No temporary or permanent advertising material or signage of any kind shall be placed upon the roof of any marquee, canopy, or other architectural projection, nor shall any sign extend above or below the marquee, canopy, or projection in any way.

(B) *Location.*

(1) No canopy or awning shall be located closer to any street than two feet from the nearest curb line.

(2) Canopies and awnings shall be constructed and erected so that the lowest portion of the projecting frame thereof shall be not less than seven and one-half feet, and the lowest portion of the valance shall be not less than seven feet, above the level of the sidewalk or public thoroughfare over which they project.

(3) No fixed canopy shall be wider than the entrance or entrances of the building from which it extends, plus five feet on each side thereof.

(4) Signs displayed on a marquee, canopy, or other architectural projection may project beyond the face the distance necessary to accommodate the letter thickness, but no more than six inches.

(5) Signs displayed on awnings shall not project beyond the surface of the awning.

(C) *Advertising.* No advertising shall be placed on any canopy or awning other than the name of the owner of the business, industry, or activity conducted within the premises; if so displayed, such information must be painted or otherwise permanently placed thereon.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

 **§ 154.092 FREESTANDING SIGNS.**

(A) *Technical codes apply.* All freestanding signs shall be in compliance with the Village building and electrical code.

(B) *Height and location.*

(1) No part of a structure supporting a freestanding sign shall be located closer to any property line than a distance of two feet; all portions of such a sign shall be located entirely within private property.

(2) No freestanding sign shall be erected on a site with less than 50-foot frontage.

(3) It shall be unlawful to erect a freestanding sign whose total height is greater than 25 feet above the established grade of the paved portion of the street or other dedicated right-of-way nearest such sign, or the adjoining lot or tract of land adjacent to the lot or tract of land upon which such sign is erected, or taller than five feet above the uppermost point of the roof of the tallest building on the lot or tract of land on which such sign is erected, whichever is lower.

(4) The area of each face of a freestanding sign shall not exceed the lesser of 100 square feet or two square feet per lineal foot of frontage along or adjacent to a public street.

(C) *Additional regulations for freestanding signs.*

(1) *Pole signs.*

(a) *Quantity.* One business identification sign which meets the requirements herein stated shall be allowed for each street on which the real estate upon which the sign is to be located has frontage. When a lot has frontage upon more than one street, one pole sign may be allowed for each such frontage, provided that the horizontal minimum distance between such signs shall be 100 feet.

(b) *Materials.* All pole signs shall have a sign face of non-combustible material, provided, however, that combustible trim may be used along the perimeter thereof.

(c) *Height above grade.* The bottom facing of every pole sign shall be at least three feet above ground and the entire area below the bottom facing of the sign shall be unobstructed, except for supporting members.

(d) *Area.* The maximum area of the sign face shall not exceed 100 feet.

(e) *Supports and anchorage.*

1. Pole signs shall be adequately supported to resist dead load and wind resistance sufficient to meet the requirements of the BOCA Basic Building Code.

2. In addition, all pole signs over 12 square feet must have vertical supports and braces embedded in monolithic concrete to a depth below the frost line.

a. For signs up to 15 feet in length, two supports and two braces are required.

b. For signs over 15 feet in length, one additional support and brace is required for each additional 15 feet, or fraction thereof, in length of the sign.

(f) *Location.*

1. In the event a pole sign is located at a place within 100 feet of an intersection of one street or highway with another street or highway or with a railroad, such pole sign shall be located, altered, and maintained in such a manner that the sign and structure shall not obstruct the view of the motorists approaching said intersection.

2. In the event a pole sign is located at a place within 200 feet of the right-of-way of any state or federal highway containing four or more traffic lanes:

a. Such pole sign shall not be erected, maintained, or altered, except that one identification sign may be permitted for each 150 feet adjacent to said highway.

b. Such sign shall not be located less than ten feet from the closest right-of-way line of said highway.

3. No permanent pole sign shall be located, altered or maintained within the public right-of-way. However, a temporary freestanding sign may be so located, provided a license therefor has first been granted by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village.

(2) *Ground base or monument signs.*

(a) *Quantity.* One ground base or monument identification sign which meets the requirements herein stated shall be allowed, in lieu of a pole sign, for each public street on which the site has frontage, provided that the horizontal distance between such signs shall be a minimum of 100 feet.

