

**SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

**COUNTY OF SAGINAW**

**ORDINANCE NO. 04-**

**AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE SIGNS LOCATED  
IN THE TOWNSHIP, EXCLUDING BILLBOARD SIGNS**

The Charter Township of Saginaw hereby ordains:

**SECTION 1.0 AUTHORITY**

This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to Act No. 359 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1947 (MCL 42.1 et seq., as amended, and repeals all other sign ordinances of the township.

**SECTION 2.0 TITLE**

This Ordinance shall be known as the Saginaw Charter Township Sign Ordinance.

**SECTION 3.0 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

These Standards are adopted to:

- (1) Maintain and enhance the aesthetics of the community.
- (2) Enhance pedestrian and traffic safety.
- (3) Preserve public health, safety, and welfare.
- (4) Limit multiple or conflicting signs.
- (5) Minimize the adverse effects of signs on nearby public and private property.
- (6) Minimize driver distraction.
- (7) Protect and enhance the scenic views and natural landscapes.
- (8) Protect and enhance economic viability by assuring aesthetic appeal for visitors and residents.
- (9) Promote the use of aesthetically pleasing sign materials and colors.
- (10) Avoid obstacles, distractions, or traffic hazards that impair a traveler's ability to see pedestrians, traffic signs, or vehicles.

- (11) Preserve the right to enjoy scenic amenities.
- (12) Enhance the effectiveness of directional and warning signs.
- (13) Preserve property values.
- (14) Provide for the effectiveness of permitted signs.
- (15) Avoid adverse lighting or reflection.
- (16) Require structurally safe signs.

The Standards in this Ordinance are determined to be the minimum necessary to achieve the above stated purposes.

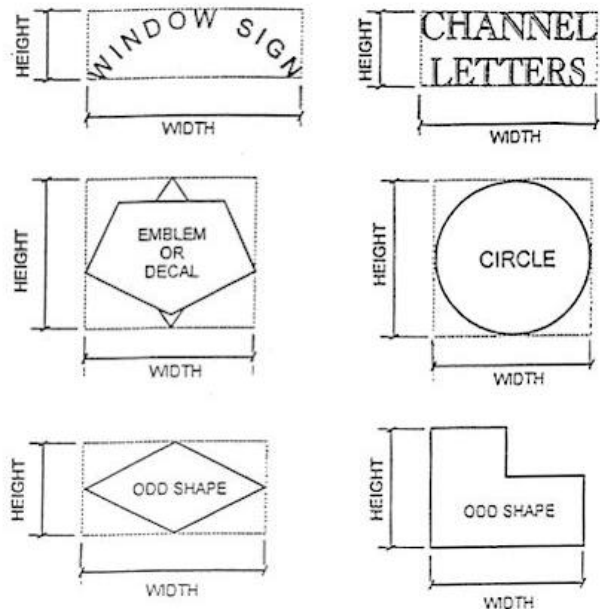
**SECTION 4.0 DEFINITIONS**

Words or terms contained in this ordinance shall have the meanings as defined in this ordinance. Any words or terms not defined in this ordinance shall have the meanings normally ascribed to them, or as they are defined in the other ordinances.

- (1) **Abandoned:** A sign shall be deemed Abandoned if:
  - a. It does not display a well-maintained structure or sign face for a consecutive one hundred twenty (120) day period;
  - b. The owner of the sign cannot be located at the owner's last known address, as reflected on the records of the department; or
  - c. A structure designed to support a sign no longer supports the sign for a period of one hundred twenty (120) consecutive days.
  - d. Any sign not repaired or maintained properly, after notice, pursuant to the terms of this section.

- (2) **Amortization Period.** The time between the date of adoption of this ordinance and February 16, 2016.

- (3) **Area of Sign.** The entire area within a circle, triangle, parallelogram, or other geometric configuration enclosing the extreme limits of writing, representation, emblem or any figure or similar character, together with any frame or other material or color forming an integral part of the display or used to differentiate the sign from the background against which it is placed; excluding the necessary supports or uprights on which such sign is placed and any numbers displaying the address of the use.



- (4) **Awning Sign.** See **Canopy Sign.**

- (5) **Billboard.** A freestanding outdoor Sign which advertises an establishment, service, merchandise, use, entertainment, activity product or message which is not conducted, sold, produced, manufactured, or furnished upon the parcel or lot in which the Sign is located, and additionally shall include those Signs as regulated by the state pursuant to Act No. 106 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1972 (MCL 252.301) et seq.,; MSA 9.39 (101) et seq.) as amended.



**BILLBOARD SIGN**

- (6) **Canopy Sign.** Any Sign attached to or constructed on a canopy. A canopy is a permanent roof-like shelter extending from part of or all of a building face.
- (7) **Changeable Copy Sign / Reader Board.** A Sign or portion thereof with characters, letters, or illustrations that can be changed or rearranged without altering the face or the surface of the Sign.
- (8) **Clear Vision Area.** The area bounded by the street property lines of corner lots and a line intersecting the street property lines, thirty (30') feet from their point of intersection.
- (9) **Construction Sign.** A Sign containing identifying information concerning construction activity in progress on the premises on which the Sign is located, such as the name of the future occupant or business, development name, type of development, name of the developer, and names of architects, engineers, contractors and lenders involved in the construction activity.

- (10) **Department:** The Community Development Department of Saginaw Charter Township.

- (11) **Directional Sign:** A Sign on private property the primary purpose of which is to direct traffic movement onto or off of a premise. Such signs include entrance, exit, or street number.



**ELECTRONIC MESSAGE BOARD**

- (12) **Electronic Message Board.** Video terminal or electronic changeable copy Sign in which the copy or animation consists of an array of lights activated and deactivated simultaneously with a frequency of message change of not less than five (5) seconds.
- (13) **Freestanding Sign:** A Sign supported by one or more uprights, braces, pylons, or foundation elements located in or upon the ground and not attached to a building.
- (14) **Governmental Sign:** A Sign authorized by this municipality, a governmental agency, the State of Michigan, or the federal government, for the benefit of the public. Such Signs may include safety Signs, danger Signs, trespassing Signs, street direction Signs, destination Signs, hazardous condition Signs, or Signs for traffic control purposes.



**FREESTANDING SIGN**

(15) **Grand Opening Sign.** See **Special Event Sign.**

(16) **Ground Mounted.** See **Monument Sign.**

(17) **Industrial Center.** A coordinated development of a tract of land with two or more separate industrial buildings. Such development is planned, designed, constructed and managed on an integrated and coordinated basis with special attention given to on-site vehicular circulation, parking, utility needs, building design, orientation and open space.

