

VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES
DRAFT LOCAL LAW # 4 OF 2016

A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND CHAPTER 225 ("ZONING"),
ARTICLE XIII ("SIGNS")
OF THE VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES

 **DRAFT**
Revised 3-31-16

BE IT ENACTED BY THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES:

Statement of Intent and Findings.

The Board of Trustees, upon the unanimous written recommendations of the Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission, has determined that it is necessary to modify several provisions of the Village Code relating to the regulation of signs.

Authority.

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the authority of the Municipal Home Rule Law, Section 10 and Article 12-A of the General Municipal Law.

Text of Proposed Local Law.

I. Chapter 225 ("Zoning"), Section 225-61 ("General Regulations"), sub-section B. (2) is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

"(2) Portable Signs. Portable or mobile signs, including sandwich-board-style signs, for commercial or business advertising are prohibited."

II. Chapter 225 ("Zoning"), Section 225-62 ("Signs Permitted in All Districts Without a Signed Permit"), shall be revised as follows (changes highlighted):

"A. For sale, lease, open-house, or rental signs. One on-premises sign advertising that the premises upon which the sign is located is for sale, lease, or rental, or the site of an open-house event. One sign is permitted per each building face on a public highway. The sign shall not exceed four square feet in area; if two-sided, the second identical sign face area shall not be counted. The sign shall not be illuminated or located between the sidewalk and a street, nor nearer than three feet to the nearest boundary of the street or any lot line. All such signs shall be removed five days after the sale, lease or rental of the premises, or open-house event."

"G. Community Event Notification Signs. Signs intended to notify the community of upcoming social, athletic, civic, charitable, educational, or religious events may be posted on one or more community event bulletin boards, which shall be located at such locations as are approved by the Board of Trustees. Each community event bulletin board shall accommodate up to four event signs. Each sign shall be posted for not more than five days and shall not exceed 2' x 2' in size. Signs shall be provided by the sponsoring organization of the event. Signs

promoting commercial or business activity shall not be permitted. Space on a community event bulletin board shall be on a first come-first served basis, and reservations shall be made with the Village Clerk.”

III. Chapter 225 (“Zoning”), Section 225-63 (“Temporary Signs”), is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows (changed highlighted):

“No permit is required for signs described in this section. Temporary signs may only be placed on ~~or off premises except for Subsection E, New business signs, which are limited to on premises use only. All signs must be dated either with the date of the actual function or opening or the date of installation.~~ If use of a temporary sign exceeds the specified time period, the Code Enforcement Officer shall remove or cause to be removed such sign. All applicable costs incurred with the removal of such signs shall be assessed against the owner of the land or building on which such sign is placed.

- A. Event signs. Any promotional, identifying or directional sign which relates to any community, civic, commemorative, political, charitable, social, educational, religious or athletic function or assembly scheduled to occur within the Village of Skaneateles, or any event authorized by municipal authorities or school district may be in place for up to 10 days before and five days after the actual activity. The sign area may not exceed nine square feet per identical face if two sided.
- B. Private owner household merchandise signs. For sales and auctions, not exceeding four square feet in area for a period not exceeding eight days. Such signs may only be displayed on the owner’s property; not in the public right-of-way, on a sidewalk or on a utility pole.
- C. Window signs. Nonilluminated promotional window signs and posters shall not exceed 25% of the window area. Businesses in a mercantile zone which front on a publicly or privately owned or occupied parking area may have window signs not exceeding 30% of the window area. Such signs shall be removed within 30 days after installation. Signs in this category shall be included in the total area requirements in § 225-61A(4), Window /door signs.
- D. ^[1]New business signs. Signs emphasizing the opening of a new business may be displayed in a window of such business and shall not exceed 24 square feet. In the case of window signs within six inches of or touching a window surface, the size shall not exceed 30% of the window area. Placement shall not exceed a period of 60 days.

