

COMMON COUNCIL

January 17, 2023

Mayor Brian Doliver presided at a meeting of the Common Council held at 6:30 PM on January 17, 2023, in the Common Council Chambers at One Court Plaza.

Present:

Mayor Brian Doliver
Ald. Eric Warren
Ald. Fred Gee
Ald. Nancy Allaire
Ald. William Loomis
Ald. David Zieno
Ald. Robert D. Jeffrey

Also:

Director of Human Resources Lynn Murray
DPW Superintendent Edward Pepe
Fire Chief Jan Papelino
Police Chief Rodney Marsh
EMO Stephen Cady
Community Development Director Erik Scrivener
City Attorney Stephanie Hanrahan

Supervisor Robert M. Jeffrey

Media Representative: none

Absent

Supervisor James McNeil

Call to Order

The meeting of the Common Council was called to order by Mayor Doliver at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ald. Gee **moved** to approve the minutes of the special meeting of December 6 and the regular meeting of December 12, 2022. Seconded by Ald. Loomis and duly approved ayes all.

Public Hearing – Chapter 465 Signs – Mayor Doliver opened the public hearing at 6:31 p.m.

Patti Giltner, 16 Pellet St., thanked the Council for the work done on the Signs Ordinance over the last 5 years.

Ald. Zieno thanked the Planning Commission for their work on the Ordinance.

Hearing no further comment, Mayor Doliver closed the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m.

Public Hearing – Declaring Zoning Immunity for Bike Park Creation on Borden Ave. - Mayor Doliver opened the public hearing at 6:35 p.m. Hearing no comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:36 p.m.

Open Forum

Patti Giltner, 16 Pellet St., said that the deer population in her neighborhood is a problem, causing havoc with plants, gardens and the possible disease they carry. She stated that it is difficult to walk in her yard due to the amount of deer scat and wondered what can be done about the deer.

Mayor Doliver said he knows other communities that the same problem and he would reach out to them. Ald. Jeffrey reported that a family in Ward 3 has started a petition for submission to the DEC to address such a matter. He will check into that as well.

Department, Board and Commission Reports

- ◆ George Rider Co. Minutes – December
- ◆ Maydole Hose Co. Minutes – December
- ◆ Ontario Hose Co. Minutes – December, January
- ◆ Youth Board Report – 4th Quarter
- ◆ Youth Board Minutes (no quorum) – January
- ◆ Traffic Commission Minutes – December, January

- ◆ Human Resource Report – September, October, November, December
- ◆ Finance Report – November
- ◆ Fire Department Report – Year End 2022

Ald. Warren **moved** to receive and file the department, board, and commission reports. Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, approved ayes all.

Council Appointment

Traffic Commission

- ◆ *Vivian James, 57 Fair Street, appointed to fill the remainder of a three-year term expiring December 31, 2023.*

Ald. Jeffrey **moved** to approve the appointment of Vivian James to the Traffic Commission. Seconded by Ald. Warren, approved ayes all.

Ward Reports

Ward 1

Ald. Warren had no communications to report.

Ward 2

Ald. Gee reported communications regarding hedges and the dog feces in West Park Place.

Ward 3

Ald. Allaire reported a zoning issue which has been resolved and speeding on Canasawacta St.

Ward 4

Ald. Loomis reported communications regarding a Code issue on Gold St. He highlighted the positive happenings in Ward 4 include the razing of the Mirabito's building on Mitchell St., recent renovations at the old Hart's Electric building, several properties on Rexford and Silver Sts. have taken advantage of the Curb Appeal program, and the outstanding project at the Northeast Classic Car Museum.

Ward 5

Ald. Zieno reported a communication for DPW that has been forwarded. He continues to receive questions regarding homelessness and a warming center.

Ward 6

Ald. Jeffrey reported a complaint regarding the signs that are in bad shape at the intersection of Ross Ave. and W. Midland Dr. He fielded questions about garbage on Westcott St. which has been resolved; the crow problem in East Park which has been forwarded to the proper department; questions on fencing in City parking lots, the B.I.D. lighting, and an issue on Birdsall St. and questions about sidewalks/sidewalk replacements during the Water Main Replacement and Paving Projects.

Ald. Jeffrey **moved** to receive and file the ward reports. Seconded by Ald. Warren, approved ayes all.

Resolutions

RESOLUTION #2 - 2023

AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF THE 2016 RESTORE NY GRANT REIMBURSEMENT FOR 45 SILVER STREET

Ald. Warren introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich was awarded \$120,000 in the Restore NY Grant Round 4 for the redevelopment of 45 Silver Street; and

WHEREAS, 45 Silver Street has been redeveloped and sold; and

WHEREAS, the deadline to close out the project will be expiring; and

WHEREAS, an extension is necessary in order to apply for distribution of the \$120,000 reimbursement; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that an extension of the Restore NY Round 4 deadline for the 45 Silver Street project is hereby approved in order to apply for reimbursement of the \$120,000.

Seconded by Ald. Allaire, and duly adopted, 6 - 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #3 - 2023 **AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY GENERATOR REPAIR**

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, the emergency generator at the Fire Department is need of repairs; and

WHEREAS, a quoted for the recommended repairs will be \$13,705 requiring a transfer of funds; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfer of funds in the 2023 Budget:

<u>From:</u>		
<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
HR33	Municipal Buildings and Facilities	\$13,705
<u>To:</u>		
<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1620.4040	Municipal Buildings – Repairs/Maintenance	\$13,705

Seconded by Gee, and duly adopted, 6 - 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #4 - 2023 **ADOPTING PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. (A) OF 2023 REGARDING SIGNS**

Ald. Zieno introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Common Council received proposed Ordinance No. (A) of 2023 on December 12, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held January 17, 2023 in connection with said proposed ordinance; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. (A) of 2023, regarding Chapter 465 Signs, as presented to the Common Council on December 12, 2022, be and hereby is adopted, and hereby designated as Ordinance No. 1 of 2023.