(b) *Materials.* All such signs shall have a base and facing of noncombustible material, provided, however, that combustible material may be used thereon if approved by the Building Administrator.

(c) *Supports and anchorage.*

1. Ground base or monument signs shall be adequately supported to resist dead load and wind resistance sufficient to meet the requirements of the BOCA Basic Building Code.

2. Such signs, when attached to a masonry, concrete, steel, or treated timber base, shall be safely and securely fastened thereto by means of metal anchors, bolts, or approved expansion screws of sufficient size and anchorage to support safely the loads applied.

3. The base of such signs shall be embedded in, or an integral part of, a monolithic concrete footing to a depth below the frost line.

(d) *Width.* The width of such signs shall not be greater than 16 feet.

(e) *Location.* The locational requirements for ground base or monument signs shall be the same as those specified for pole signs in division (C)(1)(f) of this section.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95; Am. Ord. 96-1971, passed 2-13-96; Am. Ord. 97-2063, passed 6-10-97) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

### **§ 154.093 PROJECTING SIGNS.**

(A) *Technical codes apply.* All projecting signs shall be in compliance with the Village's building and electrical code.

(B) *Location.*

(1) No projecting sign shall be erected so that it extends over a dedicated right-of-way.

(2) No projecting sign shall protrude more than five feet above the roof line or be greater than 25 feet above the crown of the street upon which the sign faces, whichever is lesser.

(C) *Design and dimensions.*

(1) *Area.* No projecting sign shall exceed the lesser of 40 square feet on each side or one square foot on each side per each lineal foot of building frontage.

(2) *Thickness.* The distance measured between the principal faces of any projecting sign shall not exceed 24 inches.

(3) *V-shaped projecting signs.* All V-shaped projecting signs which consist of two single-faced signs erected without a roof or top covering are prohibited.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

## § 154.094 SIGNS LOCATED UNDER BUILDING OVERHANG.

(A) *Number.* One sign located under a building overhang shall be allowed for each business in building.

(B) *Design and dimensions.*

(1) *Area.* The total area for a sign located under a building overhang shall not exceed five square feet per side.

(2) *Width.* The width of a sign located under a building overhang shall not exceed three-fourths of the building overhang projection.

(C) *Lowest level.* The lowest portion of a sign located under a building overhang shall not be lower than seven and one-half feet above the level of the sidewalk or public thoroughfare.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

## § 154.095 WALL SIGNS.

(A) *Technical codes apply.* All wall signs shall be in compliance with the Village's building and electrical code.

(B) *Location.*

(1) No wall sign shall extend more than 16 inches beyond the structure to which it is attached.

(2) If attached to a wall or other structure so as to be suspended above and facing a sidewalk or other public thoroughfare, a wall sign shall be attached so that the bottom of such sign is not less than ten feet above such sidewalk or public thoroughfare and it does not project more than five feet above the roof of the structure to which it is attached.

(C) *Area.*

(1) No wall sign shall have a surface or facing exceeding two square feet in area per each lineal foot of building frontage when located on a strip business.

(2) No wall sign shall have a surface or facing exceeding three square feet in area per each lineal foot of building frontage when located in a shopping center.

(3) No wall sign shall have a surface or facing exceeding two square feet in area per each lineal foot of building frontage when located in an industrial district.

(4) No wall sign installed on the rear of the establishment in a business or industrial district for identification purposes shall exceed eight square feet in area.

(5) In a bus shelter, no wall sign shall exceed the area of the wall to which it is attached.

(D) *Additional regulations for wall signs.*

(1) *Quantity.* In all instances other than wall signs on bus shelters, one attached wall sign is allowed for each permitted principal non-accessory use on the premises for each public street on which such permitted use has frontage.

(2) *Materials.* All wall signs shall have a surface or facing of non-combustible or approved combustible material.

(3) *Supports and anchorage.*

(a) Wall signs attached directly to exterior walls of solid masonry or concrete shall be safely and securely attached to the same by means of metal anchors, bolts, or expansion screws. No wooden blocks or anchorage with wood used in connection with screws or nails shall be considered proper anchorage, except in the case of wall signs attached to buildings with walls of wood.

(b) No wall sign shall be entirely supported by an unbraced parapet wall and the face of the sign may not project beyond the face of the building or structure, except that at a height of ten or more feet above the sidewalk level such sign may project not more than 12 inches. Supports or braces from a wall sign to the roof will not constitute such wall sign as roof sign.