(18) **Integral Sign:** Signs made an integral part of the walls of the structure or roof for farm buildings, or when carved into stone, concrete, or similar material or made of bronze, aluminum or other permanent type construction.



MARQUEE SIGN

(19) **Marquee:** Any hood, canopy, awning, or permanent construction that projects from a wall of a building.

(20) **Monument Sign:** A Freestanding Sign where the base of the Sign structure is permanently in the ground or integrated into landscaping or other solid structural features.



MONUMENT SIGN

(21) **Nonconforming Sign.** Any advertising structure or Sign which was lawfully erected and maintained prior to the effective date of this ordinance, and any amendments thereto, and which fails to conform to any applicable regulations and restrictions of this ordinance, or a Sign for which a permit was previously issued that does not comply with the provisions of this ordinance.

(22) **Nonresidential Sign:** A Sign located on a parcel that does not have a dwelling as its principle structure and is located in the CG, AG, R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-3, district. Examples of the uses that may be associated with nonresidential uses in these districts include but are not limited to subdivisions, schools, religious institutions, public buildings and cemeteries.

(23) **Owner:** A Person owning the Sign and/or the property owner upon which the Sign is located.

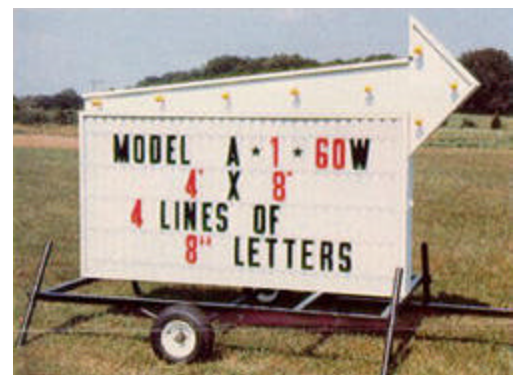
(24) **Parcel:** Contiguous real estate taxed as a single parcel on one side of a public road.

(25) **Permit:** The authorization for the installation of a Sign issued by the department.

(26) **Person:** Any individual or entity, including a firm, partnership, association, corporation, limited liability company, trustee, and their legal successors.

(27) **Political Campaign Signs:** Signs announcing candidates for public political office, referendum issues or other data pertinent to an upcoming election.

(28) **Portable Sign:** A Sign that is not permanently



anchored or secured to a building and not having supports or braces permanently secured in the ground, included but not limited to “sandwich” Signs and Signs mounted on wheels so as to be capable of being pulled by a motor vehicle from one location to another. Banners, pennants, pinwheels, ribbons, streamers, strings of light bulbs, inflatables or similar devices intended for a limited period of display shall also be considered a portable sign. This definition does not include specified exceptions for grand opening type Signs.

**(29) Projecting Sign:** A Sign affixed to any part of a building or structure that extends beyond the building or structure by more than twenty (20”) inches.

**(30) Replacing Copy.** Any change to a Sign's face or display other than changing letters and numbers designed to be removed on a daily or weekly basis for a temporary advertisement or sale.

**(31) Regional Commercial Center.** A coordinated development of a tract of land with two or more separate commercial buildings with uses classified as regional business uses for zoning purposes. Such development is planned, designed, constructed and managed on an integrated and coordinated basis with special attention given to on-site vehicular circulation, parking, utility needs, building design, orientation and open space. Regional commercial centers are greater than twenty (20) acres in site size.



PROJECTING SIGN

**(32) Regional Plaza/Center.** Commercial development, usually one store deep. This type of development can include individual buildings on one site or a linear shopping centers with coordinated parking and access. Plaza/Centers are less than 20 acres in size. Plaza/Centers must have a minimum of three (3) businesses.

**(33) Residential Neighborhood Identification Sign.** A Sign at the entrance of a residential neighborhood identifying the neighborhood.

**(34) Roof Line.** The highest point on any building where an exterior wall encloses usable floor space. The term “roof line” includes the top of any parapet wall, providing said parapet wall extends around the entire perimeter of the building at the same elevation. The façade of a building is not defined as part of the roof line.

**(35) Roof Sign:** A Sign erected, constructed, or maintained upon, or which projects above, the Roof Line of a building.



ROOF SIGN

**(36) Sign:** A structure which includes a name, identification, image, description, display or illustration which is affixed to, painted or represented directly or indirectly upon a building, structure or parcel of land, and which directs attention to an object, product, place, activity, facility, service, event, attraction, person, institution, organization or business, or idea and which is visible from any street, right of way, sidewalk, alley, park or other public property. This definition includes the base, frame, and support members of the Sign. Customary displays of merchandise or



objects and material within an enclosed building or placed behind a store window are not Signs. A Sign shall not include any display of official court or public office notices nor shall it include the flag of a political unit or school.

- (37) **Sign Location.** The area on which a Sign is placed. Permitted Freestanding or Monument Signs may be located anywhere on the premises except in clear vision area or within the proposed right of way.
- (38) **Sign Setback.** Where it is specified that a Sign must be located a minimum or other certain distance from property lines, or public rights of way, or proposed public rights of way, such distance shall be measured from the portion of the Sign structure nearest to such specified line. For the purpose of this measurement, the property lines and public right of way lines extend vertically and perpendicularly from the ground to infinity. Unless otherwise noted all signs shall be setback at the proposed right-of-way line.
- (39) **Sign Width.** The distance between two Sign faces back to back on a Freestanding or Monument Sign shall not exceed six (6') feet measured from the front of each Sign face. This applies to parallel and nonparallel Sign faces. Signs constructed in a triangular manner shall not exceed six (6') feet at the widest point.
- (40) **Special Event Sign.** A Sign advertising display that is temporary in nature, is not permanently attached to the ground or Sign surface, and is used for special events, such as, but not limited to grand openings, seasonal sales, liquidations, going out of business sales, fire sales, promotions, and other similar limited term events.
- (41) **Street Banner:** Fabric Signs, suspended across public streets advertising a public entertainment or event. The location and contents of each street banner must be specially approved by the Saginaw Charter Township Board and the Saginaw County Road Commission or Michigan Department of Transportation.
- (42) **Structural Alteration.** Any change other than incidental repairs and maintenance that would prolong the life of the supporting members or face(s) of the Sign.
- (43) **Through Lot.** A lot having frontage on two nonintersecting streets.
- (44) **Wall Sign:** A Sign attached to, painted upon, placed against, or supported by the exterior surface of any building. Wall signs also include Marquees and Canopy Signs.



WALL SIGN

## **SECTION 5.0 PROHIBITED SIGNS**

The following Signs are considered to be unsafe, dangerous, hazardous or a nuisance, therefore these Signs shall not be permitted, erected or maintained in any zoning district.

