

**WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 10-2018

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST GOSHEN, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF “POLITICAL SIGN” TO INCLUDE SIGNS CONTAINING ANY PROTECTED POLITICAL SPEECH AND LIMITING POLITICAL SIGN REGULATIONS TO SIGNS LOCATED WITHIN THE LEGAL RIGHT-OF-WAY; REPEALING ALL INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES OF PARTS THEREOF; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of West Goshen Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, has enacted the West Goshen Township Zoning Ordinance which contains, inter alia, provisions defining political signs; and

WHEREAS, the current definition of “Political Sign” limits a political sign to a sign that displays the name of a candidate for public office, an office in a political party, a political party, or an issue to be voted on in an election, and regulates signs located anywhere within West Goshen Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to amend the definition of “Political Sign” to include a sign that contain any protected political speech under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, and to limit the Township’s regulation of political signs to the legal rights-of-way, in compliance with constitutional law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has determined that the proposed amendments to the definition of “Political Sign: in the West Goshen Township Zoning Ordinance are in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare and are designed to pass constitutional muster;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it, and it is hereby **ORDAINED** by the Board of Supervisors of West Goshen Township, and it is hereby **ENACTED** and **ORDAINED** by authority of same as follows:

I. The definition of “Political Sign” in Section 84-52.B(1) of the Code of Ordinances of West Goshen Township is amended to read as follows:

“POLITICAL SIGN

A type of off-site sign on which there is displayed the name of a candidate for public office, protected political speech under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, or an office in a political party registered with an appropriate electoral or governmental entity, such as the County of Chester Board of Elections and/or the

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of State; a political party registered with an appropriate electoral or governmental entity, such as the County of Chester Board of Elections and/or the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of State; and/or an issue to be voted upon in plebiscite or referendum at an election scheduled and to be administered by the County of Chester Board of Elections or its successor entity. The area of any one political sign may not exceed three (3) square feet. Political signs may not be posted in the public view any earlier than the date that is 45 days prior to the date of the election referenced therein or thereon (whether expressly or otherwise). Political signs must be removed from public view within 15 days of the close of polls with regard to such election. Illumination of political signs is prohibited in all residential zoning districts. The above regulations shall only apply to signs placed within the legal right-of-way. Political signs placed outside of the legal right-of-way are exempt from these regulations.”

II. All ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of the inconsistency.

III. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such determination shall have no effect on the remaining provisions of this Ordinance or on the West Goshen Township Zoning Ordinance or the West Goshen Code of Ordinances.

IV. This Ordinance shall become effective five (5) days following its legal enactment.

ENACTED and **ORDAINED** this _____ day of _____, 2018.

ATTEST:

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP**

Casey LaLonde, Township Secretary

Christopher Pielli, Esq., Chair

Robin Stuntebeck, Vice-Chair

Mary R. LaSota, Esq., Member

Hugh Purnell, Jr., Member

Edward G. Meakim Jr., Member

