



TOWN OF TEMPLETON

TOWN CLERK

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To Whom It May Concern:

I, Carol A. Harris, Town Clerk of Templeton, hereby certify that at the Fall Town Meeting held on November 15, 2023, in the Town of Templeton, the Town voted the following:

ARTICLE 8: AMEND THE BYLAWS RE: SIGNS & ENFORCEMENT

On a motion duly made and seconded the Town voted to amend Chapter 240 of the General Bylaws by amending Article VI as follows:

§ 240-16 Authorized Signs on Town-owned Property

This by-law is adopted for the regulation and restriction of billboards, signs and other advertising devices within this Town on public ways and Town-owned property in order to protect and enhance the visual environment of this Town and the safety, convenience and welfare of its residents. Signs are an informational tool to notify, advertise, or call attention to a variety of purposes.

This by-law is hereby declared to be remedial and protective and is to be so construed as to secure the beneficial interests and purposes thereof. This by-law is adopted pursuant to Chapters 93 and 43B of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

A "Sign" is defined as any permanent or temporary structure, billboard, device, letter, word, illuminated fixture, electric bulb, tube or similar contrivance, medal, banner, pennant, insignia, flag, or any other representation used as, or which is in the nature of, an advertisement, announcement, attraction or direction which is on a public way, public park, or reservation.

A sign shall not, by reason of its location, shape, illumination, wording, or color interfere with foot or vehicular traffic or be confused with or obstruct the view or effectiveness of any federal, state, county, or municipal traffic sign, traffic signal or traffic marking. No sign shall be placed within a curb cut or ramp installed to provide improved access to a sidewalk for the disabled.

No sign shall be placed on private property without express permission of the property owner.

No sign, together with any supporting framework, shall extend to a height above the maximum building height in the associated zoning district.

Approval of the placement of a sign or signs on Town-owned property shall be the responsibility of the Select Board and selectively delegated to the Town Administrator or Sign Officer. The approval of requests for placement of signs, permanent or temporary, shall be accomplished by making requests to the designated decision-making authority in accordance with established Select Board policy. The decision-making authority shall make a detailed record of its reason(s) for disapproving a particular request. A record of approvals and denials shall be kept in the Select Board and Town Administrator's municipal offices. In the event of a dispute, decisions may be appealed to the Select Board for final approval or disapproval.

Approved signs shall be annotated, visible anywhere on the sign, with the approved date in clear writing. Approved signs shall be placed in accordance with the conditions accepted by the Select Board or delegate.

§ 240-18 Enforcement; Violations and Penalties

Although the Select Board reserves the right to approve or deny flag or sign requests, the Police Department and Department of Public Services of the Town of Templeton are hereby charged with the enforcement of this by-law and police officers and the Director of Public Services are hereby designated as Sign Officers. Flag request approval or denial shall not be further delegated.

Sign Officer are further authorized, upon notice as herein provided, to order the repair, removal or revocation of any sign which in judgment is, or is likely to become, dangerous, unsafe or in disrepair, or which is erected or maintained contrary to this by-law or which exceeds the conditions of the permit. Sign Officers are not required to serve

any notice to the owner and will provide storage of the non-conforming sign for a period not to exceed 30 calendar days after which time the sign will be discarded or destroyed.

This bylaw may also be enforced by any designated agent of the Town of Templeton in the method provided in MGL c. 40, § 21D. Any person who violates any provision of this bylaw shall be subject to a penalty of \$25 for the first offense, \$50 for the second offense, and \$100 for the third and each subsequent offense. Each day that a violation exists shall be deemed a separate offense.

Passed by a hand count Y-25, N-22/November 15th @ 8:00 pm