ORDINANCE NO. (1)
OF 2023

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 465 - Signs
OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NORWICH

BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Norwich, New York, as follows:

Chapter 465 Signs

SEE 14 PAGE ATTACHMENT

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey, and duly adopted, 6 - 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #5 - 2023

**AUTHORIZING END OF YEAR 2022 BUDGET TRANSFER FOR
PAYROLL ACCRUAL**

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, funds need to be reallocated among line items to cover the cost of expenses through December 31, 2022; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfers in the 2022 Budgets:

From:

<u>Account Number:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A3410.1010	Fire Department – Personal Services	\$ 7,577.63
A3620.1010	Code Enforcement - Personal Services	<u>\$ 7,284.72</u>
		\$14,862.35

To:

<u>Account Number:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A3410.1020	Fire Department - Overtime	\$14,862.35

From:

<u>Account Number:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A5110.1010	Street Maintenance – Personal Services	\$16,250.97

To:

<u>Account Number:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A3120.1010	Police Department – Personal Services	\$16,250.97

From:

<u>Account Number:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A5110.1010	Street Maintenance – Personal Services	\$ 5,333.46
A5142.1010	Snow & Ice Removal – Personal Services	<u>\$10,489.87</u>
		\$15,823.33

To:

<u>Account Number:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A3120.1020	Police Department – Overtime	\$15,823.33

Seconded by Ald. Warren and duly adopted, 6 – 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #6 - 2023

AUTHORIZING TRANSFER FOR HUMAN RESOURCES PERSONAL SERVICES

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, the 2022 Personal Services line for Human Resources is over- budget by \$10,900; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance be and hereby is authorized to make the following transfers in the 2022 Budgets:

<u>From:</u>		
<u>Account Number:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A1990.4	Contingency	\$10,900

<u>To:</u>		
<u>Account Number:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A1430.1010	Human Resource – Personal Services	\$10,900

Seconded by Ald. Loomis and duly adopted, 6 – 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #7 - 2023. AMENDING VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC ORDINANCE RELATIVE TO STOP STREETS AT INTERSECTION OF HENRY AND GUERNSEY STREETS

Ald. Allaire introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 90-4 of the Vehicle and Traffic Ordinance of the City of Norwich, the Common Council has been granted the authority to make, promulgate and enforce reasonable rules and regulations governing and designating parking, parking spaces, safety and loading zones, one-way streets and streets for through traffic; and

WHEREAS, the Traffic Commission has made certain recommendations concerning designating STOP signs at the intersection of Henry and Guernsey Streets in the City of Norwich; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Section 90-50, Streets Designated, of the Vehicle and Traffic Ordinance of the City of Norwich, be and hereby is amended as follows:

Guernsey Street is hereby designated a STOP STREET at the intersection of Henry Street

Underlined material is new.

This shall take effect immediately.

Seconded by Ald. Warren and duly adopted, 5 - 1 on a roll call vote with Ald. Loomis voting nay.

RESOLUTION #8 - 2023. DECLARING THE CITY OF NORWICH IMMUNE TO ZONING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A BIKE PARK ON BORDEN AVENUE

Ald. Warren introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, the creation of a Bike Park on City-owned property located at Borden Avenue is desired; and

WHEREAS, certain acts of government may be immune to zoning when undertaking development activities and several factors are used to determine whether it is in the public interest to declare themselves immune from their zoning. Parks/open space are not allowed in the Industrial Zone and the nine factors supporting the immunity follow:

1. The nature and scope of the instrumentality seeking immunity: The city is proposing park/open space for the development of the Norwich Bike Park on a 3.10-acre, city-owned parcel on Borden Avenue. The parcel is within the 100-year flood plain and will likely not be developed for any other use.

2. The encroaching government's legislative grant of authority:
The grant of authority will be determined by the City of Norwich Common Council.

3. The kind of function or land use involved:

The conversion of vacant land in the Industrial Zone to park/open space that is not permitted in the zone. The parcel is unlikely to be an industrial use as it is in the flood plain and is near the floodway.

4. The effect local land use regulation would have upon the enterprise concerned:

Not permitting the use will delay site planning and grant funding requests.

5. Alternative locations for the facility in less restrictive zoning areas:

Existing parks and city-owned parcels have been considered in less restrictive zoning areas. There were concerns such as loss of open space in existing parks and lack of area for future development. The proposed location is ideal with the proximity to the Greenway.

6. The impact upon legitimate local interests:

The proposed project has received positive interest from the City of Norwich Parks Commission, Youth Board, and the Planning Commission. The city released a community survey, and the project was overwhelmingly supported by the respondents. The Comprehensive Plan supports opportunities for youth in the city.

7. Alternative methods of providing the proposed improvement:

The alternative methods include creating a new zoning classification and amending the zoning ordinance. This is a city-owned parcel and creating open space by resolution instead of seeking a zoning amendment is much more efficient and will move the project forward.

8. The extent of the public interest to be served by the improvements:

Positive improvements. New recreational opportunities to support a growing sport and a controlled training environment before a rider moves on to intermediate and advanced trails.

9. Intergovernmental participation in the project development process and an opportunity to be heard:

The project has been presented to the Joint Committee, Parks Commission, Youth Board, and the Planning Commission. A public survey has been released for input and the results support this project; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Common Council declares the City of Norwich immune from its zoning laws as it pertains to the creation of a Bike Park on City-owned parcel #136.25-1-1.21 located at Borden Avenue.

Seconded by Ald. Gee and duly adopted, 6 – 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION # 9 - 2023

DECLARING THE CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AS OPEN SPACE/PARK LAND

Ald. Loomis introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, the creation of a Bike Park on City-owned parcel No. 136.25-1-1.21 located at Borden Avenue is desired; and

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate creation of the Bike Park the City declares parcel No. 136.25-1-1.21 located at Borden Avenue as Open Space/Park Space; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that parcel No. 136.25-1-1.21 located at Borden Avenue is hereby declared Open Space/Park Space in the City of Norwich.

Seconded by Ald. Jeffrey and duly adopted, 6 – 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #10 - 2023

APPOINTMENT OF MEO II IN THE DPW

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, vacancies exist in the Norwich DPW Department, and;

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of DPW has recommended certain appointments to fill such vacancies; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Jason Burress of Bainbridge, NY, be and hereby is granted a permanent appointment as a full time MEO II to the Norwich DPW Department with a starting salary of \$15.05 per hour January 18, 2023; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the appointment is contingent upon successfully passing the required medical examination, background check and any action necessary from the Norwich Civil Service Commission.