- (1)** Any Sign for which a permit is required and has not been issued is prohibited, excluding any existing legal Nonconforming Sign.
- (2)** Signs which incorporate in any manner any flashing or moving lights.
- (3)** Street Banners, Portable Signs, pennants, spinners and streamers, and inflatable figures except as specifically permitted in accordance with this Ordinance or the Zoning Ordinance.
- (4)** Any Sign which moves or has any moving or animated parts, or images, whether the movement is caused by any mechanical, electronic or electrical device or wind or otherwise, including swinging Signs and strings of flags or streamers, or cloth flags moved by natural wind. Such a prohibition shall not pertain to public message signs on governmental property and those on public property that display time, temperature or stock market quotation Signs.
- (5)** Any Sign or Sign structure which
  - (a)** is structurally unsafe, or
  - (b)** constitutes a hazard to the safety or health of person or property by reason of inadequate design, fabrication, mounting or maintenance or because it has been Abandoned or
  - (c)** is not kept in good repair, or
  - (d)** is capable of causing electrical shocks to persons that may come in contact with it.
- (6)** Any Sign which by reason of it size, location, coloring, intensity, or manner of illumination constitutes a traffic hazard or a detriment to traffic safety by obstruction of visibility or creation of driver confusion of any traffic Sign or control device on any public street or road.
- (7)** Any Sign which obstructs free ingress or egress from a required door, window, fire escape, driveway or other required access route.
- (8)** Signs which make use of words such as “stop”, “look”, “danger”, or any other words, phrases, symbols or characters in such a manner as to resemble standard traffic control signs and interfere with, mislead or confuse drivers of vehicles traveling upon any highway, driveway or parking area.
- (9)** Any Sign or other advertising structure or display which conveys, suggests, indicates or otherwise implies by pictures, drawings, words, emblems, logos, or other communication methods including but not limited to human genitalia, sexual acts, adult nude human bodies, obscene words, or obscene gestures.
- (10)** Any Sign, hereafter existing owned by or on the premises of a business that has ceased operation. Said Signs shall be removed by the Owner within thirty (30) calendar days after a business closes or vacates the premises.
- (11)** Any Sign, except traffic or other municipal approved Signs, as permitted in this ordinance that is located in or projects into or over a public right of way or dedicated easement.

- (12) Any Sign that exceeds the height limitation for structures in the zoning district in which it is located, or a wall Sign that extends beyond or above the structure to which such Sign is affixed except as may specifically be provided for in other provisions.
- (13) Placards, posters, circulars, show bills, handbills, political Signs, cards, leaflets or other advertising matter, except as otherwise provided herein, shall not be posted, pasted, nailed, placed, printed, stamped or in any way attached to any fence, wall, post, tree, sidewalk, pavement, platform, pole, tower, curbstone or surface in or upon any public easement, right of way or any public or private property whatsoever. Provided, however, nothing herein shall prevent official notices of the Township, school districts, County, State, or Federal Government from being posted on any public property deemed necessary. All placards, posters, circulars, show bills, handbills, political Signs, cards, leaflets or other advertising matter posted, pasted, nailed, placed, printed, stamped on any right of way or public property may be removed and disposed of by the Saginaw Charter Township Code Enforcement Officer without regard to other provisions of this ordinance.
- (14) Display or parking a motor vehicle or trailer upon a lot or premises in a location visible from a public right of way, for the primary purpose of displaying a Sign attached to, painted on or placed on the vehicle or trailer, with the exception of vehicles used regularly in the course of conducting the principle use located on the premises.
- (15) Roof Signs.
- (16) No portion of a privately-owned Sign, or its supporting structures, such as poles or cables, shall be placed on, or within the air space above, publicly owned property, a public right-of-way (such as a street or sidewalk), or a proposed public right-of-way.
- (17) Signs which obstruct free use of a roadway, required door, window, fire escape or other required exit way. No Sign may obstruct the clear vision area.
- (18) Billboards, except those that are located within 150 feet of the right-of-way line of Bay Road, or I-675 one-half mile North of Tittabawassee Road, that comply with the setback requirements for the Zoning district, do not exceed 300 square feet in area, are located no closer than 5,000 feet to another Billboard Sign on either side of the road, are no higher than a total of 35 feet and otherwise are in compliance with the Township Zoning and general ordinances.

#### **SECTION 6.0 SIGNS AUTHORIZED WITHOUT A PERMIT.**

The following Signs are permitted without a Sign permit in all zoning districts where the principle permitted use to which they are related is a permitted use in that district.

- (1) Address numbers, nameplates (including apartment units and office suites) identifying the occupant or address of a parcel of land.
- (2) Memorial Signs or tablets, not to exceed eight (8) square feet in area, containing the name of the building and date of erection, when cut into any masonry surface or constructed of bronze or other non-combustible material and affixed to the exterior wall of the building.
- (3) Signs painted on or permanently attached to legally licensed vehicles that are used upon the highways for transporting persons, goods or equipment.



- (4) Traffic or other municipal Signs including, but not limited to, the following, legal notices, historic site designations, municipal facility directional Signs, street or traffic Signs, railroad crossing Signs, danger and other emergency Signs as may be approved by the Township Board or any Federal, State or County agency having jurisdiction over the matter of the Sign. Such Signs may be located in any zoning district. However, all Signs on governmental property on which a municipal building is located shall meet the commercial zoning district requirements stated herein.
- (5) Community special event Signs approved by the Township Board.
- (6) One Sign advertising parcels of land or building for rent, lease or sale, when located on land or building intended to be rented leased or sold, not exceeding six (6) square feet in area, four (4) feet in height in residential districts and twenty-four (24) square feet in area, six (6) feet in height in office, commercial and industrial districts.
- (7) Flags of government, civic, philanthropic, educational, religious organizations and other public entities. In addition, one (1) flag bearing the seal or trade mark of a private organization or entity may be displayed by an individual establishment or proprietor of any single building or parcel of land.
- (8) Signs of a decorative nature, not used for any commercial purpose and commonly associated with any national, local or religious holiday; provided that such Signs shall be displayed for a period of not more than sixty (60) consecutive days, nor more than sixty (60) days in any one year.
- (9) Political campaign Signs, not to exceed one sign per candidate or issue, and not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet of area per Sign, shall be permitted on all occupied lots, regardless of zoning. Political campaign Signs may not be displayed more than thirty (30) days before the election for which they are related and must be removed within ten (10) days thereafter.
- (10) Garage sale Signs not exceeding five (5) square feet in area and not displayed in excess of three (3) days.
- (11) One Sign identifying on site construction activity, during the time of construction, not exceeding twenty four (24) square feet in area. Such Signs shall not exceed eight (8') feet in height.
- (12) Help wanted Signs not exceeding six (6) square feet in area and four (4') feet in height may be displayed on private property for a period of up to four (4) weeks at a time and not more than four (4) times within each calendar year.
- (13) Crop identification Signs in the agricultural district.
- (14) Painting, re-painting, cleaning, maintenance, repair, and change of Sign message or graphics shall not be considered erection or alteration of a Sign which requires issuance of a Permit, provided that no structural alterations or additions to the display area are made.
- (15) Private traffic control on private property such as directional Signs. Such Signs may not exceed one and one half (1½) square feet or three (3') feet in height.

