

*Placard* means a sign which provides notices of a public nature, such as "No Trespassing" or "No Hunting" signs.

*Projecting sign* means a double-faced sign attached to a building or wall.

*Reader board* means a portion of a sign on which copy is changed periodically either manually or electronically.

*Real estate sign* means a sign advertising the real estate upon which the sign is located as being for sale, rent, or lease.

*Roof line* means the eave line of a roof or building parapet, whichever is higher, but excluding any cupolas, chimneys, or other minor projections.

*Roof sign* means a sign erected above a roof line of a building.

*Sign* means a device, structure, fixture, or placard using graphics, symbols, and/or written copy designed specifically for the purpose of advertising or identifying an establishment, product, service, or activity provided on the site on which the sign is located.

*Sign face* means the section of a billboard or off-premises advertising sign that displays a message or messages facing in one direction. It shall include the entire area of the portion of the billboard or off-premises advertising sign that is above the supporting poles and any or part that displays a message.

*Temporary sign* means a sign intended for a limited period of display.

*Wall sign* means a single-faced sign painted or attached directly to and parallel to the exterior wall of a building.

*Window sign* means a sign placed on the inside of a window and intended to be viewed from the outside.

(Ord. No. 82-646—82-765, eff. 10-12-2001)

#### **Sec. 82-648. - General provisions.**

- (a) Any sign and supporting structure (other than a billboard or off-premise advertising sign) which for a period of 60 days no longer advertises or identifies a bona fide business conducted or product sold shall be

- removed by the owner, agent, or person, having the beneficial use of the building, structure, or property upon which such sign is located, within 30 days of receipt of written notice by the building official.
- (b) No light pole, utility pole, or other supporting member of a building or property shall be used for the placement of any sign unless the owner of the pole or supporting member has given permission for such use and the sign conforms to all requirements of this Article IX.
  - (c) Except for signs for home occupations, all signs may be internally or externally illuminated. If externally illuminated, the source of the light, shall be enclosed and directed to prevent the source of light from shining directly onto traffic, or residential property.
  - (d) A sign accessory to a nonconforming use or structure shall conform to the provisions of the zone district in which the nonconforming use or structure is located.
  - (e) Painted or paper-faced signs shall be maintained free of peeling paint or paper, sun fading, staining, rust, or other conditions which impair the visibility or intelligibility of such sign.
  - (f) Any signs permitted by the provisions of this article, including all supports, braces, guys and anchors, shall be maintained in conformance with this article and in such a manner so as not to cause a hazard to the public.
  - (g) Signs shall not be placed in, upon, or over any public right-of-way, alley, or other public place, except as may be otherwise permitted by this article and unless a revocable license is approved by the township board.
  - (h) Reader boards are permitted on a wall or a freestanding sign but not on both signs at one business, property, address or location.
  - (i) Any sign not resting directly on the ground, exceeding six square feet and set back less than ten feet from the right-of-way, shall maintain a minimum clear space of eight feet from the bottom of the sign to the ground.
  - (j) Awning, canopy, marquee signs or projecting signs which extend over the township right-of-way shall maintain a clear space of eight feet from the bottom of the awning, canopy or marquee to the grade. In the event the awning, canopy, marquee or projecting sign extends over the township right-of-way, a revocable license from township board is necessary prior to

- (k) All signs shall comply with the building and electrical codes of the township. Underground wiring shall be required for all illuminated signs, or signs requiring electrical connections except for permitted temporary signs.

(Ord. No. 82-646—82-765, eff. 10-12-2001)

#### **Sec. 82-649. - Sign prohibitions.**

- (a) Strings of light bulbs, pennants, streamers, banners, or flags (other than those of a governmental nature not used for the purpose of commercial advertisement) are prohibited, except as permitted in [section 82-673 \(\)](#) as temporary signs for promotions.
- (b) Signs, including reader boards, shall not employ any flashing, moving, blinking, or variable intensity light, however, variable time-temperature signs may be permitted.
- (c) Signs shall not contain any moving or animated parts or be designed so as to give the appearance of movement.
- (d) A sign shall not be erected in any place where it may, by reason of its position, shape, color, or other characteristics, interfere with, obstruct the view of or be confused with any authorized traffic signs, signal, or device, or constitute a nuisance per se.
- (e) A sign shall not be erected in a manner that would confuse or obstruct the view or interpretation of any official traffic sign, signal or device.
- (f) No sign or sign structure shall be located in such a manner as to materially impede the view of any street or highway intersection; or in such a manner as to materially impede the view of the intersection of a street or highway with a railroad crossing.
- (g) No sign or sign structure other than official highway markers shall be placed upon any street or highway right-of-way.
- (h) A wall sign shall not extend beyond the edge of the wall to which it is affixed nor extend above the roof line of a building.
- (i) Roof signs are not permitted.
- (j) Billboards and advertising signs are not permitted.
- (k) Balloon signs are prohibited except as permitted in [section 82-673 \(\)](#) as a temporary sign for promotions