Seconded by Ald. Allaire and duly adopted, 6 - 0, on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #11 - 2023

APPOINTMENT OF MEO I IN THE DPW

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, vacancies exist in the Norwich DPW Department, and;

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of DPW has recommended certain appointments to fill such vacancies; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Lucas Beebe of Bainbridge, NY, be and hereby is granted a permanent appointment as a full time MEO I to the Norwich DPW Department with a starting salary of \$16.58 per hour effective January 23, 2023; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the appointment is contingent upon successfully passing the required medical examination, background check and any action necessary from the Norwich Civil Service Commission.

Seconded by Ald. Loomis and duly adopted, 6 - 0, on a roll call vote.

E. Pepe reported that after these appointments the DPW will still have 5 vacancies: 1-MEO; 2-Water Maintainers; 1-Operator; 1-Mechanic.

RESOLUTION #12 - 2023

DESIGNATING “PREFERRED PURCHASER” OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT 25 HICKOK AVENUE

Ald. Jeffrey introduced the following and **moved** its adoption:

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich acquired the real property at 25 Hickok Avenue through property tax foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, the subject property is considered by the Common Council to be surplus and its continued ownership by the City unnecessary to a useful public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council has reviewed proposals for the purchase of the property, and considers the proposal from Elmer Ryan of Baldwinsville, NY to be an acceptable offer based on the purchase amount offered, the significant investments to be made in the property’s rehabilitation, and the proposed use; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Common Council hereby designates Elmer Ryan of Baldwinsville, NY as the “preferred purchaser” of the City-owned property at 25 Hickok Avenue; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Mayor be and hereby is authorized, under the direction of the City Attorney, to negotiate and enter into a contract for the sale of the City-owned property at 25 Hickok Avenue to Elmer Ryan.

Seconded by Ald. Allaire and duly adopted, 6 - 0, on a roll call vote.

Payment of Bills

Ald. Jeffrey **moved** to pay the January 2023 bills after proper audit and certification.

	<u>Prepaid</u>	<u>1//2022</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
General Fund	\$841,862.11	\$77,975.68	\$919,837.79
Sewer Fund	28,640.75	2,797.49	31,438.24
Water Fund	22,890.77	11,729.90	34,620.67
Trust	36,470.91	-	36,470.91
Comm. Dev. - Special Grants	-	-	-
Capital Projects	3,062.50	-	3,062.50
TOTALS	\$932,927.04	\$92,503.07	\$1,025,430.11

Seconded by Ald. Warren and duly adopted 6 - 0.

Executive Session

Ald. Loomis **moved** to enter executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual at 7:12 p.m.
Seconded by Ald. Warren, approved ayes all.

Ald. Jeffrey **moved** to exit executive session at 8:11 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Loomis, approved ayes all.

Adjournment

Ald. Jeffrey **moved** to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. Seconded by Ald. Loomis, approved ayes all.

Minutes taken by Lynn Murray and
submitted by Agnes Eaton

Chapter 465

Signs

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Common Council of the City of Norwich 11-19-1996 by Ord. No. 5-1996. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Business Improvement District — See Ch. 26.

Advertising materials — See Ch. 128.

Uniform construction codes — See Ch. 199.

Electrical standards — See Ch. 227.

Streets and sidewalks — See Ch. 486.

Subdivision of land — See Ch. 490.

Vehicles and traffic — See Ch. 525.

Zoning — See Ch. 575.

Article I

Construal of Provisions

§ 465-1 Purpose.

~~The purpose of this chapter is to maintain the appearance of the community and to coordinate the type, placement, and physical dimensions of signs within the different land use zones; to recognize the commercial communication requirements of all sectors of the business community; to encourage the innovative use of design; to promote both renovation and proper maintenance; to allow for special circumstances; to guarantee equal treatment under the law through accurate recordkeeping and consistent enforcement; and to promote business development. These shall be accomplished by regulation of the display, erection, use, and maintenance of signs. The use of signs is regulated according to zone. The placement and physical dimensions of signs are regulated primarily by district and length of street frontage.~~

The purpose of this chapter is to promote and protect the public health, safety, and welfare by regulating existing and proposed signs of all types. It is intended to protect property values, create a more attractive economic and business atmosphere, and enhance and protect the physical appearance of the community. It is further intended to reduce sign or advertising distractions and obstructions that may contribute to traffic accidents and reduce hazards that may be caused by signs overhanging or projecting over public rights-of-way.

§ 465-2 Scope.

~~The primary intent of this chapter shall be to regulate signs of a commercial nature intended to be viewed from any vehicular or pedestrian public right-of-way.~~

These standards and regulations shall apply to all signs within the boundaries of the City of Norwich intended to be viewed from any vehicular or pedestrian rights-of-way.

Article II General Provisions

§ 465-3 Regulation of signs.

It shall hereafter be unlawful for any person to erect, place, or maintain a sign in the City of Norwich except in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

§ 465-4 Prohibited signs.

The following types of signs are prohibited in all districts:

- A. Abandoned signs.
- B. Signs imitating or resembling official traffic or government signs or signals.
- C. Signs placed on vehicles or trailers which are parked or located for the primary purpose of displaying said sign. (This does not apply to allowed portable signs or to signs or lettering on buses, taxis, or vehicles operating during the normal course of business.)
- D. Signs projecting above the roof.

§ 465-5 Permits required.

Unless otherwise provided by this chapter, all signs shall require permits and payment of fees as described in Article **VI** of this chapter. No permit is required for the maintenance of a sign.

§ 465-6 Signs not requiring permits.