## SECTION 7.0 SIGNS AUTHORIZED WITH A PERMIT

The department may issue a permit for signs in accordance with the following provisions.

### (1) Agricultural/Floodplain/Conservation District Signs.

- a. **Wall, residential:** One (1) Wall Sign is permitted on a dwelling structure. The sign may be up to three (3) square feet in size and placed anywhere on the wall of the structure.
- b. **Wall, nonresidential:** Wall Sign is permitted on the principal structure of a non-residential use. The Sign may be up to thirty two (32) square feet in size and placed anywhere on the wall of the structure. Nonresidential uses with greater than four hundred (400) lineal feet of frontage on one road or located on a corner lot may have two (2) wall signs, each no greater than thirty two (32) square feet in size.
- c. **Integral Sign, nonresidential:** One (1) Integral Sign may be incorporated into the structure of the nondwelling on the parcel.
- d. **Freestanding/Monument nonresidential use:** One (1) Freestanding or Monument Sign is permitted for each parcel. The Freestanding or ground Sign may not exceed a height of five (5') feet above the uniform finished grade or thirty-two (32) square feet in size.
- e. **Neighborhood:** A single family residential neighborhood, mobile home park or multiple family residential development is permitted to have two (2) Monument Signs identifying the Residential Neighborhood for each street entrance. Such Signs shall not extend into any public right-of-way or proposed right-of-way. The face of each Sign shall not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet. Both Signs must be the same size. The height of the Signs may not exceed five (5) feet above the uniform finished grade.
- f. **Portable:** One (1) Portable Sign is permitted per parcel. The Sign shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet and shall not exceed a total of forty-five (45) days in any calendar year.

### (2) R1-A, R-1, R-2, R-3 & R-4 Residential Zoning Districts

- a. **Wall, residential:** One (1) Wall Sign is permitted on a dwelling structure. The Sign may be up to three (3) square feet in size and placed anywhere on the wall of the structure.
- b. **Wall, Nonresidential:** A wall Sign is permitted on a non-residential use. The Sign may be up to thirty two (32) square feet in size and placed anywhere on the wall of the structure. Nonresidential uses with greater than four hundred (400) lineal feet of frontage on one road or located on a corner lot may have two (2) Wall Signs, each no greater than thirty two (32) square feet in size.
- c. **Wall/marquee, residential multiple family:** One (1) Wall Sign is permitted on a nondwelling. The Sign may be up to thirty-two (32) square feet in size and placed anywhere on the wall of the structure. Nonresidential uses with greater than four hundred (400) lineal feet of frontage on one road or located on a corner lot may have two (2) Wall Signs, each no greater than thirty-two (32) square feet in size.
- d. **Neighborhood:** A residential neighborhood is permitted to have two (2) monument Residential Neighborhood Identification Signs for each street entrance. Such Signs shall

not extend into any public right-of-way or proposed right-of-way. The face of each Sign shall not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet. Both Signs must be the same size. The height of the Signs may not exceed five (5') feet above the uniform finished grade.

- e. **Freestanding/Monument, residential multiple family & nonresidential use signs.** A residential multiple family & nonresidential use in a residential area is permitted to have one Freestanding/Monument Sign not to exceed thirty two (32) square feet in area. The height of the Sign shall not exceed five (5') feet above uniform finished grade. Residential multiple family & nonresidential uses on corner lots may have up to two (2) Signs, each no more than thirty two (32) square feet. If only one Sign is used on a corner lot, each Sign face may be forty (40) square feet.
- f. **Portable:** One (1) Portable Sign is permitted per parcel. The Sign shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet and shall not exceed a total of forty-five (45) days in any calendar year.

**(3) B-1 Office Business Commercial, Zoning District**

- a. **Freestanding/Monument:** One (1) Freestanding or Monument sign is permitted for each B-1, Office Business developed parcel with up to four hundred (400') lineal feet in frontage on the public right of way. Such Signs shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet in size, limited to two faces back to back and a height of eight (8') feet above the uniform finished grade.

For parcels with greater than four hundred (400') lineal feet of frontage and less than twenty (20) acres in size, one (1) sixty-four (64) square foot Sign is permitted for each four hundred (400') lineal feet and fraction thereof. Each Sign must be located at least one hundred (100') feet from any other Sign on the same parcel, and twenty five (25') feet from any side lot line and must not block an existing property owner's previously erected Sign.

If the lot is a through lot, this regulation applies to the total frontage on both streets. This regulation does not apply on corner lots.

- b. **Wall/Marquee Sign:** A Wall Sign may not project more than twelve (12") inches from the surface of the building to which it is mounted [or into any right of way.]
- c. **Awning or Canopy Signs.** Awning or Canopy Signs shall not project more than seven (7') feet from the surface to which it is attached nor less than nine (9') feet above the average grade of a walking surface. Awning or Canopy Signs shall not extend more than twenty four (24") inches above the Roof Line.
- d. **Portable:** One (1) Portable Sign is permitted per parcel. The Sign shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet and shall not exceed a total of forty-five (45) days in any calendar year. There shall not be more than one Portable Sign displayed at any one time on each property.
- e. **Street banners:** Street Banners may extend across a public right of way subject to approval of Saginaw Charter Township Board and the Saginaw County Road Commission or Michigan Department of Transportation, but in no case may be displayed more than fourteen (14) days before an event and seven (7) days after an event.
- f. **Electronic Message Boards:** The portion of a Sign that is an electronic message board may not exceed one third (1/3) of the total sign size, including the supporting structures.
- g. **Billboards. Regulated through Zoning Ordinance.**

- h. Special Event Signs.** One (1) Special Event Sign is permitted per parcel. The Sign shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet or twenty (20') feet in diameter or sixteen (16') feet in height and shall not exceed a total of fifteen (15) days in any calendar year. There shall not be more than one Portable Sign displayed at any one time on each property.

**(4) B-2, B-3, B-3A & B-4 Commercial Zoning Districts**

- a. Freestanding/Monument:** One (1) Freestanding or Monument Sign is permitted for each B-3, Community Commercial developed parcel [with] up to four hundred (400') lineal feet in frontage on the public right of way. Such Signs shall not exceed sixty-four (64) square feet in size, limited to two faces back to back and a height of twelve (12') feet above the uniform finished grade.

