

David B. Raughley, Mayor  
John D. Hanlin, II, Councilman  
Sandra J. Sturgis, Councilwoman  
Karen Jennings, Councilwoman  
John Ness, Councilman



Thomas Wilkes, P.E., Town Engineer  
Michael J. Jester, Code Enforcement Officer  
Azure Wright, Finance Officer  
Cathy Beaver, Executive Secretary  
Fred Townsend, III, Town Attorney

Introduced by: John Hanlin  
Introduced on: October 21, 2009

## **ORDINANCE NO. 09-04**

### **AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF TOWNSEND CONCERNING SIGNS.**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF TOWNSEND** (a majority of the members elected thereto concurring therein):

Section 1. Amend Chapter 66 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Townsend, Delaware by striking subparagraph 66-729 (a)(1) in its entirety and by renumbering the remaining subparagraphs accordingly.

Section 2. Amend Section 66-729 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Townsend, Delaware by redesignating the existing subsections (h)(i)(j)(k) and (l) thereof as (m)(n)(o)(p) and (q) respectively and by inserting the following new subsections as follows:

(h) Signs and sign structures of all types shall be located to allow a clear, unobstructed line of vision and allow for clear line of sight leaving a driveway.

(i) Signs with red, yellow, orange, or blue illumination in a beam, beacon, or flashing form resembling an emergency light or traffic control device in any location are prohibited.

(j) Signs using mechanical or electrical devices to revolve flash or display movement or the illusion of movement are prohibited.

(k) Signs using sudden light changes are prohibited.

(l) If illuminated, no such lighting shall create a danger or nuisance from glare or direct lighting upon adjoining properties or roadways.

Section 3. Amend Section 66-731 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Townsend, Delaware by adding a new subparagraph to read as follows:

(9) Animated signs may be used in the Commercial District only and in accordance with the following regulations:

- a. The animated message shall not change type or color or intensity more than every thirty (30) seconds;

- b. No flashing colors or messages are allowed;
- c. Signs may not be mounted on top of buildings; and
- d. The maximum area of an animated sign shall be no more than twenty (20) square feet.”

Section 3. If any provision of this Act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this Act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall remain unaffected.

Section 4. This Act shall become effective immediately upon its passage into law.

### **SYNOPSIS**

This Act revises the current sign ordinance to permit and regulate animated signs. Also, this Act proposes additional general sign regulations applicable to all districts that enhance public safety and general welfare concerns.

First & Second Reading: November 4, 2009

Public Hearing: November 4, 2009

Third & Final Reading: December 2, 2009

Signed by: 

Mayor of Townsend