(4) *Area and location.* The allowable wall sign area for identification signs shall be determined in the following manner:

(a) For one story structures the allowable sign area shall not exceed 15% or 100 square feet, whichever is the lesser amount, of the horizontal area of the facade which incorporates the main entrance of the use.

(b) For structures of more than one story, the allowable sign area shall not exceed the lesser amount of one 100 square feet, or 15% of the horizontal area below any second story windows of that facade which incorporates the main entrance of the building upon which the wall sign is located.

1. In determining allowable sign area, areas containing windows and doors which are part of the said facade may be included in the calculation, provided that they do not project more than 12 inches beyond the facade.

2. In determining allowable sign area, areas of the facade containing projections and/or indentations may be included in the calculation, provided that they do not project or indent more than 12 inches from the facade.

(c) No wall sign shall project above the roof, parapet, or fascia of any building upon which the sign is located.

(d) Identification signs shall be located only over or on the portion of the building occupied by the business being identified by the wall sign.

(5) *Bus shelters.* No wall sign shall be permitted on any bus shelter that has not been placed or caused to be placed on the public right-of-way or other public property by the Village.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

 **§ 154.096 TEMPORARY SIGNS.**

(A) *Authorization.* A temporary sign shall be allowed to advertise business activities such as “Grand Openings,” “New Management,” and the like, or while a permanent sign is being prepared, and community and civic projects.

(B) *Construction requirements.*

(1) No temporary sign of combustible material shall exceed four feet in more than one of its dimensions or 75 square feet in area. Any such sign in excess of 60 square feet shall be made of rigid material, such as fiberboard or other light material with frames.

(2) Every temporary sign shall be attached to a wall or other stable structure with wire or steel cables; no strings, ropes, or wood slats for anchorage or support purposes shall be used, except that string and rope made of nonmetallic materials may be used as controlled by the Building Administrator.

(3) Every temporary sign weighing in excess of 50 pounds must be found by the Building Administrator as conforming to the safety requirements of the BOCA Basic Building Code.

(C) *Location.*

(1) No temporary sign shall extend over or into any street, alley, sidewalk, or other public dedicated right-of-way for a distance greater than four inches from the wall to which it is attached, and it shall not be placed or project over any wall opening.

(2) No temporary sign shall be erected so as to obstruct any door, window, or fire escape, nor shall such sign be attached to any standpipe or fire escape.

(D) *Content.* The advertisement contained on any temporary sign shall pertain only to the business, industry, or activity conducted on or within the premises on which such sign is erected or maintained. This regulation shall not apply to signs of a civic, political, or religious nature.

(E) *Duration.* Permits for temporary signs shall authorize the erection of said signs and their maintenance for a period not exceeding 30 days.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

#### **§ 154.097 WINDOW SIGNS.**

(A) When permanent or temporary non-illuminated identification signs are painted or otherwise applied to the surface of the window area so as to be visible to the general public, or when illuminated identification signs are displayed in a window area so as to be visible to the general public, then such signs shall be included in the total allowable sign area for the premises.

(B) Window signs which are temporary signs in commercial districts not exceeding three square feet in area which announce or advertise events, sales, or other related functions shall not be subject to the conditions of this chapter.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95)

#### **§ 154.098 VARIATIONS AND SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS.**

(A) *Authorization of variations.*

(1) All requests for variations in requirements herein set forth or appeals from any rulings of any officer of the Village shall be directed to the Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission of the Village, and following its receipt of the recommendation of the said Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission, the decision of the President and Board of Trustees shall be final with regard to any such request.

(2) The Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission, after a public hearing, may recommend that the President and Board of Trustees vary the regulations of this chapter in harmony with the general purpose and intent of this chapter so that such variances as may be granted shall be granted by ordinance and will not be contrary to the public interest. Furthermore, such variances may be authorized only in those specific instances involving size, shape, topography, and/or location upon the lot upon which the sign is proposed to be placed, as set forth in the application for sign variation and then only after the said Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission has made findings of facts based upon the standards set forth in division (D) of this section, which findings indicate that, owing to specific conditions, a literal enforcement of the provisions of this chapter will produce practical difficulties or a particular hardship for the petitioner, in such an individual case.