For parcels with greater than four hundred (400') lineal feet of frontage, one (1) sixty-four (64) square foot Sign is permitted for each four hundred (400') lineal feet and fraction thereof. Each Sign must be located at least one hundred (100') feet from any other Sign on the same parcel.

If the lot is a through lot, this regulation applies to the total frontage on both streets. This regulation does not apply on corner lots.

- b. Regional Commercial Centers:** Two (2) Signs, not to exceed seventy-four (74) square feet each and twelve (12') feet in height, are permitted for each public road frontage.

One (1) Monument or ground mounted Sign is permitted at no more than two (2) entrances. The Monument or ground mounted Signs may be up to twenty-four (24) square feet and five (5') feet in height, for each entrance from a public road. These ground mounted or Monument Signs are only allowed if the other Signs on the parcel are farther than one hundred (100') feet from said entrance.

- c. Regional Plaza or Center Identification signs:** An additional sixteen (16) square feet of signage is permitted for use to identify the name of a plaza or center where multiple tenants are located. Lettering on this portion of the Sign must be at least twelve (12") inches in height.
- d. Wall/Marquee Sign:** A Wall Sign may not project more than twelve (12") inches from the surface of the building to which it is mounted or into any right of way.
- e. Awning or Canopy Signs.** Awning or Canopy Signs shall not project more than seven (7') feet from the surface to which it is attached nor less than eight (8') feet above the average grade of a walking surface. Awning or Canopy Signs shall not extend more than twenty four (24") inches above the Roof Line. In no event may Awning or Canopy Signs project into the right of way.
- f. Portable [Sign]:** One (1) Portable Sign is permitted per parcel. The Sign shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet and shall not exceed a total of forty-five (45) days in any calendar year. There shall not be more than one Portable Sign displayed at any one time on each property.
- g. Street Banners:** Street Banners may extend across a public right of way subject to approval of Saginaw Charter Township Board and the Saginaw County Road Commission or Michigan Department of Transportation, but in no case may be displayed more than fourteen

(14) days before an event and seven (7) days after an event.

- h. Electronic Message Boards:** The portion of a Sign that is an electronic message board may not exceed 1/3 of the total Sign size, including the supporting structures.
- i. Special Event Signs.** One (1) Special Event Sign is permitted per parcel. The Sign shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet or sixteen (16') feet in height and shall not exceed a total of fifteen (15) days in any calendar year. There shall not be more than one Portable Sign displayed at any one time on each property.
- j. Billboards. Regulated through Zoning Ordinance.**

**(5) M-1 & M-2 Industrial/Manufacturing Zoning Districts**

- a. Freestanding/Monument:** One (1) Freestanding or Monument Sign is permitted for each industrially developed parcel with up to four hundred (400') lineal feet in frontage on the public right of way. Such Signs shall not exceed sixty-four (64) square feet in size, limited to two faces back to back and a height of ten (10') feet above the uniform finished grade.

For parcels with greater than four hundred (400') lineal feet of frontage and less than twenty (20) acres in size, one (1) sixty-four (64) square foot Sign is permitted for each four hundred (400') lineal feet and fraction thereof. Each Sign must be located at least one hundred (100') feet from any other Sign on the same parcel, and twenty five (25') feet from any side lot line and must not block an existing property owner's previously erected Sign.

If the lot is a through lot, this regulation applies to the total frontage on both streets. This regulation does not apply on corner lots.

- b. Industrial Centers.** Two (2) Signs, not to exceed seventy-four (74) square feet each and twelve (12') feet in height, are permitted for each public road frontage.

One (1) Monument or ground mounted Sign is permitted at no more than two (2) entrances. The Monument or ground mounted Signs may be up to twenty-four (24) square feet and five (5') feet in height, for each entrance from a public road. These ground mounted or Monument Signs are only allowed if the other Signs on the parcel are farther than one hundred (100') feet from said entrance.

- c. Portable:** One (1) Portable Sign is permitted per parcel. The Sign shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet and shall not exceed a total of forty-five (45) days in any calendar year. There shall not be more than one Portable Sign displayed at any one time on each property.
- d. Billboards. Regulated through Zoning Ordinance.**

**REGULATIONS FOR SIGNS THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT-Also see regulations in the text by district**

ZONING DISTRICTS	SIGN TYPE	MAXIMUM SIGN SIZE PER PARCEL	HEIGHT
<b>AGRICULTURAL/ FLOODPLAIN CONSERVATION</b>	Wall, residential: Wall, nonresidential Integral, nonresidential: Freestanding/monument: Neighborhood: Portable:	3 sq. ft. 32 sq. ft. no limit 32 sq. ft. 24 sq. ft. 50 sq. ft.	wall height wall height no limit 5' 5' 5'
<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>	Wall, residential: Wall, nonresidential: Wall/marquee, Multiple Family Neighborhood: Freestanding/monument, nonresidential: Portable	3 sq. ft. 32 sq. ft. 32 sq. ft. 24 sq. ft. 32 sq. ft. 50 sq. ft.	wall height wall, height wall, height 5' 5' 5'
<b>B-1</b>	Freestanding/monument: Wall/Marquee: Awning/Canopy: Portable: Street banner: Electronic Message Board: Billboards	50 sq. ft. no limit see text 50 sq. ft. see text see text	8' wall height see text 5' see text see text Zoning Ord.
<b>B-2, B-3, B-3A &amp; B-4</b>	Freestanding/monument: Regional Commercial center: Regional Plaza/Center: Wall/Marquee: Awning/Canopy: Portable: Street banner: Electronic Message Boards: Special Event Signs: Billboards:	64 sq. ft. see text see text see text see text 50 sq. ft. see text see text see text	12' 12', see text 12' see text see text 5' see text see text see text Zoning Ord.
<b>INDUSTRIAL / MANUFACTURING</b>	Freestanding/Monument: Regional Industrial Center: Portable: Billboards:	64 sq. ft. see text 50 sq. ft.	10' 12' 5' Zoning Ord.

Note: The future Right-of-way line is determined by referencing the official right-of-way map kept by the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Saginaw County Road Commission.



## **SECTION 9.0 BONUS PROVISIONS FOR SIGN AREA IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS**

Bonus provisions apply to each sign on a parcel and may be cumulative, however, the total bonus area allowed in this section may not be greater than thirty (30%) of the total permitted sign area per sign without bonus provisions. In no case shall a sign exceed one hundred (100) square feet.

