



**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE
ALLEGHENY COUNTY. PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 6 OF 2018

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REPEALING ARTICLE XVIII SIGNS; SECTION 240-117B-POLITICAL SIGNS OF CHAPTER 240-ZONING OF THE SOUTH FAYETTE CODE AND REPLACING THE SAME WITH REVISED REGULATIONS FOR THE PLACEMENT OF TEMPORARY POLITICAL SIGNS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

WHEREAS, the Township of South Fayette, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, desires to regulate the placement of Temporary Political Signs within the Township in order to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the community;

WHEREAS, the Township is empowered to enact ordinances to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the community, in accordance with the First Class Township Code;

WHEREAS, the Township desires to regulate the placement of Temporary Political Signs in public property or right of way in order to protect automobile drivers from unnecessary dangerous distractions, to uphold the property values of the community by prohibiting unreasonably obtrusive political signs, and to uphold the dignity and impartial non-partisan manner of our public institutions;

WHEREAS, the Township desires to reasonably regulate the placement of Temporary Political Signs in order to assure that means will remain open for political communication within the Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED, by the Board of Commissioners of the TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE, and it is HEREBY ORDAINED and ENACTED as follows:

1. Article XVIII Signs; Section 240-117B-Political Signs of Chapter 240-Zoning of the South Fayette Code is repealed and replaced as follows:

§240-117B

a. Definitions

The following shall be defined terms for the purpose of this Chapter.

A. "Temporary Political Signs" are those signs announcing political candidates seeking office, political parties and/or political and public issues contained on an election ballot.

b. Temporary Political Signs posted on public property located within the Township are subject to the following general requirements:

A. Number of Signs: No more than one Temporary Political Sign shall be placed on public property at any intersection of roads or streets for any candidate nor shall a Temporary Political Sign be located within ten (10) feet of any other such sign for any candidate.

B. Area. Temporary Political Signs on public property shall not exceed an aggregate gross surface area of four (4) square feet per sign.

C. Height. Temporary Political Signs shall not project higher than four (4) feet, as measured from the base of the sign or grade of the nearest adjacent roadway, whichever is higher.

D. Timing. Temporary Political Signs may be erected or maintained for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days prior to the date of the election to which such signs are applicable and shall be removed within three (3) days following the termination of the election.

E. Illumination. No Temporary Political Signs shall be illuminated in any manner.

F. Posting of a Cash Bond. Prior to any person, firm or corporation placing a Temporary Political Sign within the confines of any public right-of-way within the Township, there shall be posted with the secretary of the Township a cash bond in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

G. Required Information. At the time of the posting of the cash bond, there shall be submitted to the Township, on a form supplied by the Township, the following information:

1. The name and address of a person who is placing the Temporary Political Signs and the name and address of the person who will be responsible for removal of each sign.
2. The general nature and purpose of the Temporary Political Signs to be placed.
3. The date when the Temporary Political Signs will be removed. In no event shall the date specified for removal be later than three (3) days after termination of the election.

H. Required Consent of the Township for the placement of Temporary Political Signs on the public right-of-ways or public property. Township reserves the right to deny a required to post Temporary Political Signs on public property or remove or require the removal of any Temporary Political Signs at any time whenever such sign violates the provisions of this Ordinance or poses a threat to the public's safety, health and welfare. Specific prohibitions include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Temporary Political Signs shall be prohibited within five (5) feet of the edge of the paved surface of any road or street within the Township.
2. Temporary Political Signs shall be prohibited along any road or street within the Township where it would obstruct the clear sight distance of the traffic.

I. Return of Bond. If the Temporary Political Sign is removed within three (3) days after the date when it was declared to the Township that they would be so removed, the cash bond shall be refunded to the person or organization responsible for posting that bond.

J. Forfeiture of Bond. If the Temporary Political Signs are not removed within three (3) days after the date when it was declared to the Township that they would be so removed, the posted cash bond as required by this section shall be forfeited to the general fund of the Township in the amount of \$5.00 per sign as the cost of the Township to remove the signs.

c. Private Property: No Temporary Political Signs shall be placed or erected on any private property without first obtaining permission from such property owner.

d. Violations and Penalties: Any person who shall be convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of this Chapter before a District Magistrate having jurisdiction shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), together with costs of prosecution.

2. Any Ordinance or part of an Ordinance conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as they may affect this Ordinance.

3. If any provision of this Ordinance is held by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in effect.

4. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED INTO LAW this 17 day of October 2018.

ATTEST:



Miles Truitt
Interim Township Manager

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE:



Ray Pitetti, President
Board of Commissioners