

ORDINANCE NUMBER: 83-24

INTRODUCED BY: Commissioner Benet

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF ST. JOHNS, STATE OF FLORIDA, ADOPTING REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LOCATION AND INSTALLATION OF SIGNS: OUTDOOR ADVERTISING BILLBOARDS OR POSTER PANELS, PORTABLE OR MOBILE SIGNS ON COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA. THIS ORDINANCE ALSO PROVIDES PENALTIES AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA:

SECTION I. Purposes and Scope: The regulations and requirements herein set forth shall be the minimum requirements to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to protect the character of residential, business and industrial areas throughout St. Johns County, Florida.

Signs commonly referred to as outdoor advertising, billboards or poster panels which advertise products, events, businesses, places or things not connected with the site on which they are located are deemed by this Ordinance to constitute a separate use. This Ordinance also regulates and defines signs commonly referred to as portable and/or mobile signs to be used in conjunction with permitted commercial or industrial uses and placement thereof. The control and regulation of the display of such advertising is deemed to be appropriate to the character and sound development of the County, and it is intended that such advertising be confined to commercial or industrial properties.

SECTION II. Definitions: As used in this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning set opposite them for any and all purposes.

1. Advertising Display Area: Shall mean the advertising display surface area (copy area) encompassed within any geometric figure which would enclose all parts of the sign. The structural supports for a sign, whether they be columns, pylons, or a building or part thereof, shall not be included in the advertising area.
2. Beacon Light: Shall mean any light with one or more beams, capable of being directed in any direction or directions, or capable of being resolved automatically.
3. County: Shall mean St. Johns County.
4. Embellishment: Shall mean cut out, top out, extension, anything which projects outside the permitted deminsion of the sign, maximum size of embellishment shall not exceed 20% of overall sign size.
5. Erect: Shall mean to build, construct, attach, hang, place, suspend or affix and shall also include the painting of wall signs.
6. Governmental Body: Shall mean any agency of the County, State, or Federal Government.
7. Location: Shall mean any lot, premise, building structure, wall or any place whatsoever upon which a sign is located.
8. Person: Shall mean any include any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization, singular or plural, of any kind.
9. Signs: Shall mean any outdoor sign, display, device, figure, painting, drawing, message, placard, poster, billboard, or other thing, whether placed individually or on a V-type, back to back, or double-faced display, 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-travelled way of the interstate, federal-aid primary highway system, state highway system, or the county road system. Included

within the definition of sign are the following types of signs:

- a) Billboard Sign: shall mean a non-point of sale sign which advertises a business, organization, event, person, place or thing, and shall include signs carrying a non-commercial message.
- b) Changeable Copy Sign: shall mean a sign that is designed so that the characters, letters or illustrations can be changed or rearranged without altering the face or surface of the sign. This shall also include billboards whose copy can be changed.
- c) Ground and/or Pole Sign: shall mean any sign which is supported by structures or supports in or upon the ground and independent of support from any building.
- d) Illuminated Sign: shall mean any sign illuminated in any manner by an artificial light source.
- e) Non-Conforming Sign: shall mean any sign which was lawfully erected and maintained prior to the adoption of this Ordinance and any amendments thereto, and which fails to conform to applicable provisions of this Ordinance.
- f) Roof Sign: shall mean any sign erected or constructed wholly upon and over, or projecting from, the roof of any building.
- g) Wall Sign: shall mean any sign painted 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.
- h) Portable and/or Mobile Sign: shall mean any sign that is portable by means of trailering or towing, for temporary or permanent placement requiring no foundation or base for erection, and placed with or without wheels and axles.

