

MONROE TOWNSHIP, MIDDLESEX COUNTY

ORDINANCE NO.: O-9-2026-019

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
AMENDING CHAPTER 108 ARTICLE 10, "SIGNS,"
TO EXTEND THE TIME OF PLACING POLITICAL SIGNS PRIOR TO ELECTION
OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, (hereinafter the "Township") is a public body corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:48-2 authorizes the Township to make, amend, repeal and enforce ordinances it may deem necessary and proper for the good government, order and protection of persons and property, and for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the municipality and its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-62 authorizes municipalities to adopt zoning ordinances relating to the nature and extent of the uses of land and of buildings and structures thereon; and

WHEREAS, the current length of time to place political signs is inadequate as Mail-in ballots are delivered on or before forty-five (45) days before election day; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to amend Chapter 108, Land Development, of the Township Code to amend subsection 108-10.1, Signs; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to amend the Code in accordance with the terms provided for herein; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Deletions are indicated by ~~strikethroughs~~

Additions are indicated in **bold underline**

Language that remains unchanged is not highlighted in anyway

SECTION I. Subsection 108-10.1 in Chapter CVIII, Land Development, of the Code is hereby amended as follows:

§ 108-10.1 Signs.

* * *

F. Signs permitted without a permit. The following signs shall be permitted in any zone in the Township without a permit:

- 1) On-site nonilluminated directional signs identifying parking areas, loading zones, entrances, exits and similar locations. The signs may include a business name or professional name but shall not include any advertising message and shall not exceed three square feet.
- 2) Temporary and permanent traffic signs and signals installed by the Township, county or state for the purpose of directing and regulating the flow of traffic.
- 3) Signs indicating public transportation stops when installed by the Township or a public transportation utility.
- 4) Historical tablets, cornerstones, memorial plaques and emblems which do not exceed six square feet in area and which are installed by government agencies or civil religious organizations.
- 5) Warning and no-trespassing signs, not exceeding three square feet in area.
- 6) Flags or emblems of public interest, religious, educational, civic or governmental organizations flown from supports on the buildings or grounds occupied by the organization and the American flag whenever and wherever flown in accordance with the law and rules promulgated by the federal government, provided that their size does not exceed eight feet by 10 feet.

- 7) The name and number plates identifying residents and affixed to a house, apartment or mailbox, not exceeding 50 square inches in area.
- 8) Lawn signs identifying residents, not exceeding one and one-half (1 1/2) square feet in area for each side. The signs shall not contain any advertising message and shall be nonilluminated, except by a light which is an integral part of a lamppost if used as a support.
- 9) Signs posted by governmental agencies or pursuant to governmental statute, order or regulation.
- 10) Signs which are an integral part of vending machines, including gasoline pumps, milk machines, soda machines and ATM machines provided that they do not exceed the height or width of the machine on which they are located. No additional signs shall be provided at the facility or added to the machine beyond the height or width of the machine.
- 11) Real estate signs, announcing the sale, rental or lease of the premises on which the sign is located, such sign not to exceed four square feet in area. If double-faced, the sign shall not exceed eight square feet in area for both sides. The sign shall be nonilluminated. Such sign shall not be closer to the line than 1/2 the distance between the building line and the lot line, as defined by this chapter. Such signs shall not be located closer to other such signs than one in every 200 feet, measured either along the front of a lot or along the depth of a lot.
- 12) Temporary signs or other advertising materials attached to a window shall be removed at the expiration of the event for which it was erected or posted. No more than 20% of the square footage of any single window or single window display area shall be devoted to signs or other advertising material attached thereto or otherwise exposed to public view.
- 13) Temporary signs for advertising public functions or fund-raising events for charitable or religious organizations shall be permitted for a period of 21 days prior to and during the event and shall be removed within five days after the event. The sign shall be nonilluminated, not larger than 12 square feet in area, not exceeding eight feet in height and may be erected flat against the building or freestanding.
- 14) Temporary political signs, no greater than 20 square feet in size, shall be permitted ~~no earlier than~~ **beginning forty-five (45) days prior to the last date to send out Mail-in ballots provided by law for** an election and shall be removed within 10 days after the election. No sign shall be placed on trees, fences, utility poles or light poles, or attached to other signs.

* * *

SECTION II. It is the intent of the Municipal Council to incorporate the additions, amendments and/or supplements contained in this Ordinance in to the Code. All of the remaining provisions in Chapter CVIII of the Code shall remain unchanged and have full force and legal effect. All other resolutions and ordinances governing political signs enacted and inconsistent herewith are hereby modified pursuant to the terms of this Ordinance.

SECTION III. The codifier is authorized to renumber, reletter, redesignate, and make such nonsubstantive formatting, cross-reference, and organizational changes as are necessary to give effect to the amendments adopted by this Ordinance. Any list, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, table, or other provision whose numbering or lettering has been altered by the deletion, addition, or relocation of provisions shall be adjusted accordingly to maintain a logical and sequential order. Such renumbering, relettering, redesignation, and related editorial changes shall not be construed as substantive amendments to the Code.

SECTION IV. This Ordinance shall take effect after twenty (20) days of its final passage by the Municipal Council, upon approval by the Mayor and publication as required by law.

SO ORDAINED, as aforesaid.

RUPA P. SIEGEL, Council President

RECORDED VOTE – INTRODUCTION – September 2, 2026						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman Cohen	X		X			
Councilman Dipierro		X	X			
Councilman Van Dzura			X			
Council V. President Markel			X			
Council President Siegel			X			

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Monroe Township Council held on September 2, 2026. Said Ordinance will again be read and considered for final passage at the next scheduled meeting of the Monroe Township Council to be held on October 5, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the Monroe Township Municipal Building, 1 Municipal Plaza, Monroe Township, New Jersey 08831. At said time and place all persons having an interest in the foregoing Ordinance will be granted an opportunity to be heard concerning the same prior to consideration for final passage by the Council.

CHRISTINE ROBBINS, Township Clerk

RECORDED VOTE – SECOND READING & FINAL ADOPTION – October 5, 2026						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman Cohen						
Councilman Dipierro						
Councilman Van Dzura						
Council V. President Markel						
Council President Siegel						

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MAYORAL APPROVAL

By virtue of the Optional Municipal Charter Law of 1950 and Chapter 3, Section 19 of the Code of the Township of Monroe, my approval of this Ordinance is effected by the affixing of my signature hereto.

STEPHEN DALINA, Mayor

Date signed: _____