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**ORDINANCE # XX OF 2012**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH BUFFALO, ARMSTRONG COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING A COORDINATED AND UNIFORM SYSTEM FOR 911 (EMERGENCY) STREET AND BUILDING NUMBER SIGN REGULATIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP TO PRESCRIBE APPROPRIATE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.**

**This ordinance is duly ordained and adopted as follows:**

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE**

This ordinance shall be known and may be cited as ***The Street and Building Number Sign Ordinance*** of South Buffalo Township.

**SECTION 2. AUTHORITY**

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the provisions of the Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code, Act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.350, No.60), as amended November 9, 1995 (P.L.350, No.60), as amended.

**SECTION 3. PURPOSE AND INTENT**

The purpose of the Ordinance is to enhance public safety and security, and generally protect the public health, safety and welfare by improving the ability of emergency response personnel to navigate and locate dwellings and other structures in the Township, and to provide for the convenience of the general public. This Ordinance:

1. Provides the authority to the Township Board of Supervisors to assign road names to all public and private roads in the Township to eliminate duplicates and confusion.
2. Requires conformance to the street addressing system established by Armstrong County for the 911 emergency call system.
3. Establishes a uniform system for street names and building number signs.

**SECTION 4. STREET NAMES**

**4.1 Street Names Required**

All roadways that meet one (1) or more of the following conditions shall be named and posted with a street sign in accordance with this ordinance.

1. Public roads and streets owned and maintained by the township.

2. *Private roads*, streets and driveways which service three (3) or more habitable structures or business related buildings.

3. Private roads, streets and driveways which service a deeded plan of three (3) or more lots.

#### **4.2 Street Name Assignment**

The Board of Supervisors shall have the sole authority to assign names to all public and private roads, streets and driveways in the Township and to change such names if deemed necessary to achieve the purposes of this ordinance. In the case of new subdivisions and land developments, road names shall be included on the plans required by the Township.

#### **4.3 Street Name Duplication**

No street name sign shall be posted on any public or private road, street or driveway unless the township has approved such name in order to avoid duplication of names.

### **SECTION 5. STREET ADDRESSES**

All street addresses shall conform to the street addressing system established by Armstrong County for the 911 emergency call system, and all habitable structures and business related buildings shall have a building number sign conforming to the requirements of this Ordinance.

### **SECTION 6. STREET NAME SIGNS**

The street name sign standards in this section are intended to conform to the recommendations of the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices published in March 2001 and exceed PennDOT requirements per 67PA Code 211.841. including the use of the term ***street name sign***.

#### **6.1 Responsibility for Sign Installation**

1. The township shall order and install all street name signs required for initial compliance with this ordinance. It shall thereafter be the responsibility of the owner and/or whoever is responsible for the maintenance of any street, which has been assigned a name by the Township, to order and install any street name sign, which has been lost, stolen, damaged or destroyed.

2. Any such designation of a private street shall not impose any obligation or liability on the township for the maintenance, inspection or improvement of said roadway.



## **6.2 Street Name Sign Construction and Appearance**

1. All street name sign blades shall be a minimum of six (6) inches high and shall be long enough to contain the street name.
2. All public street name signs shall have a green background and all private street name signs shall have a blue background. NOTE: All currently posted green background signs on private roads in good condition may remain until replacement is necessitated.
3. All lettering shall be white in color and shall be made of a reflective material a minimum of four (4) inches high in a plain blocked uppercase font.

## **6.3 Street Name Sign Placement and Coverage**

1. Street name signs shall be placed at all intersections.
2. The bottom of the sign blade shall be a minimum of six (6) feet and a maximum of eight (8) feet above the edge of the street.
3. The post shall generally be offset six (6) feet from the edge of the road, to insure visibility of the sign.
4. Signposts, post foundations, and sign mountings shall be so constructed as to hold signs in a proper and permanent position, and to resist displacement by wind or vandalism. Whenever a private road intersects a public road signposts shall, at minimum, meet the standards of the most current PennDOT Publication. If used, concrete bases shall be flush with the ground. Trees shall not be used as signposts.