SECTION III. Billboard, Off-Premise Sign Standards:

Billboards shall be permitted only on property which is zoned commercial or industrial, or upon property which is utilized for commercial or industrial purposes. Billboards shall be subject to the following regulations:

1. Types of Billboards Allowed

A. Single and Double-Faced Billboards: A billboard structure may be single or double-faced but any double-faced billboard structure shall have advertising surfaces of equal size and shape, excluding embellishments. For the purposes of the Ordinance, the following types of billboards shall be considered double-faced billboards:

- a) A billboard structure where the signs are placed back-to-back as long as the backs of the signs are not separated by more than thirty-six (36) inches.
- b) A billboard structure when constructed in the form of a "V" when viewed from above, provided the internal angle at the apex is not greater than ninety (90) degrees and the billboard's structure is not separated by more than thirty-six (36) inches at the apex of the "V".
- c) A single billboard structure shall not exceed 14 ft. x 40 ft., or 560 square feet, exclusive of embellishments.

B. Multifaced Billboards: A billboard structure may have a maximum of two (2) advertising surfaces facing in one (1) direction. This shall only be allowed under the following conditions:

- 1) Both surfaces shall be the same size and shape.
- 2) The total length of the two (2) surfaces side by side shall not exceed ninety (90) feet.
- 3) The height of the copy area of side by side surfaces shall not exceed fourteen (14) feet.
- 4) Two (2) side by side or stacked surfaces facing the same direction shall have a maximum total copy area of eight hundred (800) square feet exclusive of embellishments which shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the total advertising display area.
- 5) Stacked billboards over thirty (30) feet in height must be constructed upon steel "I" beams or monopoles.
- 6) The combined heights of the copy areas of the two (2) "stacked" signs facing in the same direction shall be limited to 25 feet.

2. Structural Requirements

A. Height: No billboard shall exceed an overall height of Thirty (30) feet above the crown of the road primarily designed to be served by the sign; with the exception of billboards constructed upon steel I-beams or monopoles, which may be constructed to a height of forty-five (45) feet; all signs exceeding thirty (30) feet shall be designed, signed and sealed by a registered engineer. In appropriate circumstances, a variance for additional height may be granted by the St. Johns County Planning and Zoning Agency pursuant to section 11-9-2, St. Johns County Zoning Code.

B. Corner Lots: On any corner lot, no billboard shall be erected or project within the triangular area formed by the street right-of-way lines and a line connecting them at points twenty-five (25) feet from the corner formed by the intersection of the street right-of-way lines.

C. Supporting Structure: No portion of the supporting structure shall be visible above any advertising display area, excluding embellishments.

3. Established Setbacks: No billboard shall be erected within fifteen (15) feet of the right-of-way of an interstate highway, federal-aid primary highway, or other right-of-way.

A. When commercial, industrial abuts residential, no billboard shall be erected within ten(10) feet of the residentially zoned property.

4. Number of Billboard Signs Permitted

A. General Regulations: No billboard structure shall be constructed unless the required distance to the nearest existing or approved billboard structure is maintained as provided herein.

(1) Billboard Signs Located Along Interstates:

Along interstates, as established by the State of Florida or any of its political subdivision, no billboard structure shall be erected closer

than one-thousand (1,000) feet to the nearest billboard structure on the same side of the highway having an advertising surface facing in the same direction.

(2) Billboard signs Located Along Federal-Aid Primary Highways or Other Rights-of-way:

Along Federal -Aid Primary Highways as established by the State of Florida or any of the political subdivisions, and along other rights-of-way within the County, no billboard structure shall be erected closer than five hundred (500) feet to the nearest billboard structure on the same side of the highway having an advertising surface facing in the same direction.

5. How Distance Is Measured: The distance between billboards shall be the distance measured lineally along the centerline of the street or highway on which the common frontage sites each have frontage, between perpendiculars to such centerline drawn from such billboard (at the point on each closest to the other) to the centerline of such street.

6. Minimum Distance From Public or Semi-Public Facilities:

No Billboard shall be allowed within one hundred(100) feet of the nearest property line of any public park, municipal, county, state or federal public building, religious institution, or any public or private school.