- (1) **Landscaping:** Ten percent (10%) bonus in the size of one Sign when any Freestanding or Monument Sign which is erected in a landscaped area. The landscaped areas must contain a minimum of two (2) square feet for each square foot of the Sign area. The landscape design must be approved by the Planning Commission or its designee.
- (2) **Setback:** Ten percent (10%) bonus in sign size for any Freestanding or Monument Sign setback an additional amount from the right of way line.

Sign located at the right of way = no bonus

Five (5') feet from the right of way = ten (10%) percent bonus

Ten (10') feet from the right of way = Twenty (20%) percent bonus

- (3) **Design:** A twenty (20%) bonus in Sign area will be allowed if at least fifty (50%) of the total sign structure is comprised of brick, stone or architectural block.

## **SECTION 10.0 CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS**

- (1) **Codes.** All Signs shall conform to the latest edition of the applicable building and electrical codes.
- (2) **Fastenings.** All Signs must remain safe and secure during the period of use. All parts of the Signs, including bolts and cables, shall remain painted, and free of corrosion.
- (3) **Fire Escapes.** A Sign may not obstruct a fire escape.
- (4) **Identification.** All Signs for which a Permit is required shall identify the name and operating telephone number of the Person responsible for the Sign.
- (5) **Display of Street Address.** The street address number shall be displayed on the primary freestanding identification Sign for each premises on land located in any commercial or industrial district. Display of street address numbers shall conform with the following standards:
  - a. Address number shall be displayed on the sign face or on the supporting structure of the Sign, at a minimum height of two (2') feet above grade.
  - b. The height of numbers shall be eight (8") inches.
  - c. If the premises which are identified by a primary freestanding identification Sign contains more than one street address number, the street address number displayed on the Sign shall identify the lower and upper ends of the address range to which the Sign pertains.

- d. Display of street address numbers on a Sign structure shall not be considered a Sign subject to the regulations contained in unless the height of the address numbers exceeds eight (8") inches, in which case the street address number shall be considered a Sign, subject to the limitations on size and number signs contained in this ordinance.
- (6) **Responsibility for Compliance.** The Owner of the Parcel on which a Sign is placed and the Person maintaining the Sign are each fully responsible for the condition and the maintenance of the Sign, and the area around the Sign.

## SECTION 11.0 ILLUMINATION

- (1) **Michigan Electrical Code.** Any electrical illumination of a Sign shall be done in full compliance with the Michigan Electrical Code as amended and adopted by the Township.
- (2) **Shading.** The light from any illuminated Sign shall be so shaded, shielded or directed that the light intensity or brightness will not be objectionable to occupants of surrounding properties, and so that no direct rays from the light source are visible from any public right-of-way or from abutting property.
- (3) **Intermittent lights.** Except as otherwise provided for in this ordinance, no Sign shall have blinking, flashing or fluttering lights or other illuminating devices, such as changing light intensity, brightness or color. No Sign shall utilize moving patterns of light so as to convey an illusion of motion or animation. Beacon lights are not permitted.
- (4) **Colored lights.** No colored lights shall be used at any location or in any manner so as to be confused with or construed as traffic control devices.
- (5) **Reflection.** Neither the direct, nor reflected light from primary light sources shall create a traffic hazard to operators of motor vehicles on public streets.
- (6) **Exposed bulbs.** No exposed reflective type bulbs, no strobe lights, and no incandescent lamps which exceed forty (40) watts shall be used so as to expose the face of the bulb, light or lamp to any public street or adjacent property.

## SECTION 12.0 NONCONFORMING SIGNS

- (1) **Intent.** This ordinance is intended to encourage the eventual elimination of signs that do not comply with the ordinance. The elimination of Non-Conforming Signs is as much a subject of health, safety, and welfare as is the prohibition of new Signs in violation of this ordinance. Therefore, this ordinance attempts to realize the removal of Non-Conforming Signs and to avoid any unreasonable invasion of established property rights.
- (2) **Continuance.** A Nonconforming Sign may be continued during the useful life of the Sign if it is maintained in good condition. It shall not, however, be replaced by another Nonconforming Sign. It may not be structurally altered so as to prolong the useful life of the Sign. It may not be reestablished after damage or destruction if the Department determines that the estimated cost of reconstruction exceeds fifty (50%) percent of the estimated replacement costs.

All Nonconforming Signs in existence at the time of adoption of this Ordinance are presumed to have a useful life that ends on February 26, 2016, after which time, they must come into conformance with this Ordinance.

Any Nonconforming Sign owner who believes their Nonconforming Sign has a useful life beyond February 26, 2016, may file a petition with the Sign Board of Appeals, no earlier than February 26, 2015, requesting determination be made that a Nonconforming Sign's useful life be extended beyond February 26, 2016.

The Sign Board of Appeals, after hearing as provided in this Ordinance, may determine that such Sign has a different useful life than established by this Ordinance, and if so, shall determine the remaining useful life of such Sign.

All petitions to extend the useful life of a Nonconforming Sign shall include the following information:

- a. Copies of all leases for the Sign for the last five (5) years;
  - b. Copies of all maintenance records for the Sign for the last five (5) years;
  - c. A description of all deferred maintenance on the Sign that needs to be accomplished and the estimated cost;
  - d. The square footage of the Sign;
  - e. The height of the Sign above ground level; and
  - f. A drawing showing the position of the Sign and all other structures on the parcel and all roads abutting the property.
  - g. Date when Sign was installed.
  - h. Initial capital cost of Sign.
- (3) **Nuisance.** An unsafe or abandoned sign is declared a public nuisance that shall be abated.
- (4) **Inventory.** The department shall inventory all nonconforming signs within one (1) year of the adoption of this ordinance.
- (5) **Condemnation.** The Township Board may initiate proceedings and prosecute for condemnation of non-conforming signs under the power of eminent domain in accordance with Article 149 of the Public Acts of 1911, as amended, being section 213.21 through 213.41 of the Michigan Compiled Laws or other appropriate statutes.

## **SECTION 13.0 SIGN PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

- (1) **Permit.** A permit is not required for "Signs Authorized Without a Permit." A permit must first be obtained from the department for all other signs. The permit process is intended to review compliance with height, dimensional, construction and other similar provisions of this ordinance. It is not intended to review the content of the message to be displayed.
- (2) **Application.** Applications for Sign Permits shall be made upon a form provided by the department for this purpose. The application shall contain the following information.
- a. Name, address, phone, and if available, fax and e-mail, of the person applying for the Permit.
  - b. Name, address, phone, and if available, fax and e-mail, of the Person owning the parcel

upon which the Sign is proposed to be placed.