(B) *Special exceptions.*

(1) *Intent.*

(a) It is the intent of this chapter to encourage well-designed signs which are compatible with their surroundings. There are certain types of signs which are not in common use throughout the Village or which may be peculiar to a particular type of activity, and which may be deemed to be desirable, under controlled circumstances, or for the public convenience. Under the general regulations of this chapter, however, such signs may not be generally permitted or may be restricted in such a manner as to affect the utility of such signs.

(b) Additionally, it is recognized that the size of the signs which provide adequate identification in the more pedestrian-oriented or business district differs from that necessary in vehicular-oriented areas where the traffic is heavier, travel speeds are higher, and the required setback is greater. Thus, instances may occur where strict application of the provisions of this chapter may deprive a person of the reasonable use of a sign.

(c) This division provides means of approval of special exceptions to the provisions of this chapter whereby specified deviations from the general sign regulations may be allowed in order to permit such signs, without need of proof of hardship, provided that the proposed size, location, and design of such signs are compatible with their surroundings.

(2) *Authorized exceptions.* Signs requiring special exception shall be limited to the following non-illuminated signs:

(a) Projecting signs, when such signs do not project over a public right-of-way, other than a pedestrian alley, are pedestrian-oriented, and are of a carved or hand painted artistic nature. The mounting brackets of such signs shall be an integral part of the sign and complementary to the design of the sign.

(b) Wooden wall-mounted signs either carved or hand painted;



(c) Low profile planter-type signs other than ground base or monument signs as herein defined which contain no copy other than the business name or logo type;

(d) Kiosks or similar structures when such structures are located within primarily pedestrian-oriented circulation areas. Such structures shall be permitted only in shopping centers and shall be subject to the approval of such other Commissions as may be deemed advisable by the Building Administrator;

(e) Banners of a community-oriented nature, when such banners are hung in pedestrian-oriented commercial districts;

(f) Signs pertinent to various civic groups or religious organizations in the community, when such signs are not located on the premises of the uses being named.

(3) *Standards.* It shall be the responsibility of the Building Administrator to see to it that any proposed sign and/or sign structure for which a special exception is sought shall meet each and every one of the following requirements:

(a) The proposed sign shall not be contrary to the intent of this chapter;

(b) The proposed sign shall be in accordance with the intent of this section;

(c) The proposed sign shall comply with all applicable provisions of this chapter, unless any such provisions are expressly permitted to be varied by the special exceptions procedure;

(d) The proposed sign is reasonably necessary, and the degree of the exception is the minimum necessary to accomplish the purpose of the sign itself; and

(e) The sign will not result in adverse effects upon the neighboring properties, or the health, safety, and general welfare of the public.

(C) *Application.*

(1) The petitioner shall file an application for a variation or special exception on forms provided by the Building Administrator, who shall forward a copy, without delay, to the Village Clerk for processing and notice.

(2) The application for a variance or special exception shall contain the following information as well as such additional information as may be prescribed by rule of the Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission:

(a) The particular requirements of this chapter which prevent the proposed use or construction of such sign;

(b) The characteristics of the subject property which prevent compliance with the said requirements of this chapter;

(c) The minimum requirements which would be necessary to permit the proposed use or construction of such sign;

(d) In the case of variations, the practical difficulty or particular hardship which would result if the aforesaid particular requirements of this chapter were applied to the subject property and/or the proposed sign thereon;

- (e) A legal description of the subject property;
- (f) The commonly known location (address) of the subject property;
- (g) The present zoning classification of the subject property.

(3) At the time of filing, the application for a variation or special exception shall be accompanied by:

- (a) Proof of ownership, proof of authority on behalf of the owner, or current contract to purchase or lease the subject property;
- (b) Payment of public hearing fee of \$300; and
- (c) Such additional charges as may be necessary to cover the cost of court reporter fees.

(D) *Processing variance applications.*

(1) *Application filed.* Upon receipt by the Village Clerk of a copy of the application for variation that has been duly filed with the Building Administrator, the Village Clerk shall assign the case and/or docket number to the petition and shall maintain a file for such petition, which file shall be open to the public for inspection during regular business hours. All documents pertinent to the case (application, legal notice, evidence, exhibits, report of proceedings, and the like) shall be placed in said file by the Village Clerk.