7. Illumination and Animation: No billboard shall be erected, or any existing billboard maintained, that incorporates flashing, scintillating, beacon or running lights, or animated copy. Illumination which is not effectively shielded as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed at any portion of the traveled way of the inter-state or federal-aid primary

highways, or other right-of-way, or adjacent to residential development, and which is of such intensity or brilliance as to cause glare or to impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle, or which otherwise interferes with any driver's operation of a motor vehicle is prohibited.

8. Owner Identification: Each billboard erected, operated and maintained within the County shall carry and have displayed upon it an owner identification place which shall, at all times, be maintained upon the sign structure in a clearly visible manner from the road right-of-way and which shall contain the following information:

- a) Name of Company
- b) City in which the company is located.

SECTION IV. General:

1. Building Permit Required: No person shall erect or relocate any sign without first obtaining a building permit for such work from the Building Official. No permit shall be issued until the Zoning Department determines that such work is in accordance with the requirements contained in this Ordinance, and the Building Inspection Department determines that such work will not violate applicable building or electric codes. Except as otherwise provided, permits required by this Section will be issued pursuant to the same terms and according to the same fee schedule as all other building permits.

A. Application: The permit application shall be signed by the applicant or his agent.

B. Scale Drawing: Every application shall be accompanied by a drawing to scale of the proposed sign showing the location, height, size and distance from other signs where applicable and all other information required to determine zoning compliance.

C. Exception-Changeable Copy Sign: The changing of advertising copy or message on signs which are

specifically designed for the use of replaceable copy shall not require a building permit.

D. Obscene Copy: the posting, painting, illustrating, or otherwise displaying of any copy which is obscene to the standards of the community shall be prohibited.

E. No off-site billboards shall be permitted within five hundred (500) feet of the edge of the right-of-way of any federal, state or county designated scenic highway.

SECTION V. Portable AND/OR Mobile Signs:

1. Permit Required: Term: a mobile sign located, placed or parked, or otherwise utilized for display purposes on any site or premises shall have a sign permit issued therefor for each installation of each sign on each site or premises not later than twenty-four (24) hours after placement of the sign. Such permit may be obtained only by a licensed or bonded sign contractor and shall be valid for six months. Said contractor shall have the permit renewed and the installation re-inspected every six months or portion thereof as long as it remains on the site. If such sign is not removed within three (3) days after expiration of a permit, and after notification to the owner, action shall be taken as provided in this ordinance, and the Director of Community Development shall cause the sign to be removed. Similarly, if any such sign is utilized or operated without a valid permit, such sign shall be immediately removed. such removed sign may be held for a period of sixty (60) days; at such time any such sign may be sold to pay the costs incurred for removal and storage of such sign. The owner of such sign may recover such sign at any time after removal if such person pays said costs prior to the sale. the permittee shall keep the permit, when issued, for a portable sign or mobile sign on the permittee's premises.

2. Location restrictions: Mobile/Portable signs

shall not be located or maintained:

- A. Within five (5) feet of any private property line or within twenty (20) feet of the intersection at any two street right-of-way lines.
- B. Within five (5) feet of any electric, telephone or other utility pole, guy wire or utility line.
- C. Closer than thirty (30) feet to another mobile sign.
- D. In a parking space which is required to meet the minimum parking requirements.

3. Electrical connections:Cords: Electrical

connections to mobile signs may be made through type SO or STO flexible 12/3 cords not more than two-hundred (200) feet in length and supplied by an approved, grounded weatherproof, exterior electrical outlet on a circuit with a capacity of not less than twenty (20) amperes. The electrical cord of one mobile sign shall not overlap or connect to another mobile sign. Such cords shall not be extended through doors, windows or other openings into buildings and shall not be laid on driveways, pavement, sidewalks or walkways or any area prescriptively used for pedestrian or vehicular traffic. Such cords crossing driveways, sidewalks, pavement prescriptively used areas shall be carried overhead and conform to the following:

- A. Driveways and pavement: Such cords shall have a minimum clearance of eighteen (18) feet above grade.
- B. Sidewalks and Walkways: Such cords shall have a minimum clearance of ten (10) feet above grade.
- C. Supports: such cords spanning a distance greater than twenty-five (25) feet shall be supported by a steel message cable not less than one-quarter inch in diameter and be taped thereto at five (5) foot interval.

