

## POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS AND POSTERS

### THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS ARE ESTABLISHED BY THE TENNESSEE FREEDOM OF SPEECH ACT OF 2017 AND THE CITY OF GALLATIN ZONING ORDINANCE AND PERTAIN TO POLITICAL SIGNS AND POSTERS.

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Political Signs are a type of temporary sign regulated by the City's Sign Code and Tennessee Statute and are limited by the following restrictions:

- Political campaign signs shall be located only on private property.
- The maximum height for signs is 8 feet and the sign must be placed at least 5 feet from any right-of-way but may be of any shape.
- Signs are not allowed in the public right-of-way (T.C.A. 54-5-703 and T.C.A. 54-21-109 and Sections 13.07.030 and 13.07.060, of the Gallatin Zoning Ordinance). Signs placed within the public right-of-way, including in medians or on utility poles, will be removed by City staff and discarded. Usually, signs located behind public sidewalks or the utility lines, are outside of the public right-of-way.

Per Section 13.07.030, the Zoning Administrator or designee shall have the authority to remove or order the removal of any sign placed within the right-of-way, or attached to trees, rocks, fence posts, telephone poles, utility poles, or other natural features at the owner's expense, and without notice to the owners thereof.

Political signs may be placed on private property 60 days prior to the first day voting begins before an election until the first day after voting ends for such election per the Tennessee Freedom of Speech Act (Tenn. Code Annotated §2-7-143).

- Signs placed on residential property may be up to 16 square feet in size
- Signs placed on commercial property may be up to 32 square feet in size
- Lessors and HOAs are limited in regulating political campaign signs. Specific details can be found in Tennessee Code Annotated §2-7-143.

In addition, the following types of signs are prohibited by the City of Gallatin Zoning Ordinance (Article 13. Section 13.07) at all times:

- Bench signs on public property.
- Freestanding canopy signs.
- Government imitation signs.
- Inflatable animated characters or similar balloon type devices that require tethering when located in a commercially zoned district. Does not include typical latex balloons less than eighteen inches in diameter.
- Moving signs: A sign or device which swings, undulates, or otherwise attracts attention through the movements of parts or through the impression of movement and includes flashing, fluttering, moving,

pennant, revolving, rotating, streamer, windblown, or similar signs or devices. This includes vertical or horizontal wind banners.

- Noisy mechanical devices.
- Parked vehicle signs: Signs placed on or affixed to vehicles and/or trailers that are parked on a right-of-way or on public or private property so as to be visible from a public right-of-way
- Roof signs.
- Searchlights.
- Signs erected in a public right-of-way will be removed.
- Signs interfering or blocking the sight of directional, instructional or warning signs or attached to.
- Signs on natural features, such as trees or other living vegetation and rocks.
- Trailer signs.
- Trash receptacle signs.
- Any sign not specified in the sign ordinance.

The sign ordinance is part of the City of Gallatin Zoning Ordinance which can be found online at <http://www.gallatintn.gov>. Please remember to remove political signs as soon as possible after the election. If you have any questions concerning this notice please call the City Planning Department at (615) 451-5796.