The following types of signs are exempt from permit requirements but must be in conformance with all other requirements of this chapter:

- A. ~~Construction signs. One construction sign per construction project not exceeding four square feet in sign area in residential districts, 20 square feet in business districts or 32 square feet in industrial districts, provided that such signs shall not be erected more than 30 days prior to the beginning of construction, shall be confined to the site of construction, and shall be removed within 30 days after completion of construction.~~ Holiday or special events decorations.
- B.C. Nameplates of one square foot or less.
- D. ~~Political signs. One political sign per lot, not to exceed four square feet in sign area per sign. Such signs shall not be erected more than 30 days prior to the election or referendum concerned and shall be removed within seven days following such election or referendum. Political signs may be placed only on private property and only with the permission of the property owner.~~
- C. E. Public signs or notices, or any sign relating to an emergency.

~~F. Real estate signs. One sign per street frontage not exceeding four square feet each in residential districts, or eight square feet each in other districts, advertising the sale, rental, or lease of the premises on which displayed.~~

~~D. G.~~ Incidental signs not to exceed two square feet in sign area per building.

~~E. H.~~ Memorial signs of six square feet or less.

~~I. Garage/yard sale signs. These signs must be removed within 24 hours of the conclusion of a garage/yard sale (as defined in § 575-5). [Added 11-18-2014 by Ord. No. 2-2014]~~

F. Temporary signs not to exceed four square feet in sign area in residential districts, and twenty square feet in sign area in the business and industrial districts. Signs shall be removed within ten days after the completion of the event or project.

§ 465-7 Maintenance; repair or removal of unsafe signs.

- A. The owner of the sign and the owner of the premises on which such sign is located shall be jointly and severally liable to maintain such sign, including its illumination sources, in neat and orderly condition and good working order at all times, and to prevent the development of any rust, corrosion, rotting or other deterioration in the physical appearance or safety of such sign.
- B. Unsightly, damaged, deteriorated signs; unsafe signs; or signs in danger of falling shall be put in order or removed upon written notice. Immediate compliance is required for the repair or removal of unsafe signs. If compliance is not achieved within the time period specified in such notice, the sign shall be repaired or removed by the City and the costs assessed to the property owner.

§ 465-8 Lighting.

Unless otherwise specified by this chapter, all signs may be illuminated. However, no sign regulated by this chapter may utilize:

- A. A lighting device so placed or directed so as to permit the beams and illumination therefrom to be directed or beamed upon a public street, highway, sidewalk or adjacent premises so as to cause glare or reflection that may constitute a traffic hazard or nuisance.
- B. Any revolving beacon or flashing light.
- C. The lighted portion of such sign or signs between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. if located in or adjacent to a residential district, unless such business is open during those hours.

§ 465-9 Changeable copy.

[Amended 2-15-2000 by Ord. No. 1-2000]

Manual and automatic changeable copy signs may be used in B-1 Districts, excluding the Business Improvement District, B-2 Business Districts ~~or in conjunction with institutional signs or cultural center signs~~ as long as the following conditions are met.

- A. Signs must be constructed as a permanent fixture on the property on which they are located.
- B. Sign material and design must be compatible with the building facade and the area aesthetics in which it is placed.

- C. Sign material must be colorfast and corrosion resistant. The sign must be maintained by the owner.
- D. Signs shall be placed so as to utilize existing architectural features of a building without obscuring them.
- E. Signs shall be oriented for pedestrian and slow-moving vehicular traffic.
- F. Signs shall meet the setback, height and clearance requirements for the district in which they are located.
- G. Businesses located in business zones shall be permitted one wall or freestanding changeable copy sign. The changeable copy sign shall be only one- or two-sided and shall not exceed 32 square feet in sign area per side. The changeable copy sign shall be attached to and incorporated into the allowed wall or freestanding sign. The size of the changeable copy sign shall be included in the total signage area allowed.
- H. ~~Institutional or cultural center signs located in residential zones shall be permitted to utilize 20% of allowed sign area for changeable copy. The changeable copy sign shall be attached to and incorporated in the permitted sign, and the size of the changeable copy sign shall be included in the total signage area allowed.~~ Electronic message centers shall have a minimum dwell time no less than five seconds.

§ 465-10 Indemnification.

All persons involved in the maintenance, installation, alteration, or relocation of signs near or upon any public right-of-way or property shall agree to hold harmless and indemnify the City, its officers, agents, and employees against any and all claims of negligence resulting from such work insofar as this chapter has not specifically directed the placement of a sign.

Article III Regulation of On-Premises Signs by Zone

§ 465-11 Signs permitted in all zones.

The following signs are allowed in all zones:

- A. Institutional signs. One sign setting forth or denoting the name of any public, ~~charitable, or religious or private~~ institution, when located on the premises of such institution, provided such sign shall not exceed 12 square feet in sign area.
- ~~B. Construction signs. One construction sign per construction project not exceeding four square feet in sign area in residential districts, 20 square feet in business districts or 32 square feet in industrial districts, provided that such signs shall not be erected more than 30 days prior to the beginning of construction, shall be confined to the site of construction, and shall be removed within 30 days after completion of construction.~~
- B. €. One attached nameplate per building not to exceed one square foot in sign area. (No permit required.)
- ~~D. Political signs. One political sign per lot not to exceed four square feet in sign area per sign. Such signs shall not be erected more than 30 days prior to the election or referendum concerned and shall be removed within seven days following such election or referendum. (No permit required.)~~

C. ~~E.~~ Temporary signs. ~~Special event displays, portable signs, banner signs and signs utilizing changeable copy may be erected on the premises of an establishment having a grand opening or special event, provided that such signs shall not be displayed for more than 30 consecutive days in any one calendar year per Tax Map number or on-site business principally owned by the same entity. Not intended for long term use and shall not exceed four square feet in sign area in residential districts, and twenty square feet in sign area the business and industrial districts. Signs shall be removed within ten days after the completion of the event or project.~~

[Amended 2-15-2000 by Ord. No. 1-2000; 3-19-2002 by Ord. No. 1-2002]

D. ~~F.~~ Identification signs. One identification sign not to exceed four square feet per business or profession.

E. ~~G.~~ Community-wide special events signs. Certain events, ~~including, but not limited to, Colorscape-Chenango, Gus Macker Tournament, First Night, Pumpkin Festival or Blues Festival, which are sponsored by local not-for-profit entities and operate under a special events permit issued by the Common Council Administrator, are of such a nature that special and unique signage may be required. These events are for the general benefit of the greater Norwich community and are generally a fund-raising activity, not commercial or sponsored by for-profit entities. A complete signage plan must be submitted to the Common Council Administrator at the time the special events permit request is submitted. All signs will be approved by the Common Council under the supervision of the Administrator.~~ **[Added 2-15-2000 by Ord. No. 1-2000]**

§ 465-12 Signs permitted in residential zones.

