

**TIONESTA BOROUGH
FOREST COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

SIGN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

ORDINANCE NO. 295

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions set forth in the Municipalities Planning Code (53 P.S. §10101), the Borough of Tionesta has the authority to impose restrictions on signs located within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Tionesta Borough Council (“Borough Council”) previously adopted Ordinance No. 201 on July 14, 1992, said Ordinance being known as the Tionesta Borough Sign Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, Borough Council subsequently amended Ordinance No. 201 by adopting Ordinance No. 265 on November 16, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Tionesta Borough Council finds it necessary and appropriate to further amend Ordinance No. 265 to more clearly set forth Council’s intentions with regard to signs which are located within the Borough.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Tionesta that Ordinance No. 265 is hereby amended to read as follows:

INTENT

It is the intent of this article to regulate all signs within the Borough to ensure that they are appropriate for their respective principal uses and in keeping with the appearance of the affected property and surrounding environment and to protect the public health, safety, morals and general welfare. In addition, the intent of this section is to:

- A. Encourage good design in the context of the overall image and visual environment of the Borough.
- B. Enhance the appearance of the business community, taking into account the nature of the use, and thus stimulate as well as protect the economic vitality of the Borough.
- C. Provide for signage which is adequate but not excessive and which displays a message through use of pictures, symbols and logos for rapid comprehension by the public.
- D. Prohibit the erection of signs in such numbers, sizes, designs and locations as may create a hazard to pedestrians and motorists.

- E. Avoid excessive competition for large or multiple signs, so that permitted signs provide adequate identification and direction while minimizing clutter, unsightliness and confusion.
- F. Allow for the coordination of signs to reflect the character of the architecture, landscape and visual themes which the Borough is supporting.
- G. Promote signs which are designed utilizing clear, crisp lettering and bold, uncomplicated symbols which will identify a business or activity efficiently and also enhance the area where they are located as well as the general appearance of the street or Borough.
- H. Prevent sign overload and excessively large signs which creates a visually chaotic and competitive situation within the Borough.

DEFINITIONS

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated unless otherwise expressly stated:

DIRECTIONAL SIGN: A sign designating points of ingress and egress to a property, normally located at such points of ingress and egress.

FREESTANDING SIGN: A sign and supporting structure which is secured in the ground and independent of any building, fence or other support. Freestanding signs shall be constructed so that the maximum height from mean grade to the lowest area of the sign face does not exceed eight (8) feet. No portion of any free-standing sign shall be located within 5 feet of any lot line. For the purpose of this definition, "freestanding signs" may consist of the following:

- A. **GROUND SIGN:** A sign designed to be viewed at eye level or below within the immediate vicinity and which is intended to be designed and viewed as an architecturally unified and proportional element.
- B. **POLE SIGN:** A sign which is detached from a building and supported by no more than two poles or other structural supports which are architecturally dissimilar to the design of the sign.

INTERNALLY ILLUMINATED SIGN: A sign which incorporates the flashing, scrolling of text or graphics or signs with internal moving illumination which varies in intensity or color which includes, but is not limited to, time and temperature signs.

MOVABLE SIGN: A sign capable of being readily moved or relocated, including portable signs mounted on a chassis and wheels or supported by legs.