

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-01

AN ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE WATERFRONT PLACEMENT OF ADDRESS SIGNS

WHEREAS, addresses are important for fire, rescue and law enforcement to quickly locate people and property; and

WHEREAS, the Town requires placement of uniform address signs on the street-side of properties in the Town, by Ordinance No. 2006-03; and

WHEREAS, fire, rescue and law enforcement are required to gain access from the waterfront side of waterfront properties from time to time, and therefore it is necessary to require placement of address signs on the waterfront of such properties, in addition to the placement location required by Ordinance No. 2006-03.

NOW THEREFORE, the Town Board of the Town of LaGrange, Walworth County, Wisconsin, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. WATERFRONT ADDRESS SIGNS REQUIRED.

Every person owning property on which a structure is located or on which construction activities have commenced that abuts a navigable body of water shall conspicuously place an address sign on the waterfront side of the home as follows: within 10 feet of the ordinary high water mark, with the numbers facing ~~perpendicular~~ ^{parallel} to the water body, at least 4' above the grade of the land on which the sign is located. The sign shall be placed and maintained in such manner as to be clearly visible from the water. This waterfront sign is in addition to, and not in lieu of, the sign required on the street-side of the property by Ordinance 2006-03.

Section 2. ASSIGNED ADDRESSES.

The address number shall be the same as the address number assigned pursuant to Ordinance 2006-03.

Section 3. PROCURING SIGNS

The signs shall be uniform and procured by the Town. The Town, in its discretion, may decide that the design and construction will be identical to the uniform sign that is required by Ordinance 2006-03, or the waterfront sign may have a different uniform design and construction. Property owners shall install the required sign prior to occupancy for new construction, and for all other properties within sixty (60) days of receiving notice from the Town that the sign is available and ready to be installed. The costs of the sign shall be paid initially by the Town and then charged to the property owners to recover the Town's costs.

Section 4. FAILURE TO COMPLY

(1) The Town Clerk shall notify all persons or property not in compliance with this ordinance by sending a notice to comply to the address listed on the Town's tax rolls, 1st class U.S. mail at least 10 days prior to the Town Board hearing. The notice shall state:

Please take notice that the Town Board of LaGrange will hold a hearing on the _____ day of _____ at _____ M at the LaGrange Town Hall to determine whether the Town will properly place or maintain a waterfront address sign of the following property _____, and charge the full cost to the property owner(s). All interested persons will be heard.

(2) Upon the Town Clerk's statement at the hearing that the above notice was mailed in compliance with the Ordinance, all interested persons will be heard, and the Town Board will determine whether the address sign was properly installed and properly maintained. If the Town Board determines that a waterfront address sign was not properly installed or maintained, then the Town Board may direct an agent of the Town to install or maintain the waterfront address sign and charge the full cost to the property owner(s), or take such alternative action as the Town Board deems appropriate in the circumstances.

(3) The Town Board may charge the property owner(s) for all costs incurred by the Town in the matter, and, if not paid within the time fixed by the Town Board, such charges shall become a lien upon the property and shall be placed on the next tax roll as a special charge. The cost of all proceedings in relation to the procurement of signs, placement of signs, and related administration shall be added to the special charge.

(4) Any property owner or any person who fails to install, maintain or properly place the address sign and any person who defaces, moves or removes an address sign may receive a citation issued by the Town Road Commissioner for a violation of this Ordinance. Each day the violation continues is a separate offense. Upon conviction the Court shall impose a minimum forfeiture of \$50.00 up to a maximum of \$500.00 plus costs and penalty assessments. Failure to pay may result in a commitment to the County jail. The bail schedule shall be \$100.00. Violation of this ordinance constitutes a separate offense from violation of Ordinance 2006-03, so a property owner who fails to place or maintain signs on the waterfront and also on the street-side of the home is subject to penalties applicable to both offenses.

Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption and publication.

Adopted on motion of Supervisor Bromley, seconded by Supervisor Sukala on the 8th day of March, 2021

Dated this 8th day of March, 2021.

TOWN OF LAGRANGE

Frank Taylor, Chairman

Frank Taylor, Town Chair

ATTEST:

Crystal Hoffmann, Clerk

Crystal Hoffman, Town Clerk

Published and/or posted this 16th day of March 2021.