A. Signs are allowed as follows in residential zones:

- (1) All signs as permitted in § **465-11**.
- (2) Subdivision or tract name signs. One nonilluminated sign not to exceed 12 square feet in area, or two nonilluminated signs not to exceed six square feet each per exclusive entrance to a subdivision or tract. Such signs are restricted to the subdivision or tract name.
- (3) Directional/information signs. The following will be allowed in residential districts:
 - (a) R-1 and R-1A: not permitted.
 - (b) R-2: two directional/information signs not to exceed two square feet in sign area each.
 - (c) R-3: three directional/information signs not to exceed two square feet in sign area each.

B. Special regulations for residential zones are as follows:

- (1) All allowed freestanding signs shall have a maximum height limit of six feet ~~and shall have a minimum setback of 10 feet from any public street curb.~~

§ 465-13 Signs permitted in business and industrial zones.

A. Signs are allowed as follows in business and industrial zones: **[Amended 9-22-2009 by L.L. No. 2-2009]**

- (1) All signs as permitted in § **465-11**.

- (2) Freestanding signs and wall signs. One freestanding sign or one wall sign per premises, not to exceed an area equal to 1 1/2 square feet for each linear foot of building frontage, up to a maximum of 100 square feet, whichever is less. Freestanding signs shall have a minimum clearance of eight feet, a maximum height of 20 feet and a minimum setback of 20 feet. Ground signs including temporary signs are excluded from these specific clearance, ~~and~~ height and setback requirements.
- (3) Awning signs. One awning sign per occupancy not to exceed 25% of the surface area of an awning, or one marquee sign not to exceed 1 1/2 square feet in sign area for each linear foot of marquee front. Minimum clearance shall be no less than eight feet.
- (4) One under-canopy sign per occupancy not to exceed two square feet in sign area.
- (5) Incidental signs not to exceed two square feet in aggregate sign area per building. (No permit required.)
- (6) Time and temperature signs. One changeable copy sign (automatic) displaying time and temperature information, not to exceed 10 square feet, is allowed per lot.
- (7) Directional/information signs. Four directional/information signs per lot not to exceed two square feet in sign area each.
- (8) Barber poles. One traditional barber pole may be erected per lot.
- (9) Electronic message center. One changeable copy sign (automatic) allowed per lot.

B. Special regulations and allowances for business and industrial zones are as follows:

- (1) Where a public entrance fronts on an additional street, customer parking lot, or highway, one additional wall sign or one additional freestanding sign is allowed on the additional frontage, not to exceed the size limitations of other allowed wall and freestanding signs.
- (2) A projecting sign may be used instead of any allowed wall or freestanding sign, not to exceed a sign area of 1 1/2 square feet for each linear foot of an occupancy's building frontage up to a maximum of 10 square feet. Projecting signs may not extend more than 18 inches from wall.
- (3) The total area of all signs cannot exceed an area equal to 1 1/2 square feet for each linear foot of building frontage up to a maximum of 200 square feet, whichever is less. **[Amended 9-22-2009 by L.L. No. 2-2009]**
- (4) A variance may be granted for buildings with a setback greater than 150 feet or building frontage greater than 200 feet. The Zoning Board of Appeals may place additional restrictions on the sign applicant if a variance is granted.

§ 465-14 Signage in Business Improvement District.

- A. Pursuant to the effort of the City of Norwich and the Norwich Business Improvement District (BID) to enhance the character and viability of downtown Norwich, the regulations listed below shall apply for commercial signage within the BID boundaries as defined in the Norwich Identity Study of 1996 and as may be recommended by the BID and approved by the City of Norwich Common Council. These regulations shall include all signs allowed in §§ 465-11, 465-12, and 465-13 with the following exceptions:

- (1) Section **465-13A(2)** (freestanding signs only) shall apply only to buildings set back more than 15 feet from the curbline.
- B. Because of the extreme importance of downtown image to the economic health of the City, illustrations are provided to better support the intent of these special district regulations.
- C. The regulations are as follows:
 - (1) Location.
 - (a) Signs must enhance architectural details. They must not obscure them.
 - (b) Signs must be placed where the building's architect intended a sign to be placed.
 - (c) Window signs must not obscure the display area.
 - (d) Window signs must be placed slightly higher than eye level.
 - (e) Projecting signs must be in line with other signs on the same block.
 - (f) Store hours signs must be posted on or near the entrance door, but not on signs or on display windows.
 - (2) Size and quantity.
 - (a) A storefront or commercial facade may have only two permanent signs, a primary one on a wall or an awning, and a secondary one such as a window sign.
 - (b) Show window signs may cover no more than 20% of the glass.
 - (c) Wall signs may extend the width of the storefront, but neither their height nor their width may obscure the building's architectural details. In no case may the sign exceed the dimensions allowed in § **465-13** of this chapter (including exceptions listed at the beginning of this section).
 - (d) Keep it simple. Signs must identify the business and its main product or service using words, pictures and symbols. No sign may include brand name advertising. **[Amended 9-19-2017 by Ord. No. 1-2017]**
 - (3) Lettering and graphics.
 - (a) Sign graphics must be simple and neat.
 - (b) There may be no more than two lettering styles per sign.
 - (c) Signs must be made easy to read by carefully spacing the letters and words.
 - (d) Letter styles must be chosen for readability and should reflect the type of business represented.
 - (e) Overly large letters are to be avoided. Signs must be oriented toward pedestrians and slow-moving automobiles.
 - (4) Colors.