[1] *Editor’s Note: Former Subsection D, Political posters, was repealed 10-10-2013 by L.L. No. 2-2013. This local law also provided for the redesignation of former Subsection E as Subsection D.*”

IV. Chapter 225 (“Zoning”), Section 225-64 (“Signs Permitted in All Districts With a Sign Permit”) is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows (changes highlighted):

“The following signs are permitted in any district but require a sign permit as provided in this Article XIII.

A. Development or subdivision. Any sign advertising a real estate development or subdivision permitted in the district were located by this chapter shall not exceed 16 square feet in area and shall advertise only the name of the owner, real estate broker, architect and engineer. Signs shall be limited to one per each building face on a public street or public private parking lot.

~~B. Gasoline service station signs. These signs may be located on the premises of any gasoline service station:~~

~~(1) One pole sign to advertise the brand of gasoline sold at such service station, having a maximum area of not more than 12 square feet per identical face if two-sided and a maximum height of not more than 15 feet to the top of such pole sign.~~

~~(2) A sign or signs attached or applied to a building shall not exceed 1 ½ square feet per one linear foot of building frontage. The total area of letters, symbols or pictorial matter within the signs shall not exceed 60% of the total area of the sign face. The total area of the sign shall not exceed 50 square feet.~~

~~(3) One auxiliary sign per station not to exceed eight square feet.~~

~~(4) One portable sign per station, not exceeding 12 square feet and four feet in height.~~

~~(5) Integral graphics or attached price signs on gasoline pumps.~~

~~(6) One sign or notice having an area of two square feet or less than for the direction, information and safety of the public.~~

BC. Directional, informational or safety signs. For a business or public utility, on-premises signs or notices for the direction, information or safety of the public to identify public parking areas, fire zones, entrances and exits and similar signs. They may be illuminated or nonilluminated, not exceeding four square feet per face, and, if freestanding, they shall not be more than six feet in height. Business names, symbols and personal names shall be allowed, but advertising messages are prohibited.

~~D. Highway banners. Permits may be issued for cross-highway banners to promote community, civic, charitable, social, educational or athletic functions. Size shall not exceed 100 square feet per face. A permit from New York State is obtainable through the Village office and must comply with all state regulations.~~

CE. Parking lot signs. One sign not to exceed nine square feet in area and, if freestanding, not to exceed six feet above ground level may be placed in a private off-street parking area only to limit the use of such parking area to customers and/or business invitees of the owner and/or occupant.

- DF.** Public service informational signs. A permit may be issued only by the Board of Trustees for a sign which displays public service information, such as time and temperature, if it is consistent with the general intent and requirements of this chapter and does not exceed 32 square feet in area per face and 80% of the sign is for the public service information.
- EG.** Directory signs. A permit may be issued only by the Board of Trustees for a directory sign on a building face, freestanding or in kiosk form, when it will assist the public and offer a method for businesses to identify their location and advertise their purpose while maintaining the attractiveness of the community and there will be a sponsor or person responsible for the maintenance. Its design and placement shall not impair or cause confusion with vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
- FH.** Historic signs. Signs which have been extant for a minimum of 25 years may be granted a nonconforming permit on condition of proper maintenance and continuation of the character of the sign. Eligibility shall be determined by a review of the permit application and proof of the historic qualification by the Historical Landmarks Preservation Commission appointed by the Board of Trustees.
- G.I.** Event banners. Permits will be issued for a banner that relates to any local community, civic, charitable, social, educational, religious, athletic or commemorative function or assembly or any event authorized by municipal authorities. Such banner shall not exceed 100 square feet, may be displayed up to 14 days before the event promoted, shall be removed within five days after the event promoted, may be installed on a building only with written permission from the owner of the building, and shall not be installed on any municipal building, structure, equipment or facility without written authorization from the Village Board of Trustees. Installation, maintenance and removal shall be the sole responsibility of the owner of said banner.”
[Added 5-14-2001 by L.L. No. 1-2001]

Effective Date: This local law shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted: _____, 2016.

Motion by: Trustee

Seconded by: Trustee

Voting in Favor: Trustees

Voting in Opposition: _____