## **SECTION 7. BUILDING NUMBER SIGNS**

### **7.1 Responsibility for Sign Installation**

It shall be the responsibility of the owner of any habitable structure or business related building in the township to install and maintain a building number sign, which conforms to the requirements of this Ordinance.

### **7.2 Building Number Sign Construction and Appearance**

1. All building number sign blades shall be a minimum of six (6) inches by eighteen (18) inches.
2. All numbers shall be a minimum of three (3) inches high, reflective white on a green background with the building number on both surface sides of the sign.

### **7.3 Building Number Sign Placement and Coverage**

1. Building number signs shall be conspicuously posted at the entrance of the driveway to the habitable structure or business related building. The number must be readily seen and read from the highway, street, or road upon which the driveway enters.

**NOTE: On unnamed private roads serving two habitable structures or business related buildings a second set of numbers at the intersection of the private road with a public road is required.**

2. Signs shall be mounted vertically (numbers reading top to bottom on both sides) or horizontally (numbers reading left to right on both sides)

3. The bottom of the sign shall be a minimum of three (3) feet and a maximum of six (6) feet above ground elevation.

4. The sign shall be mounted on a display post no less than ten (10) feet from the highway, street, or road at the driveway entrance. Exception: Signs may be mounted on a mailbox or other previously erected structure closer than ten (10) feet from the road if the mailbox or other structure is located on the same side of the street as the building and at or near the driveway entrance (must conform to min/max height requirements)

5. Obstructions (including snow) shall be removed to permit the sign to be visible for a distance of not less than fifty (50) feet from the sign in both directions.

## **SECTION 8. IMPLEMENTATION**

### **8.1 Street Name Signs**

All street name signs placed, replaced, modified or maintained after the effective date of this Ordinance shall conform to the requirements of this Ordinance.

### **8.2 Building Number Signs**

All building number signs shall be installed in compliance with this ordinance within ninety (90) days and all nonconforming number signs shall be brought into compliance within ninety (90) days of official notice that the number has been assigned by Armstrong County or South Buffalo Township.

## **SECTION 9 MODIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS**

### **9.1 Intent**

The provisions of this Ordinance are intended as a minimum standard for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare. If the literal compliance with this Ordinance is shown by a person responsible for the installation of a sign to be unreasonable or to cause an undue hardship as it applies to a particular sign, the Board of Supervisors may grant a waiver

from such provision. However, the granting of a modification shall not have the effect of making null and void the intent and purpose of this Ordinance.

## **9.2 Conditions**

In granting modifications the Board of Supervisors may impose such conditions as will, in its judgment, secure the objectives of the standards of this Ordinance.

## **9.3 Procedure**

All requests for modifications shall be in writing and shall include the specific sections of the Ordinance in question, provisions for alternatives to the requirements and documentation, including but not limited to photographs of said proposed sign. The Board of Supervisors shall make a determination within thirty (30) days following the date of submission of application in question.

# **SECTION 10. VIOLATIONS, PENALTIES & REMEDIES**

## **10.1 Violations; Penalties**

A violation of this ordinance shall constitute a summary offense and any person who violates this ordinance shall, upon conviction before a District Justice, be subject to a fine of up to fifty dollars (\$50.00). Each day of violation shall constitute a separate and subsequent offense.

## **10.2 Equitable and Other Remedies**

In addition to fines and penalties prescribed in 10.1, the township may enforce this ordinance by equitable, injunctive and other remedies of law, and shall recover from the violator(s) reasonable attorneys fees, court costs and other costs incurred by the Township in enforcing this ordinance.

# **SECTION 11. SEVERABILITY**

Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole, or any parts thereof.

# **SECTION 12. REPEALER**

All other Ordinances or sections of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

### SECTION 13. ADOPTION

This Ordinance is hereby adopted and enacted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March,

2012, and shall become effective five (5) days after enactment.

South Buffalo Township Supervisors

Terry L. VanDyke

Terry L. VanDyke, Chairman

Thomas Boroski

Thomas Boroski, Vice Chairman

Glenn H. Heilman

Glenn Heilman

ATTEST:

Michelle Bostonsky

Secretary (SEAL)