- (a) Sign colors must complement the building facade and adjacent signs as per the chart included in the attached graphics section.
- (b) Signs may have no more than three colors although black, white or gold may be added to any three color sign.
- (5) Lighting.
 - (a) Signs may be externally illuminated with hooded incandescent fixtures.
 - (b) Illumination for window signage must also illuminate window displays.
 - (c) Back-lit plastic signs are not allowed. They are incompatible with most architectural styles.
 - (d) Flashing signs are not allowed.
 - (e) Neon lights are allowed in the windows of cafes, night clubs, and bars.
- (6) Materials. Signs must reflect excellent or unique craftsmanship. Well designed ironwork, well designed woodwork and expert lettering make a good impression.

Article IV Nonconforming Signs

§ 465-15 **Determination of legal nonconformity.**

Existing signs which do not conform to the specific provisions of this chapter may be eligible for the designation "legal nonconforming," provided that:

- A. Such signs are properly maintained and do not in any way endanger the public.
- B. The sign was covered by a valid permit or variance or complied with all applicable laws on the date of adoption of this chapter.

§ 465-16 **Loss of legal nonconforming status.**

A legal nonconforming sign shall lose this designation if:

- A. The sign is relocated or replaced.
- B. The structure or size of the sign is altered in any way except towards compliance with this chapter. This does not refer to normal maintenance.
- C. The building occupancy or business changes.

§ 465-17 **Maintenance and repair of nonconforming signs.**

[Amended 9-22-2009 by L.L. No. 2-2009]

The legal nonconforming sign is subject to all requirements of this chapter regarding safety, maintenance, and repair. However, if the sign suffers damage or deterioration to the extent of more than 50% of its assessed or market value, it must be brought into conformance with this chapter or removed.

Article V

Construction Specifications

§ 465-18 **Compliance with building and electrical codes.**

All signs shall be constructed in accordance with the requirements of the City of Norwich Building Code and Electrical Code.

§ 465-19 **Additional construction specifications.**

- A. No signs shall be erected, constructed or maintained so as to obstruct the view for vehicle or pedestrian safety, any fire escape, required exit, window or door opening used as a means of egress.
- B. No sign shall be attached in any form, shape, or manner which will interfere with any opening required for ventilation, except that signs may be erected in front of and may cover transom windows when not in violation of the provisions of the City Building or Fire Prevention Code.
- C. Signs shall be located in such a way as to maintain horizontal and vertical clearance of all overhead electrical conductors in accordance with existing electrical code specifications.
- D. All signs shall be erected on private property, on the same premises as the business or occupation.

Article VI

Administration and Enforcement

§ 465-20 **Duties of Administrator.**

- A. The Administrator is authorized to process applications for permits and variances, hold public hearings as required, and enforce and carry out all provisions of this chapter, both in letter and in spirit. The Administrator is authorized to promulgate regulations and procedures consistent with this function.
- B. The Administrator is empowered, upon presentation of proper credentials, to enter or inspect any building, structure, or premises in the City for the purpose of inspection of a sign and its structural and electrical connections to ensure compliance with all applicable codes and ordinances. Such inspections shall be carried out during business hours unless an emergency exists.

~~§ 465-21 **Sign Review Committee.**~~

~~A Sign Review Committee shall be established consisting of one Council representative or an appointee, one Planning Commission member, one Zoning Board of Appeals member, one appointee from the Business Improvement District, and one mayoral appointment. This Committee shall be advisory and meet only when a sign applicant or the Administrator so requests. Its function is to assist the applicant in understanding all aspects of this chapter that are pertinent to the permit being requested. The Committee shall meet within five working days after the request is received.~~

§ 465-22 **Application for permits.**

Application for a permit for the erection, alteration, or relocation of a sign shall be made to the Administrator upon a form provided by the Administrator and shall include the following information:

- A. Name, address and phone number of the owner of the sign.
- B. Street address or location of the property on which the sign is to be located, along with the name and address of the property owner.
- C. Name, address, phone number and proof of insurance carried by the installer.

- D. The type of sign or sign structure as defined in this chapter.
- E. A site plan showing the proposed location of the sign along with the locations and square footage areas of all existing signs on the same premises.
- F. Specifications and scale drawings showing the materials, design, dimensions, structural supports, and electrical components for the proposed sign.

§ 465-23 Permit fees.

[Amended 2-15-2000 by Ord. No. 1-2000; 3-19-2002 by Ord. No. 1-2002]

All applications for permits filed with the Administrator shall be accompanied by payment of a permit fee according to the fee schedule established by the Common Council.

§ 465-24 Issuance and denial of permits.

- A. The Administrator shall issue a permit for the erection, alteration, or relocation of a sign within 10 days of receipt of a valid application, provided that the sign complies with all applicable laws and regulations of the City. In all applications, where a matter of interpretation arises, the more specific definition or higher standard shall prevail.
- B. When a permit is denied by the Administrator, he shall give a written notice to the applicant along with a brief statement of the reasons for denial. The Administrator may suspend or revoke an issued permit for any false statement or misrepresentation of fact in the application.

§ 465-25 Permit conditions.

- A. If no inspections have been made and no work authorized by the permit has been performed, the permit fee, except for \$10, may be refunded to the applicant upon request, provided that the permit is returned to the Administrator within 90 days of issuance.
- B. A permit issued by the Administrator becomes null and void if work is not commenced within 91 days of issuance. The permit may be renewed with an additional payment of 1/2 of the original fee.
- C. If any sign is installed or placed on any property prior to receipt of a permit, the specified permit fee shall be doubled. However, payment of the doubled fee shall not relieve any person of any other requirements or penalties prescribed in this chapter.

§ 465-26 Inspection upon completion.

- A. Any person installing, altering, or relocating a sign for which a permit has been issued shall notify the Administrator upon completion of the work. The Administrator may require a final inspection, including an electrical inspection and inspection of footings where applicable.
- B. The Administrator may require, in writing upon issuance of a permit, that he be notified for inspection prior to the installation of certain signs.

§ 465-27 Variances.

- A. In obtaining a permit, the applicant may apply to the Administrator for a variance from certain requirements of this chapter. A variance may be granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals where the literal application of this chapter would create a practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship.
- B. In granting a variance, the Zoning Board of Appeals may attach additional requirements necessary to conform to the legislative intent of this chapter. The procedure for the application for public hearing

for a variance shall be defined in Chapter 575, Zoning, of the Code of the City of Norwich, as it may be amended.