- c. Address and permanent parcel number of the property on which the Sign is or will be located.
  - d. Identification of the type of Sign (Monument, Freestanding, Wall etc.)
  - e. Name of business or name of premises to which the Sign belongs or relates.
  - f. Two copies of the plans and specifications. The method of construction and/or attachment to a building, or in the ground, shall be explained in the plans and specifications.
  - g. Copy of stress sheets and calculations, if deemed necessary by the department, showing the structure as designed for dead load and wind pressure as determined by the building code.
  - h. Name, address, phone, and if available, fax and e-mail of the Person erecting the Sign.
  - i. Such other information, other than the content of the message to be displayed, as the department may require to show compliance with this Sign ordinance, and any other applicable laws.
  - j. The seal or certificate of a registered structural or civil engineer, when required by the department.
  - k. The zoning district in which the Sign is to be placed.
  - l. A notice stating: "Any change in the information in this application, such as a change of address, shall be submitted to the department within 7 days after the change."
- (2) **Site Plan.** Three copies of a sketch illustrating where the Sign will be on the site with setbacks accurately dimensioned. The sketch should also show the location of all existing buildings, roads, parking areas, signs, entrances and exits on the site.
- (3) **Sign Drawing.** Three copies of a drawing of the proposed Sign(s) shall include all of the following detailed information.
- a. Height of the sign above finished grade.
  - b. Surface of the Sign (material, color and dimensions)
  - c. Dimensions and display area of the proposed Sign.
  - d. The proposed graphic images and text to be displayed on the Sign.
  - e. Such additional information and detail as the Director of Community Development deems necessary and/or pertinent to the application.
- (4) **Neighborhood Identification Signs.** Applications for Neighborhood Identification Signs shall include the following additional documents and information:
- a. A description of the property interest of the applicant and any other parties interest to the site where the identification Sign will be located.

- b. Evidence, satisfactory to the township attorney, of the right to construct such identification Sign on the site.
- c. Existing or proposed sign and landscape easement(s) for the identification Sign.
- d. Existing or proposed Neighborhood Identification Sign construction and maintenance agreement.

Applications for Neighborhood Identification Signs shall be submitted and reviewed separately from the subdivision or site plan review process.

- (5) **Portable Signs.** All information required for the submission of permanent Signs shall be required for the submission of a portable Sign.
- (6) **Review Procedures.** The Department shall have the sole authority to approve or deny applications for portable or permanent signs. The Department shall review the application for conformance with the requirements of the ordinance. The Department may refer any application for Sign approval to the Board of Appeals for their review. The application shall be either approved or denied within 14 days of the submittal date. Submittals shall comply with the following:
  - a. Sign applications that conform to all applicable ordinance standards shall be approved.
  - b. All applications for Sign permits that are incomplete or do not meet the requirements of this ordinance shall be denied.
  - c. An approval of a Sign permit may be conditioned upon compliance with reasonable conditions or limitations regarding the character of the Sign, the surroundings in which it is to be displayed, and the purpose of this ordinance.
  - d. Approved applications for permanent Signs shall be reviewed by the Township Building Department for conformity with all Building Codes in effect in the Township, and if in compliance therewith, the Building Inspector shall issue the appropriate Sign permit.
- (7) **Permit Fees.** Permit fees for Signs shall be established by resolution of the governing body of this municipality. The permit fees must relate to the cost of issuing the permit and may vary based on the size, type, and height of the Sign.
- (8) **False Information.** A Person providing false information under this ordinance shall be guilty of a civil infraction.
- (9) **Permits issued.** Applicants meeting the provision of this ordinance shall be issued a permit within fourteen days (14) of submitting a complete application.

## **SECTION 14.0 ADMINISTRATION**

- (1) **Administrator.** The Department shall appoint personnel to administer and enforce the terms and conditions of this ordinance and all other provisions relating to Signs.

(2) **Enforcement.** The Department shall issue permits, as required by this ordinance. The department shall also ensure Signs comply with this ordinance and any other applicable law. The Department shall also enforce the requirement that all Signs properly comply with this ordinance by procuring a permit. The Department shall make such inspections as may be necessary and shall initiate appropriate action to enforce compliance with this ordinance and other applicable Sign laws.

(3) **Department Powers.** The Department shall have the power and authority to administer and enforce this ordinance. Included among such powers are the following specific powers:

- a. Every Sign for which a permit is required shall be subject to the inspection and approval of the department. When deemed advisable, a Sign may be inspected at the point of manufacture.
- b. Upon presentation of proper identification to the sign owner or owner's agent, the Department may enter the Sign area for purposes of inspecting the Sign, Sign structure, and any fasteners securing the Sign to a building or support.

In cases of emergency, where imminent hazards to persons or property are known to exist, and where the Sign owner, or owner's agent, is not readily available, the Department may enter the Sign area for purposes of inspection or remediation. When on private property, the Department shall observe rules and regulations concerning safety, internal security, and fire protection.

If the Department is denied admission to inspect any Sign, inspection shall be made only under authority of a warrant issued by a court of proper jurisdiction. When applying for such warrant, the Department shall submit an affidavit setting forth a belief that a violation of this ordinance exists with respect to a particular sign, and the reasons for forming this belief. The affidavit shall designate the place and name of the person believed to own or possess the Sign. If the court finds probable cause exists for the search of the Sign, and supporting structures, then a warrant authorizing the search shall be issued. The warrant shall describe the property with sufficient certainty to identify the same. This warrant shall constitute authority for the department to enter the Sign area and to inspect the property.

- c. Upon issuance of a stop order from the Department, work on any Sign that is being conducted in any manner contrary to this ordinance shall be immediately stopped. This notice and order shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of the parcel, the Sign owner, or to the person performing the work. The stop order shall state the conditions under which work may be resumed. The police department shall have authority to enforce a stop order.
- d. The Department has the authority to revoke any permit authorized by this ordinance if the Sign violates this ordinance or another law, provided that the Department shall offer the Sign owner an opportunity to be heard. The person whose permit is under consideration shall be given at least ten (10) days written notice of the time, place, and reason for the hearing. The Sign owner and/or person identified in the permit shall be permitted to present relevant facts and legal argument concerning the pending revocation. Following this hearing, the Department shall consider the merits of the case and shall present a written opinion prior to any action. If, however, the Department believes the health, safety, or welfare of the citizens is endangered by any violation of



this ordinance, the Department may immediately revoke any Sign permits.

- e. A Sign installed after the effective date of this ordinance, and not conforming to this ordinance, shall be removed by the owner. The Sign owner shall not be entitled to compensation for the Sign removal and shall reimburse the Department for any costs incurred in connection with the removal.
- f. Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be guilty of a civil infraction. Each day on which a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense. In addition, the municipal attorney is authorized to take all action, legal, injunctive and equitable, to assure compliance with this ordinance.

