

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF THAMES CENTRE

BY-LAW NO. 19-2018

Being a By-law to amend By-law No. 60-2006, being a by-law to prohibit and regulate signs and other advertising devices and the posting of notices on buildings or vacant lots within the Municipality of Thames Centre and to repeal By-law No. 48-90 and amendments thereto.

WHEREAS section 11(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, herein referred to as the “Act”, provides that a local municipality may pass By-laws respecting matters within its spheres of jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Thames Centre enacted By-law No. 60-2006 on August 9, 2006, being a by-law to prohibit and regulate signs and other advertising devices and the posting of notices on buildings or vacant lots within the Municipality of Thames Centre and to repeal By-law No. 48-90 and amendments thereto;

AND WHEREAS By-law No. 60-2006 includes a section in the by-law that pertains to regulating Election Signs;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Thames Centre deems it necessary to enact a by-law to amend By-law No. 60-2006, in particular Section 20.1 Election Signs;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Thames Centre **HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. **THAT** Section 20.1 of By-law No. 60-2006 be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“20.1 Election Signs

- a. For this Section the following definitions apply:

Municipal Clerk means the Clerk of the Municipality of Thames Centre or a person delegated by them.

Voting Centre means a location provide by the Municipality of Thames Centre to assist electors with the voting process or general election inquiries and known as the “Voter Help Centre”.

Writ of Election means the date as defined in the Canada Elections Act and the Elections Act (Ontario).

- b. No person shall affix, erect or otherwise display an Election Sign or permit an Election Sign to be affixed, erected or otherwise displayed:
 - i. that is illuminated except an Election Sign promoting a Candidate on a Campaign Office or a Billboard;
 - ii. on municipal property; including but not limited to Municipal Office, Community Centres, Municipal Cemeteries, Fire Stations, and Ambulance Station;
 - iii. on road allowances immediately adjacent to the Municipal Office, Community Centres, Municipal Cemeteries, Fire Stations, Ambulance Station, and the Operations Centre;
 - iv. on any property designated parkland or road allowance abutting property designated parkland;
 - v. on a tree, or a fence, or a wall, or a gate, or a utility pole located on public property or a street;
 - vi. on any official sign or official sign structure;

- vii. within a sight triangle;
- viii. on private property or on the road allowance directly abutting the private property without the owner's consent;
- ix. Less than 3 metres from a crosswalk;
- x. within 10 metres of another Election Sign of the same Candidate;
and
- xi. at any location where the Election Sign:
 - obstructs the view of any pedestrian or driver of a motor vehicle, or obstructs the visibility of any traffic sign or device, or where it could interfere with vehicular traffic so that it could endanger any person;
 - impedes or obstructs the passage of pedestrians on a sidewalk;
 - impedes or obstructs the Municipality's maintenance operations;
 - impedes or obstructs any required fire escape, fire exit, door, window, etc., or so as to prevent or impede access of firefighters to any part of a building; and
 - constitutes a danger or hazard to the general public.
- c. No person shall affix, erect or otherwise display an Election Sign or permit an Election Sign to be erected, affixed, or otherwise displayed for a federal or provincial election or by-election than the day the Writ of Election or by-election is issued.
- d. No person shall affix, erect or otherwise display an Election Sign or permit an Election Sign to be erected, affixed, or otherwise displayed for a municipal election until a Candidate has filed all required documents and paid the required fee in support of their candidacy for municipal office. This includes Election Signs to be affixed, erected or otherwise displayed on a Campaign Office.
- e. No person shall display on any Election Sign a logo, trademark or official mark, in whole or in part, owned or licensed by the Municipality.
- f. An Election Sign shall not exceed a maximum sign area of more than 1.5 square metres (16.1 square feet) with the exception of those promoting a Candidate on a campaign office or a billboard.
- g. No person shall display on any Election Sign a logo, trademark or official mark, in whole or in part, owned or licensed by the Municipality.
- h. No person shall affix, erect or otherwise display an Election Sign on the property whereupon a Voting Centre is situated.
- i. No person shall affix, erect or otherwise display an Election Sign in or on a vehicle that is parked on the property of any premise whereupon a Voting Centre is situated.
- j. An Election Sign which is a fascia sign may be affixed to the face of the building or building unit which is used as a Candidate's campaign headquarters provided such fascia sign complies with the provisions of the Sign By-law for a fascia sign.
- k. The Municipal Clerk and/or Enforcement Officer may remove an Election Sign erected in contravention of this by-law without notice.

- l. Any person that has been requested to remove an Election Sign by the Municipality, must remove the sign within twelve (12) hours. If the sign is not removed within the required timeframe, the Municipality reserves the right to remove the sign without any further notice to the person.
- m. All Election Signs shall be removed within seventy-two (72) hours immediately following 11:59 p.m. of the day of the election. If an Election Sign is not removed within the required timeframe, the Municipality reserves the right to remove the sign without any further notice to the Candidate.
- n. The Municipality reserves the right to dispose of any Election Sign that has been removed, as per k., l., and m. above, and not claimed and retrieved by the Candidate, persons, or Owner. The Election Sign will be disposed of within seven (7) days following the removal of the sign by the Municipality.

READ a FIRST and SECOND time this 21st day of February, 2018.

READ a THIRD time and **FINALLY PASSED** this 21st day of February, 2018.

Original signed by:

Mayor, J. Maudsley

Original signed by:

Clerk, M. Alexander