4. Certification of Electric Signs: Mobile signs which include electrical lighting or equipment shall have been approved and labeled by Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., or shall have been certified by a certified master

Electrician to be in compliance with electrical regulations and this section.

5. Maintenance of log of signs owned or sold: The mobile sign contractor or manufacturer shall have his name or company logo on all portable signs and have no additional advertisement for himself or his company on any mobile sign. The log shall provide the name of the master electrician who wired the sign or the underwriter's identification code. The log shall further contain the name of the purchaser of signs sold.

6. Size and Lighting regulations:

A. Portable signs shall not exceed forty (40) square feet in area.

B. All incandescent bulbs in, or, or attached to any portable sign shall be rated not more than seventy-five (75) watts. Not more than ten (10) incandescent bulbs per face of each sign shall be permitted. No portable sign shall be maintained or used that incorporates beacon or running lights.

7. Mobile/Portable becoming permanent: A portable/mobile sign shall no longer be considered as portable when it is permanently attached to the ground by concrete, grade beams, concrete blocks, or other permanent type foundation, and shall be subject to compliance, at that time, with all regulations regarding on-site commercial signs.

SECTION VI. Administration of Ordinance: The following provisions shall govern the Administration of this Sign Ordinance:

1. Compliance with Other Regulations: All signs as defined by this Ordinance shall be erected, altered and maintained in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and shall be designed and installed in

compliance with the requirements of the Building and Electrical codes.

A. No sign which has been damaged by any means to an extent of more than 50% of its physical structure shall be expanded, enlarged, or repaired, except in conformity with the regulations of this ordinance, and all rights as a non-conforming structure shall be terminated. If a sign is damaged by less than 50% of the physical structure, it may be repaired or reconstructed and used as before this ordinance, provided that such repair or reconstruction be substantially completed within six (6) months of the date of such damage.

2. Enforcement: The Director of Community Development is hereby authorized and directed to enforce all provisions of this Ordinance. The Director of Community Development may require the removal of any sign structure in disrepair not less than thirty (30) days after notice to the owner of such sign structure of the conditions constituting disrepair which said notice shall specify what improvements need be made to the sign structure within the said thirty (30) day time period to eliminate such conditions of disrepair.

In the case of an uncontrollable event, or proven hardship, a reasonable period of additional time shall be allowed for repair and improvement, but not to exceed ninety (90) days. Signs not displaying an owner identification plate, which are in disrepair may be removed after notice has been directed to the owner of the property upon which such sign is located as provided in St. Johns County Ordinance 79-57 (Removal of Unsafe Buildings).

Mobile or portable signs may be removed and stored by any licensed Towing Service. Further, the owner of said sign shall be responsible for all towing and storage charges incurred on said sign; and further, after written notice to the owner of said sign, a mobile or portable sign may be sold auction to recover the

costs incurred by said Towing Service, after sixty (60) days of receipt of said notice.

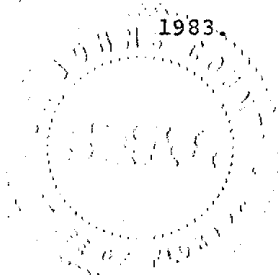
3. Interpretation: Where there is any ambiguity or dispute concerning the interpretation of this Ordinance, a decision of the Director of Community Development may be appealed to the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners, provided such appeal is filed with the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners within thirty (30) days of the decision.

4. Conflict with Other Regulations: In all cases where the provisions of this Ordinance are in conflict with any other Ordinance and code or parts of Ordinance and codes, the more restrictive provisions shall govern.