## **SECTION 15.0 SIGN BOARD OF APPEALS:**

- (1) **Sign Board of Appeals.** The Saginaw Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals shall constitute the Sign Board of Appeals for the purpose of this ordinance and a quorum shall consist of three (3) members.
- (2) **Appeals Authorized:**
  - a. Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Building Inspector or Code Enforcement officer relative to the placement, area, height and construction of a Sign may appeal such decision to the township sign Board of Appeals. Such appeal shall be taken by the Zoning Administrator.
  - b. Whenever the strict application of requirements of this ordinance may pose demonstrable practical difficulty with regard to placement, area, height and construction of a Sign an appeal for variance from such requirements may be filed with the Zoning Administrator on a form provided for such purpose.
  - c. The Zoning Administrator or his/her designee(s) shall then place the appeal on a regular meeting agenda of the Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of filing.
  - d. Within sixty (60) days of receipt, the Board of Appeals shall render a final decision in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.
  - e. A decision of the board shall become final upon approval of the minutes of the meeting or the expiration of five (5) township business days from the date of the decision, whichever occurs sooner, unless the board finds that immediate effect is necessary to preserve a substantial property right, and so certifies in the record of the decision.
- (3) **Fees.** Any person filing an appeal with the Township Sign Board of Appeals shall fill out the necessary appeal form provided by the Zoning Administrator and shall pay a filing fee, as established by resolution of the Township Board.
- (4) **Appeal Procedure.**
  - a. The Zoning Administrator or his/her designee(s) shall give notice of all hearings to all owners of record of real property within three hundred (300') feet of the premises in question; such notice shall be delivered by first class mail addressed to the respective owners at the address given in the last assessment roll.
  - b. All persons appealing shall be required to appear in person or to be represented by a duly

authorized agent.

- c. The Board of Appeals shall prepare an official record for each appeal and shall base its decision on this record. The official record shall include:
  - 1. The relevant administrative records and administrative orders issued herein relating to the appeal.
  - 2. The appeal form.
  - 3. The requisite written findings of fact, the conditions attached, the decisions and orders by the Board of Appeals disposing the appeal, signed by the chairman of the board.
  - 4. Any other documentation submitted in support or opposition of the appeal.
- d. The appellant shall be prepared to furnish a site drawing, photograph, and any other means of proof, to the Sign Board of Appeals to demonstrate that a hardship or practical difficulty exists.

**(5) Action of Sign Board of Appeals.**

- a. The Sign Board of Appeals shall have the power to modify or reverse, wholly or partly, the notice or order, and may grant an extension of time for the performance of any act required of not more than three (3) additional months, where the Sign Board of Appeals finds that there is a practical difficulty resulting from the application of the provisions of this ordinance, and that such extension is in harmony with the general purpose of this ordinance to secure the public health, safety and welfare.
- b. The Sign Board of Appeals shall return a decision upon each petition within sixty (60) days after a request or appeal has been filed, unless a longer time is agreed upon by the parties concerned; however, the Sign Board of Appeals may not order action on a petition until its regularly scheduled meeting.
- c. The concurring vote of a majority of the members of the Sign Board of Appeals shall be necessary to reverse, wholly or partly, or modify any order, requirement, decision, or determination of the building official or code enforcement officer; or to decide in favor of the applicant on any matter upon which the sign Board of Appeals required to consider or to effect any variation the provisions of this ordinance.
- d. After a variance has been denied in whole or in part by the Sign Board of Appeals, then such petition shall not be resubmitted for a period of one year from the date of the last denial, provided however, that a denied variance may be reconsidered by the Sign Board of Appeals within said one year period, when, in the opinion of the Building Official, or Code Enforcement Officer or Sign Board of Appeals, newly discovered evidence or changed conditions warrant such reconsideration.
- e. Scope of Hearing. At the hearing, the petitioner shall be given an opportunity to show cause why the notice or order should be modified or withdrawn, or why the period of time permitted for compliance should be extended.

- (6) Stay.** An appeal shall stay all proceedings in furtherance of the action appealed from unless the building inspector certifies to the Sign Board of Appeals, that by reason of facts stated in the certificate, imminent harm to persons or property exists, in which case the proceedings shall not be stayed, except by an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

- (7) **Variances.** A variance may be allowed by the Sign Board of Appeals in cases only involving practical difficulties when the evidence in the official record of the appeal supports all of the following affirmative findings:
- a. That the alleged practical difficulties are exceptional and peculiar to the property of the person requesting the variance, and result from conditions which do not exist generally throughout the township.
  - b. That the alleged practical difficulties which will result from a failure to grant the variance, include substantially more than mere inconvenience, or mere inability to attain a higher financial return.
  - c. That allowing the variance will result in substantial justice being done, considering the public benefits intended to be secured by this ordinance, the individual hardships that will be suffered by a failure to grant a variance, and the rights of others whose property would be affected by the allowance of the variance, and will not be contrary to the public purpose and general intent and purpose of this ordinance.
- The above findings of fact shall be made by the Sign Board of Appeals, which is not empowered to grant a variance without an affirmative finding of fact in each of the categories above. Every finding of fact shall be supported in the record of the proceedings of the board.
- d. In the case of an appeal for extension of the useful life of a Nonconforming Sign, the Sign Board of Appeals finds that there is significant useful life remaining in the Sign based on recent maintenance and initial capital costs that has not been amortized by the owner or leasee.
- (8) **Review by Circuit Court.** Any party aggrieved by a final decision of the Board of Appeals may obtain a review thereof both on the facts and the law in Saginaw County Circuit Court.

#### **SECTION 16.0 SEVERABILITY AND CONFLICT.**

- (1) **Severability.** This Ordinance and its parts, are declared to be severable. If any section, clause, provision, or portion of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this decision shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole. All parts of the Ordinance not declared invalid or unconstitutional shall remain in full force and effect.
- (2) **Conflict.** If any part of this Ordinance is found to be in conflict with any other Ordinance or with any other part of this Ordinance, the most restrictive or highest standard shall prevail. If any part of this Ordinance is explicitly prohibited by federal or state statute, it shall not be enforced.

#### **SECTION 17.0 EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Ordinance shall take effective 30 days after date of publication.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Charter Township of Saginaw, County of Saginaw, and State of Michigan, at a regular meeting thereof, held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, in order to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
GEORGE L. OLSON, Township Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
TIMOTHY J. BRAUN, Township Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Ordinance as passed by the Township Board for the Charter Township of Saginaw at a regular Board Meeting on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

\_\_\_\_\_  
TIMOTHY J. BRAUN, Township Clerk

I further certify that the foregoing was published in \_\_\_\_\_, a newspaper of general circulation in the Charter Township of Saginaw, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

\_\_\_\_\_  
TIMOTHY J. BRAUN, Township Clerk