(2) Not more than 30 days nor less than 15 days before the hearing on which the application for variation is to be considered, the Village Clerk shall cause notice thereof to be published in one or more newspapers published in the Village or, if no newspaper is published within the Village, then in one or more newspapers with a general circulation within the Village. The notice herein required shall contain:

- (a) The legal description of the subject property for which the variation is requested;
- (b) The address of the subject property for which the variation is requested;
- (c) A brief statement of the nature of the requested sign variation;
- (d) The name(s) and address(es) of the legal and/or beneficial owner(s) of the property for which the variation is requested;
- (e) The name(s) and address(es) of the petitioner(s);
- (f) The name of the legal representative of the petitioner, if any; and
- (g) A statement of the date, time, and place of the hearing for which the notice is being given.

(3) *Hearing.* Any party in interest may appear and be heard at the hearing held pursuant to any such application for a sign variation, and such appearance may be made in person, by agent (if a corporation), or by attorney.

(E) *Variance standards.*

(1) The Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission shall not vary the regulations of this chapter unless it shall make findings of fact based upon evidence presented at the hearing in any given case that:

(a) The property in question cannot yield a reasonable return if a sign may be permitted to be used only under the conditions allowed by the regulations of the zoning district in which it is located;

(b) The plight of the owner is due to unique circumstances, and the proposed sign variations will not merely serve as a convenience to the petitioner but will alleviate some demonstrable and unusual hardship which will result if the strict letter of the regulations of this chapter were carried out and which particular hardship or practical difficulty is not generally applicable to other property within the same zoning district;

(c) The alleged hardship has not been abated by any person presently having a proprietary interest in the subject property;

(d) The proposed variation will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to other property or improvements in the neighborhood;

(e) The proposed variation will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood; and

(f) The proposed variation is in harmony with the spirit and intent of this chapter.

(2) The Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission shall not grant a special exception from the regulations of this chapter unless the special exception is authorized by this section and meets the standards set forth in division (B)(3) of this section.

(F) *Variance conditions and restrictions.* The Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission may recommend and the President and Board of Trustees may impose such conditions and restrictions upon the subject property, the location, the construction, design and use of the sign proposed under such variation request as may be necessary or appropriate to comply with the foregoing standards and to protect adjacent property and property values.

(G) *Action on variation requests.*

(1) The Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission shall, within 15 days after the close of the hearing, recommend the granting or denial of a request for variance, unless, within such period of time, the Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission shall make request to and receive permission from the President and Board of Trustees for an additional 15 days within which to decide or recommend. If, at the expiration of such 15 days, the Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission does not make its recommendation or decision (as the case may be), it shall be concluded that the Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission recommended against granting the requested variance.

(2) Whenever a variation is to be made, it shall be made (if at all) by ordinance duly adopted by the President and Board of Trustees following receipt of the report and recommendation of the Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission. The President and Board of Trustees, without further public hearing, may grant or deny any proposed variation or may return the matter to the Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission for further consideration.

(3) Any proposed variation which fails to receive the approval of the Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission in the form of its favorable recommendation to the President and Board of Trustees shall not be granted except by the favorable vote of two-thirds of all of the President and Board of Trustees.

(H) *Compliance required.* The subject property for which relief has been granted shall not be used in violation of the specific terms of the relief granted by variation ordinance unless such usage is allowed pursuant to ordinance adopted following additional hearing on a request therefor.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

### § 154.099 A-FRAME SIGNS.

(A) *Definition.* An A-frame sign is a portable, freestanding sign which may be placed on public sidewalks and which is intended for pedestrian oriented uses. A-frame signs shall be permitted only for occupants in commercial or industrial zoning districts.

(B) *Location:* An occupant displaying an A-frame sign shall be located at a ground level location in the building in which the occupant is located. A-frame signs may be located partially or entirely on a sidewalk, apron, or parkway within a public right of way adjacent to the building or occupant space for which the A-frame sign is displayed. A minimum of a five foot (5') wide section of public sidewalk shall remain unobstructed at all times.

(C) *Size:* A-frame signs shall be no more than four feet (4') in height and eight (8) square feet in total surface area.

(D) *Design:* A-frame signs shall be professionally made and maintained in good condition. Signs shall be of an A-frame (sandwich board) design and weighted so as to not create a windblown hazard. Signs shall not have any protruding nails, tacks, wires, or sharp metal edges.

(E) *Illumination:* A-frame signs shall not be illuminated.