SECTION VII. Any person, firm, or corporation found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine not to exceed \$500.00 or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed sixty (60) days, or both such fine and imprisonment. Each day that an offense or violation of this ordinance continues, shall be deemed a separate offense.

SECTION VIII. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon receipt of official acknowledgement by the Office of the Secretary of State, to the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners that same has been filed.

PASSED BY the County Commission of the County of St. Johns, State of Florida, this 28 day of June,



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY

BY: Robert E. Curtan
Its Chairman

ATTEST: CARL "BUD" MARKEL, CLERK

BY: Marie Hudson
Deputy Clerk

Adopted: 06/28/83
Effective: 07/06/83

83-24

COPY OF ADVERTISEMENT

The St. Augustine Record
PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY
ST. AUGUSTINE AND ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA, }
COUNTY OF ST. JOHNS }

Before the undersigned authority personally appeared _____
Robert E. James who on oath says that he is
Advertising Manager of the St. Augustine Record, a
daily newspaper published at St. Augustine in St. Johns County, Florida;
that the attached copy of advertisement, being a _____
Notice of Meeting & Public Hearing
_____ in the matter of _____
Board of County Commissioners
_____ in the _____ Court,
was published in said newspaper in the issues of _____
May 27, 1983

Affiant further says that the St. Augustine Record is a newspaper published at St. Augustine, in said St. Johns County, Florida, and that the said newspaper has heretofore been continuously published in said St. Johns County, Florida, each day, except Sundays, and has been entered as second class mail matter at the post office in the City of St. Augustine, in said St. Johns County, Florida, for a period of one year next preceding the first publication of the attached copy of advertisement; and affiant further says that he has neither paid nor promised any person, firm or corporation any discount, rebate, commission or refund for the purpose of securing this advertisement for publication in the said newspaper.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 31st day of May _____
A.D. 83
Ruth M. Walker

(SEAL) Notary Public, State of _____
My Commission Expires May 13, 1985
printed here they can manufacture, Inc.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, AT ITS REGULAR MEETING ON JUNE 28, 1983, AT 10:00 O'CLOCK A.M. IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ROOM, ST. JOHNS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE PASSAGE OF THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE:
AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF ST. JOHNS, STATE OF FLORIDA, ADOPTING REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LOCATION AND INSTALLATION OF SIGNS; OUTDOOR ADVERTISING, BILLBOARDS OR POSTER PANELS, PORTABLE OR MOBILE SIGNS ON COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA. THIS ORDINANCE ALSO PROVIDES PENALTIES AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
The proposed Ordinance is on file in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, St. Johns County, Florida, St. Johns County Courthouse, and may be examined by parties interested prior to said public hearing.
All parties having any interest in said Ordinance will be afforded an opportunity to be heard at the public hearing.
If a person desires to appeal any decision made by the Board of County Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at the meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
Clerk "Bud" Merket,
By: Marie Hudson
Deputy Clerk
1808 May 27, 1983



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
George Firestone
Secretary of State

July 1, 1983

Honorable Carl "Bud" Markel, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Post Office Drawer 300
St. Augustine, Florida 32084

Attention: Ms. Marie Hudson

Dear Mr. Markel:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 125.66, Florida Statutes, this will acknowledge:

1. Receipt of your letter/s of June 29
and certified copy/ies of St. Johns
County Ordinance/s No/s 83-24
2. Receipt of _____ County Ordinance/s
relative to:
(a) _____
which we have numbered _____
(b) _____
which we have numbered _____
3. We have filed this/these Ordinance/s in this office on
July 1, 1983
4. The original/duplicate copy/ies showing the filing date is/are
being returned for your records.

Cordially,

Nancy Kavanaugh
(Mrs.) Nancy Kavanaugh
Chief, Bureau of Laws

NK/

FLORIDA-State of the Arts

FILED
83 JUL -6 AM 11 26
Carl "Bud" Markel
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT