

ORDINANCE NO. -181
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE
REQUIREMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICE SIGNS

WHEREAS, The Village Board of the Village of Merton recognizes the need for emergency service signs in the Village of Merton and;

WHEREAS, The Village Board of the Village of Merton further recognizes uniformity with regard to emergency service signs has not been achieved in the Village of Merton and that uniformity is required to preserve public safety and;

WHEREAS, the Village Board has received feedback from the Merton Community Fire Department and the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department indicating the need for uniform Emergency Service Signs in the Village of Merton.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Village Board of the Village of Merton, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I That section 8.07 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Merton, entitled EMERGENCY SERVICE SIGNS is created to read as follows:

8.07: Emergency Service Signs

- 1) Required. Uniform emergency service signs are required to be placed at the driveway entrance to all properties or at the intersection of private roads with main highways. Signs shall be placed initially by the contractor retained by the village, with the cost being paid by the Village. Replacement of signs shall be the obligation of the property owner and shall be at the owners' expense.
- 2) Style. Signs shall be 18 inches by six inches, with blue reflective background and white reflective numeric characters and border for the assigned address.
- 3) Installation. Posts shall be a 6 1/2 foot blue galvanized steel channel post installed not less than 18 inches into the ground and no higher than 5' and no lower than 4'. Posts shall be used for address identification only. No other signs shall be placed on the address post.
- 4) Primary location. Signs shall be installed approximately 5 to 15 feet from either side of the driveway, with the right side of the driveway being the priority side, or the left side of the driveway being the first alternate location. Signs shall be installed on the back edge of the road right-of-way no greater than 15 feet from the edge of the pavement.
- 5) Alternate location. Alternative locations may be determined by the Superintendent of Parks and Highways if necessary due to foliage, lot line boundaries, the presence of utilities, or other obstructions that would compromise the effectiveness of the sign if installed in either the right (primary) or left (first alternate) location. In the HD District only, an alternate location will allow for affixing the sign to a building (second alternate).

- 6) The village shall employ a contractor of its choosing to perform the installation of the new emergency service signs.
- 7) All new construction subsequent to the adoption of this ordinance shall pay a separate fee for the address number installation on said property at the time of obtaining a building permit. This fee shall be established through a separate village resolution.
- 8) Private roads shall be marked with Village-installed signs at the intersection of the private road and the Village road and at the primary location set forth in section (4). Summary signs at the intersection of the private road and the Village road shall be at the cost of the Village.
- 9) Unique properties. Multifamily units in single structures shall have only an address sign at the access drive. Business sites with multiple units shall have one sign or summary sign at the intersection of the access drive and the Village road.
- 10) Maintenance. Property owners shall maintain the address numbers located on their properties in good and visible condition at all times. No property owner may remove or change the placement location of the sign after installation without the express written consent of the Village Board. Maintenance shall include keeping the address numbers clear of organic growth, debris and other impediments so as to preserve a direct line of sight from the roadway. Address numbers must be clearly legible.
- 11) Replacement/new construction. The Village shall install replacement address numbers for a property owner at the property owner's expense. The property owner shall be charged the current fee for replacement signs or signs for new construction. The cost for a new/replacement sign shall be paid to the Village Clerk-Treasurer within 30 days of the date of installation of the new/replacement sign. In the event the special charge is not fully paid, the delinquent special charge shall become a lien on the property and shall be included in the current or next tax roll for collection as allowed by § 66.0627(4), Wis. Stats. The special charge shall be established through a separate Village resolution. The Village shall install replacement address numbers for property owners at the Village's expense in the event of loss or damage to any numbers caused by the Village.
- 12) Administration.
 - a) The Village Clerk, the Clerk's designee, or other person designated by the Village Board shall be responsible for maintaining the numbering system.
 - b) The Village Clerk shall keep a record of all address numbers assigned. The Village Clerk shall maintain a plat book and/or map showing the addresses of all parcels in the Village.
 - c) Upon payment of Building Permit/ Building Bond Refund, the Building Inspector will assign order and arrange installation of an address sign at said property. The Superintendent of Parks and Highways shall monitor the placement and the condition of installed signs and posts, and when necessary advise the Village Clerk of the necessity to replace damaged signs or posts or correct unacceptable sign locations. The Superintendent of Parks and Highways will insure that the Village Clerk will be given the new address of said property for the Village and County's records.

SECTION 2: Severability

If any section or portion thereof shall be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, unlawful or unenforceable, such decision shall apply only to the specific section or portion thereof directly specified in the decision, and shall not affect the validity of any other provisions, sections or portions thereof of the ordinance. The remainder of the ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. Any other ordinances whose terms are in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed as to those terms that conflict.

SECTION 3: Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publishing and/or posting by the Village Clerk as required pursuant to §61.50 Wis. Stat.

Adopted 7th day of September 2017 by the Village Board of the Village of Merton, Waukesha County, Wisconsin.



Ron Reinowski, President

ATTEST



Thomas A. Nelson, Clerk



Published and/or posted this 12th day of September, 2017