§ 465-28 Interpretation.

The Zoning Board of Appeals shall have the power, upon appeal from a decision by an administrative official, to decide any question involving the interpretation of any provision of this chapter, including determination of type of signage allowed in each district.

§ 465-29 Violations; written orders.

- A. When, in the opinion of the Administrator, a violation of this chapter exists, the Administrator shall issue a written order to the alleged violator. The order shall specify those sections of this chapter of which the individual may be in violation and shall state that the individual has 14 days from the date of the order in which to correct the alleged violations or to appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- B. If, upon inspection, the Administrator finds that a sign is abandoned or structurally, materially or electrically defective, or in any way endangers the public, the Administrator shall issue a written order to the owner of the sign and occupant of the premises stating the nature of the violation and requiring them to repair or remove the sign within 14 days of the date of the order.
- C. In case of emergency, the Administrator may cause the immediate removal of a dangerous or defective sign without notice.

§ 465-30 Removal of signs by Administrator; payment of costs by owner.

- A. The Administrator may cause the removal of an illegal sign in cases of emergency, or for failure to comply with the written orders of removal or repair. After removal or demolition of the sign, a notice shall be mailed to the sign owner stating the nature of the work and the date on which it was performed and demanding payment of the costs as certified by the Administrator, together with an additional 10% for inspection and incidental costs.
- B. If the amount specified in the notice is not paid within 60 days of the notice, it shall become a lien against the property together with a ten-percent penalty for collection in the same manner as the real estate taxes.
- C. The owner of the property upon which the sign is located shall be presumed to be the owner of all signs thereon unless facts to the contrary are brought to the attention of the Administrator, as in the case of a leased sign.
- D. For the purpose of removal, the definition of "sign" shall include all sign embellishments and structures designed specifically to support the sign.

§ 465-31 Penalties for offenses.

Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this chapter may be subject to a fine of not more than \$250 or imprisonment for not more than 15 days, or both, for each week or portion thereof that the violation continues.

§ 465-32 Appeals.

- A. Any failure to respond to an application within 10 days of receipt or any decision rendered by the Administrator in denying a permit or variance or in alleging a violation of this chapter may be appealed to the Zoning Board of Appeals within 30 days of the Administrator's receipt of application.
- B. The action being appealed shall be held in abeyance pending the decision of the Council or Board.

Article VII Conflict and Validity

§ 465-33 Conflict with other provisions.

If any portion of this chapter is found to be in conflict with any other City ordinance or law, the provision which establishes the higher standard shall prevail. In case of conflict with state or federal law, the state or federal law shall prevail.

§ 465-34 Severability.

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is in effect and shall remain in full force and effect.

Article VIII Terminology

§ 465-35 Definitions.

Certain terms are defined for the purposes of this chapter as follows:

ABANDONED SIGN

A sign which no longer identifies or advertises a bona fide business, lessor, service, owner, product, or activity and/or for which no legal owner can be found.

ADMINISTRATOR

The Code Enforcement Officer or ~~his designated representative~~ a representative designated by the Common Council.

ANIMATED SIGN

Any sign which uses movement or change of lighting to depict action or to create a special effect or scene (compare "flashing sign").

AREA

See "sign, area of."

AWNING

A shelter projecting from and supported by the exterior wall of a building constructed of nonrigid materials on a supporting framework (compare "marquee").

AWNING SIGN

A sign painted on, printed on, or attached flat against the surface of an awning.

BANNER SIGN

A sign made of fabric or any nonrigid material with no enclosing framework.

CHANGEABLE COPY SIGN, AUTOMATIC

A sign on which the copy changes automatically on a lampbank or through mechanical means, ~~limited-~~

~~to electrical or electronic time and temperature signs in business and industrial districts only.~~

CHANGEABLE COPY SIGN, MANUAL

A sign on which copy is changed manually in the field, e.g., readerboards with changeable letters.

CITY

Unless the context clearly discloses a contrary intent, the word "City" shall mean the City of Norwich, New York.

CLEARANCE (OF A SIGN)

The smallest vertical distance between the grade of the adjacent street or street curb and the lowest point of any sign, including framework and embellishments, extending over that grade.

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

Public or private institutions of higher learning authorized to grant academic degrees or associate degrees and requiring for admission at least a high school diploma or equivalent general academic training.

[Added 3-19-2002 by Ord. No. 1-2002]

~~CONSTRUCTION SIGN~~

~~A temporary sign, including pertinent information regarding the construction on the property on which the sign is located.~~

COPY

The wording on a sign surface in either permanent, digital, or removable letter form.

DIRECTIONAL/INFORMATION SIGN

An on-premises sign giving directions, instructions, or facility information and which may contain the name or logo of an establishment but no advertising copy, e.g., parking or exit and entrance signs.

ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER

See "changeable copy sign, automatic."

FACADE

The entire building front, including parapet.

FACE OF SIGN

The area of a sign on which the copy is placed.

FLASHING SIGN

A sign which contains an intermittent or sequential flashing light source used primarily to attract attention. Does not include changeable copy signs, animated signs, or signs which, through reflection or other means, create an illusion of flashing of intermittent light (compare "animated sign" and "changeable copy sign").

FREESTANDING SIGN

A sign supported upon the ground by poles or braces and not attached to any building, includes ground signs.

FRONTAGE

The length of the property line of any one premises along a public right-of-way on which it borders.

FRONTAGE, BUILDING

The length of an outside building wall on a public right-of-way.

GOVERNMENT

Includes city, county, state or federal governments.

[Added 3-19-2002 by Ord. No. 1-2002]

GOVERNMENT SIGN

Any temporary or permanent sign erected and maintained by the City, county, state, or federal government for traffic direction or for designation of or direction to any school, hospital, historical site, or public service, property, or facility.

GROUND SIGN

A sign placed on or supported by the ground independently of any other structure, with a maximum height of four feet.

HEIGHT (OF A SIGN)

The vertical distance measured from the highest point of the sign, excluding decorative embellishments, to the grade of the adjacent street or the surface grade beneath the sign, whichever is less (compare "clearance").