(F) *Number:* Not more than one A-frame sign shall be permitted per occupant on a zoning lot.

(G) *Time Restrictions:* A-frame signs shall not be displayed before sunrise and shall be taken down each day not later than ten o'clock (10:00) P.M.

(H) *Inclement Weather:* A-frame signs shall be removed by the owners during times of inclement weather. During a snow event, no signs shall be placed on sidewalks or placed upon snow piles.

(Ord. 11-2845, passed 10-25-11) [Penalty, see § 10.99](#)

## PROHIBITED SIGNS AND CONDITIONS

### § 154.125 PROHIBITED SIGNS.

It shall be unlawful for any person to erect or maintain any one or more of the following signs within the corporate limits of the Village:

(A) *Roof signs.* (See § [154.001](#).)

(B) *Ad-benches.* (See § [154.001](#).)

(C) *Traffic obstructions.*

(1) Any fluttering, undulating, swinging, rotating, or otherwise moving sign, or any other moving or flashing advertising structure, which obstructs free and clear vision, or which, by reason of the movement, position, shape, or color thereof is designed to distract the attention of the driver of any vehicle

(2) No sign or other advertising structure shall be maintained in such a manner as to be likely to interfere with or obstruct the view of any authorized traffic sign, signal, or device. No sign or other advertising structure shall make use of the words “stop,” “go,” “look,” “slow,” “danger,” or any other similar word, phrase, symbol, or character or employ any red, yellow, orange, green, or other colored lamp or light in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead, or confuse a driver of any motor vehicle.

(D) *Obstructing exitways.* No sign or other advertising structure shall be erected, relocated, or maintained so as to prevent free ingress to or egress from any door, window, or fire escape. No sign or other advertising structure as defined in this chapter of any kind shall be attached to a standpipe or fire escape.

(E) *Signs in public ways.* Except as provided in this chapter, no sign, including but not limited to ad-benches, shall be erected or maintained in any dedicated right-of-way. The Village shall have the right, without notice, to remove any sign or advertising structure located in a dedicated right-of-way.

(F) *Advertising signs near residential districts.* Except as otherwise provided, no advertising sign shall be located within 50 feet of any residential zoning district.

(G) *Not relating to location.* Other than as authorized by this chapter, no off-premises advertising sign or other sign or other advertising structure shall be erected that advertises any business except the business which is located upon the premises upon which said sign or other advertising structure, canopy, or awning is located.

(H) *For-sale and open house signs located in a dedicated right-of-way (parkway).* However, temporary residential real estate “Open House” signs for the purpose of directing traffic to residential real estate upon which there is located any dwelling for sale by any person, firm, corporation, or joint owners shall be allowed, provided that the following conditions are met:

(1) Not more than two open house signs shall be permitted for any given residential real estate, each of which shall not exceed six square feet in gross surface area per sign face;

(2) Open house signs may be placed in the parkway at various intersections within one square mile of the subject residential real estate, provided that the owner of the abutting premises does not disapprove of such sign; however, they shall not interfere with any motor vehicle driver's line of vision;

(3) Such signs shall only be allowed on Saturdays and Sundays and only between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.;

(4) Each open house sign must have attached to it identification denoting the person or persons who are responsible for the placement and removal of said sign; and

(5) At any given time, on any given tract of real estate or intersection, not more than one open house sign may be placed by the same business entity, and not more than a total of two open house signs may be erected.

(J) *Building surfaces.* Painted or posted directly on exterior building surface.

(K) *Political signs.* Political signs placed or erected upon any public right-of-way.

(L) *Affixed to vehicles.* No self-propelled or towed vehicle upon which signs are affixed shall be parked for display purposes.

(M) *Affixed to marquees.* No sign or other advertising structure shall be affixed to or located on a marquee.

(N) *Affixed to trees, poles and fences.* No sign or other advertising structure, canopy, or awning shall be affixed to or located on a tree, utility pole, or fence.

(O) *Sign in violation of Zoning Code.* It shall be unlawful for any person to locate any sign and/or display any material upon any sign or other advertising structure in contravention of any regulation of the Zoning Ordinance and/or this chapter.

(P) *Supergraphic signs.* Prohibited anywhere within the Village Limits.

(Ord. 95-1934, passed 6-13-95; Am. Ord. 16- 3063, passed 7-21-16) Penalty, see § [10.99](#)