

ORDINANCE NO. 555

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA, TEXAS, BY AMENDING SECTION 4-284, ENTITLED "SIGNS REQUIRING A PERMIT" OF ARTICLE VI, ENTITLED "SIGNS", OF CHAPTER 4, ENTITLED "BUILDING AND BUILDING REGULATIONS", OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA BY AMENDING THE MAXIMUM SIZES OF SIGNS, BY DELETING FLAG POLE HEIGHT REQUIREMENTS AND CONTAINING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL CODE PROVISIONS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, AND/OR INFORMAL POLICIES WHICH ARE IN ANY MANNER IN CONFLICT OR INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ORDINANCE CONSTITUTES A MISDEMEANOR PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$500.00; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA, TEXAS:

Section 1 The following sections of Article VI, entitled "Signs", of Chapter 4 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Columbia, Texas, entitled "Building and Building Regulations" shall be and is hereby amended to read as follows:

Chapter 4

BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS

ARTICLE VI. SIGNS

DIVISION 1. GENERAL

Sec. 4-284. Signs Requiring a Permit.

The following signs shall require a permit, issued prior to construction:

[A] Signs on property in other than residential areas.

[1] Single commercial building. Signs shall be permitted as follows:

[a] Attached or painted onto each side of a building with an allowable total sign area of 1 ½ square feet of signage for each linear foot wall length to which the sign will be attached. Signs on canopies attached to a building shall be

considered as wall signs and cannot extend beyond the canopy.

- [b] One free standing sign not larger than 128 square feet or taller than 50 feet. Buildings with frontage along more than one street may have one free standing sign along each street with a minimum of 200 ft. of frontage.
 - [c] One projecting sign not to exceed 12 square feet.
- [2] Commercial complex. Signs shall be permitted as follows:
- [a] A sign attached to or painted onto the building identifying the complex with an allowable total sign area of 1 ½ square feet of signage for each linear foot of business frontage.
 - [b] One free standing sign not larger than 64 square feet or taller than 12 feet.
 - [i] A commercial complex with a land area of two acres or more may have one freestanding sign along each street which borders the complex for a distance of 200 feet.
 - [ii] If the structure of a free standing sign contains or supports more than one sign, then each sign shall be of the same construction, coloring, design and style.
 - [c] One sign per business housed in the complex with an allowable total sign area of 1 ½ square feet of signage for each linear foot of business frontage.
- [3] Illuminated signs.
- [a] Neon signs are prohibited except for signs no greater than 4.5 square feet located on or inside of a window of an establishment. No more than two such signs are permitted per business.
 - [b] No sign shall be lighted to such intensity or in such a manner as to cause glare or brightness to a degree that it constitutes a traffic hazard. Any such sign shall constitute a nuisance.
 - [c] Signs may not be illuminated by mercury arc or mercury vapor light sources.

[d] Illuminated signs may not be installed facing adjacent or adjoining residential areas.

[4] Inflatable Signs. Business related inflatable signs with a volume greater than 27 cubic feet are prohibited.

Section 2

Any and all Code provisions, rules, ordinances, police regulations, resolutions, and/or informal policies of the City of West Columbia, whether written, or otherwise, which are in any manner in conflict with or inconsistent with this article, shall be and are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict and/or inconsistency.

Section 3

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the several provisions of this article are severable, and if any court of competent jurisdiction enters a final order which holds that any section, sub-section, sentence, clause, phrase, or other portion of this article is invalid, illegal, or otherwise unenforceable, then any such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and any such ruling shall not affect any other provisions of this article which are not specifically designated as being illegal, invalid, or unenforceable.

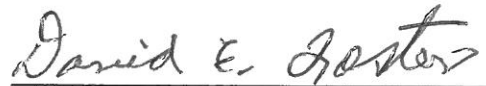
Section 4

Failure to observe and obey the article adopted above shall constitute a misdemeanor, and shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), constituting a separate offense.

Section 5

This article shall be effective upon its passage and approval, and the publication of its caption as provided by law.

PASSED and APPROVED this the 31st day of March, 2008



DAVID E. FOSTER, Mayor

A T T E S T:



KELLI R. KUBAN, City Secretary/Treasurer