IDENTIFICATION SIGN

A sign whose copy is limited to the name and address of a building, institution, or person and/or to the activity or occupation being identified on the premises, one business phone number and/or a business email address or business website address where the sign is located.

[Amended 9-19-2017 by Ord. No. 1-2017]

ILLEGAL SIGN

A sign which does not meet the requirements of this chapter and which has not received legal nonconforming status.

ILLUMINATED SIGN

A sign with an artificial light source incorporated internally or externally for the purpose of illuminating the sign.

INCIDENTAL SIGN

A small sign, emblem, or decal informing the public of goods, facilities, or services available on the premises, e.g., a credit card sign or a sign indicating hours of business.

LOT

A piece of land having fixed legal boundaries.

MAINTENANCE

The cleaning, painting, repair, or replacement of defective parts of a sign in a manner that does not alter the basic copy, design, or structure of the sign.

MARQUEE

A permanent roof-like structure or canopy of rigid materials supported by and extending from the facade of a building (compare "awning").

MARQUEE SIGN

Any sign attached to or supported by a marquee structure.

MEMORIAL SIGN

A sign or tablet memorializing a person, event, structure or the like.

NAMEPLATE

A nonelectric on-premises identification sign giving only the name, address, and/or occupation of an occupant or group of occupants.

NONCONFORMING SIGN

- A. A sign which was erected legally but which does not comply with subsequently enacted sign restrictions and regulations.
- B. A sign which does not conform to this chapter's requirements but for which a special permit has been issued.

NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION

A corporation formed or existing under the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law of New York State.

[Added 3-19-2002 by Ord. No. 1-2002]

OCCUPANCY

The portion of a building or premises owned, leased, rented, or otherwise occupied for a given use.

ON-PREMISES SIGN

A sign which pertains to the use of the premises on which it is located.

OVER-THE-STREET SIGN/BANNER

Any sign/banner erected over a street or highway, which has the approval of the New York State Department of Transportation and also must meet the NYSDOT height requirements, shall be

considered temporary for the purpose of fee calculations. The maximum allowable time a sign/banner may be in place, per event, is two weeks (14 days); this time must be consecutive days.

[Added 1-19-2010 by Ord. No. 1-2010]

OWNER

A person recorded as such on official records. For the purpose of this chapter, the owner of property on which a sign is located is presumed to be the owner of the sign unless facts to the contrary are officially recorded or otherwise brought to the attention of the Administrator, e.g., a sign leased from a sign company.

PARAPET

The extension of a false front or wall above a roof line.

PERSON

Any individual, corporation, association, firm, partnership, or similarly defined interest.

POINT OF PURCHASE DISPLAY

Advertising of a retail item accompanying its display, e.g., an advertisement on a product dispenser.

~~POLITICAL SIGN~~

~~A temporary sign used in connection with a local, state, or national election or referendum.~~

PORTABLE SIGN

Any sign designed to be moved easily and not permanently affixed to the ground or to a structure or building.

PREMISES

A parcel of land with its appurtenances and buildings which, because of its unity of use, may be regarded as the smallest conveyable unit of real estate.

PROJECTING SIGN

A sign, other than a flat wall sign, which is attached to and projects from a building wall or other structure not specifically designed to support the sign.

~~REAL ESTATE SIGN~~

~~Any sign which is used to offer sale, lease, or rental of the property upon which the sign is placed.~~

~~RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION~~

~~Includes tax exempt churches, temples, synagogues, convents, seminary and retreat houses which are open to the public.~~

~~[Added 3-19-2002 by Ord. No. 1-2002]~~

SCHOOL

Public kindergarten, elementary and secondary schools below university grade; and private, denominational and/or sectarian schools having a curriculum equivalent to and substantially the same as public elementary and secondary schools.

[Added 3-19-2002 by Ord. No. 1-2002]

SETBACK

The required distance for sign placement, measured from the curbline or sidewalk.

SIGN

~~Any device, structure, fixture, or placard using graphics, symbols, and/or written copy designed specifically for the purpose of advertising or identifying any establishment, product, goods or services.~~

Any outdoor sign, display, device, figure, painting, drawing, message, placard, poster, billboard or other thing which is designed, intended or used to advertise or inform, any part of the advertising or informative contents of which is visible from any place on the main-traveled way of a highway or pedestrian right-of-way, whether the same be permanent or portable. Includes interior window signs designed to be view from the outside.

SIGN, AREA OF

- A. Projecting, freestanding and multifaced signs. The sign area for a sign with more than one face shall be computed by adding together the area of all sign faces visible from any one point. When two identical sign faces are placed back to back, so that both faces cannot be viewed from any point at the same time, and when such sign faces are part of the same sign structure and are not more than 42 inches apart, the sign area shall be computed by the measurement of one of the faces.
- B. Wall signs. The area shall be within a single, continuous perimeter composed of any straight line geometric figure which encloses the extreme limits of the advertising message.

SPECIAL EVENT SIGN

~~A temporary sign used to direct attention to private events, such as bingo games, fairs, parades, carnivals, garage sales or similar events.~~

TEMPORARY SIGN

A sign not constructed or intended for long-term use, such as informing the general public of fundraising campaigns, political campaigns, social events, civic undertaking, annual festivity or related enterprise. Other temporary signs include the advertisement of the sale, rental or real estate

open house of the premises where the sign is located; garage sale or auction on the premises where the sign is located; and signs denoting the architect, engineer or contractor, placed on the premises where construction, repair or renovation is in progress.

[Amended 2-15-2000 by Ord. No. 1-2000]

USE

The purpose for which a building, lot, sign, or structure is intended, designed, occupied, or maintained.

WALL SIGN

Any sign painted on or attached to and erected parallel to the face of, or erected and confined within the limits of, the outside wall of any building and supported by such wall or building and which displays only one advertising surface.

WINDOW SIGN

Any sign placed inside or upon a window facing the outside and which is intended to be seen from the exterior. Window signs may not cover more than 20% of total window area.

ZONING DISTRICT

Includes residential districts, business districts and industrial districts as defined and used pursuant to Chapter 575, Zoning, of the Code of the City of Norwich, as it may from time to time be amended and modified.

Attachments:

[465a BID Area](#)

[465b Signs](#)