

**ORDINANCE 2020-008
TOWN OF ROSSVILLE, TN**

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE TOWN OF ROSSVILLE TO AMEND THE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE VIII RELATED TO POLITICAL SIGNAGE

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated Sections 13-7-201 through 13-7-210 empowered the Town of Rossville (the "Town" to enact the zoning ordinance of the Town to provide for its administration and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Mayor and Aldermen deem it necessary, for the purpose of promoting health, safety, morals and general welfare of the Town, to amend said Zoning Ordinance to amend Article VIII as follows:

Article VIII, Section 3 (2) – Definitions

Sign, Political: A temporary sign displaying the name and/or picture of an individual seeking election to a public office or a sign otherwise relating to a forthcoming public election or referendum. Political signs are exempt from permit requirements of this ordinance, subject to all applicable restrictions under Article VIII, Section 10.

Article VIII, Section 3 - Signs Prohibited in All Zoning Districts. The following signs shall be prohibited, and may neither be erected nor maintained.

- (5)(m) Parked vehicle signs
- (5)(u) Trailer signs

Article VIII, Section 10 – Sign Specific Conditions

(q) Political signs. The following shall apply to political signs as regulated by State of Tennessee, Public Chapter No. 294, House Bill No. 1199.

(1) Ground-mounted political signs shall:

- (a) Commercial Property - Have a maximum sign area of 16 square feet (16 sq.ft.) per side with a total of thirty-two square feet (32 sq.ft.);
- (b) Residential Property – Have a maximum sign area of four square feet (4 sq.ft.) per side with a total of eight (8 sq.ft.);
- (c) Have a maximum height of five (5) feet above the height of the curb at the sign's base;
- (d) Shall be limited to only one (1) sign per candidate/campaign, for each street frontage of premises or for each street frontage as an undeveloped lot, parcel, or tract of land.
- (e) No political signs shall be posted more than sixty (60) days in advance of the date voting begins in the election to which it refers.
- (f) All such political signs shall be removed within ten (10) days after the election to which they refer has been held.
- (g) Candidates winning a primary election may keep their signs up through the general election.
- (h) The office of the building inspector may order the removal or relocation of any such sign, which may constitute a hazard to the public traveling on public streets.

- (2) Political signs regulated on City property. No political sign shall be placed on City property, subject to the following exceptions and restrictions:

- (a) Political signs may be placed on City property designated as official poll locations for a primary, general or special election, but no more than twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the election date.
 - (b) Campaign material may not be displayed nearer than 100 feet to any polling place, except on private property. The display of campaign posters, signs, or other campaign materials, distribution of campaign materials, and solicitation of votes for or against any person or political party or position on a question are prohibited. No campaign posters, signs or other campaign literature may be displayed on or in any building or on the grounds of any building in which a polling is taking place. Additionally, all restrictions of T.C.A. 2-7-111(b)(1) and T.C.A. 2-7-(b) shall be observed.
 - (b) Political signs must be removed promptly following a primary, general or special election, but in no instance may Political signs remain placed at a designated poll location more than twenty-four (24) hours following the election date.
 - (c) Only one tent space will be allocated per candidate (not to exceed a 12'x12' space) in the areas of Town hall and the EMS facility. Candidates shall be allowed to set up their tents no more than 24 hours prior to the opening of the polls on Election Day; and further, the tents must be removed within 24 hours following the election date.
 - (d) Anyone violating the rules of this Ordinance is subject to the removal of the tent structure from City Property by the Chief of Police.
- (3) Political signs regulated on private property. Signs may be placed on privately owned property with the consent of the property owner.
- (a) No person shall paste, paint, rope, bill, nail or pin any sign or any advertisement or notice of any kind whatsoever or cause the same to be done, or any curbstone, or in any portion or part of any sidewalk or street, tree, lamppost, telephone or telegraph pole, awning, porch or balcony or upon any other structure in the limits of any street or public right-of-way in the city including but not limited to any divided roadway median, traffic island and/or traffic circle/roundabout, except such as may be required by this code or other city ordinance.
 - (b) No political sign may be placed upon or attached in any way to any tree, utility pole or rock, provided that no such sign shall be placed on any fence or fence post which presents any safety or line of sight issues for drivers as determined by the chief building official for the city.
 - (c) No such sign may be placed upon a public sidewalk.

WHEREAS, the Rossville Planning Commission reviewed the proposed amendment on June 8, 2020 and recommends such amendment to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, and

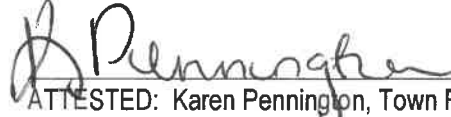
WHEREAS, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen caused notice of a public hearing on the proposed amendment to be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the community on June 29, 2020 and said public hearing was held on July 14, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen Town of Rossville, Tennessee, that the Town of Rossville's Zoning Ordinance be amended as described above.

1ST Reading: June 9, 2020
Public Hearing: July 14, 2020
2nd Reading: July 14, 2020



Judy B. Watters, Mayor



ATTESTED: Karen Pennington, Town Recorder