

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

COUNTY OF JASPER

ORDINANCE 16-07

DATE: 5/19/16
AUTHORIZED:

AN ORDINANCE OF JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL

To Amend Section 8-48 of the Jasper County Code of Ordinances, *Classification Rate Schedules*, to provide for the adoption from time to time of a revised schedule of license fees; to provide for the adoption of a revised schedule of license fees for Billboards and off-premise signs; to amend Section 15:6 and Section 15:8.7 of Appendix A of the Jasper County Code of Ordinances to provide clarification on the measurement of sign area for license fee purposes, as opposed to structure size for zoning purposes; and to correct a typographical error in Section 2-42, *Ordinances and Resolutions*, regarding a cross reference to the Section on Public Hearings.

WHEREAS, an examination of the license fee schedule for billboards and off-premise signs reveals the schedule has not been revised in many years, and may be confusing in its application; and

WHEREAS, with the deletion in 2009 of Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances, and the contemporaneous incorporation of major provisions of Chapter 22 into Appendix A, *Zoning*, of the Jasper County Code of Ordinance within Section 15:8, *Billboards*, there is the possibility of differing interpretations on the method to be used for the measurement of billboards and off-premise signs for licensing purposes, arising from the existence of measuring standards for height and size under Section 15:6, *Standards*, which was intended for use with Table 15:6.3 under the Zoning regulations, but not licensing purposes; and

WHEREAS, Jasper County Council desires to approve a new schedule of license fees for billboards and off-premise signs clearly indicating how to calculate fees for the differing sizes of signs as contained in the current schedule, so as to provide examples and remove all doubt, but will not increase the fees presently in place; and

WHEREAS, Jasper County Council desires to amend the Code of Ordinances, Section 8-48, *Classification Rate Schedules*, so as to provide for the adoption of schedules of license fees from

time to time by a resolution approved by a positive majority of County Council as is provided for in Section 2-41, *Voting*, and

WHEREAS, there is an incorrect reference in Section 2-42 to the Section regarding public hearings being Section 2-40;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Jasper County Council duly assembled and by the authority of same:

1. That Section 8-48 of the Jasper County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended so that the first sentence shall now read:

“The license fee for each class of business shall be computed in accordance with the schedules of license fees which is on file and available in the office of the county clerk; such license fee schedules may be revised from time to time by County Council by Resolution adopted by a positive majority of County Council as is provided for in Section 2-41(1)(a), *Positive majority*.”

2. That the attached Schedule of License Fees for Billboards and Off-premise Signs is hereby adopted by County Council;
3. That Section 15:6.2, *Measurement of multi-faced signs*, is hereby amended so that the second sentence of that section shall now read:

“When any two sign faces are placed back to back, so that both faces cannot be viewed from any point at the same time, and when such sign faces are part of the same sign structure and are not more than 42 inches apart, the sign area for Zoning purposes (but not for business licensing or other fee purposes) shall be computed by the measurement of one of the faces; and ...”

4. That Section 15-8, *Billboards*, is hereby amended by adding a new sentence at the end of sub-section 15:8.7 as follows:

“Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 15:6.2, *Measurement of multi-faced signs*, for purposes of measuring the area of the sign faces for county annual and recurring license fees for billboards and off premise signs, each sign face is measured

independently, so that a back to back sign has two faces and the cumulative square footage of both is used to calculate the total fee due."

5. That Section 2-42, *Ordinances and resolutions*, is amended to correct the reference in the fourth paragraph to public hearing requirements from 2-40 to 2-39.

6. This ordinance shall take effect upon approval by Council.



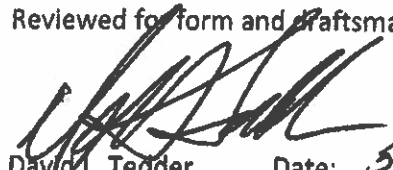
Martin Sauls, ~~M~~ Chairman

ATTEST:


Judith M. Frank, Clerk to Council

ORDINANCE 16- ^{099F}
First Reading: 03/21/2016
Second Reading: 4/4/16
Public hearing: 4/18/16
Adopted: 5/02/16

Reviewed for form and craftsmanship by the Jasper County Attorney.


David L. Tedder Date: 5/02/16

**SCHEDULE OF LICENSE FEES
BILLBOARDS AND OFF-PREMISE SIGNS**

Adopted _____, 2016

As Authorized By Section 2-48 of the Jasper County Code of Ordinances

Each application for a billboard or off-premise sign license shall be accompanied by a fee that will be computed on a "per square foot range" basis with respect to the size categories set forth below. See also Section 57-25-140 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. For purposes of measuring the area of the sign faces for county annual and recurring license fees for billboards and off premise signs, each sign face is measured independently, so that a back to back sign has two faces and the cumulative square footage of both is used to calculate the total fee due, notwithstanding the measurement provisions of Section 15:6.2 of Appendix A of the Jasper County Code of Ordinances. See also Section 15:8.7.

Sign permits/licenses are to be renewed annually, are based on the calendar year, and are due in the Business License Office by December 31st of the year prior to the license period. A \$25.00 late fee will be due for any application filed after January 1st, with an additional \$25.00 per month late fee added for each month the application is not filed and the fee paid. Licenses for partial year filings will be issued on a pro-rata basis, based on a 365 day year and a daily pro-ration.

Sq. Ft. Range per sign face	Median Sq. Ft. of Range	Base Fee for Median	Fee Adjustment for over/under Median Sq. Ft per Sq. Ft.
Under 150 Sq. Ft.	75 Sq. Ft.	\$25.00	\$0.50
150 -450 Sq. Ft.	300 Sq. Ft.	\$100.00	\$0.50
451 – 750 Sq. Ft.	600 Sq. Ft.	\$200.00	\$0.50
751 – 1200 Sq. Ft.	975 Sq. Ft.	\$325.00	\$0.50

By example, a sign with two faces 15 feet by 30 feet each has a license fee calculated as follows: 15 times 30 equals 450 Sq. Ft. per side, so the total sign area for fee purposes is 900 Sq. Ft.. The Median Sq. Ft. for that range is 975 Sq. Ft., so there is a 75 Sq. Ft. difference under the Median. Therefore, the Base Fee for the Median of \$325.00 is reduced by the Fee Adjustment of \$0.50 times 75 Sq. Ft., or \$37.50, yielding a license fee of \$287.50.

Conversely, if the two faces were each 20 feet by 32 feet, 20 times 32 equals 640 Sq. Ft., so the total sign area for fee purposes is 1280 Sq. Ft.. The Median Sq. Ft. for that range is 975 Sq. Ft., so there is a 305 Sq. Ft. difference over the Median. Therefore, the Base Fee for the Median of \$325.00 is increased by the Fee Adjustment of \$0.50 timed 305 Sq. Ft., or \$152.50, yielding a license fee of \$477.50.

Two separate sign faces stacked one over the other are calculated as one sign face collectively for that sign area, so that by example, a 10 foot by 20 foot sign with another 10 foot by 20 foot sign above it has a total sign area for license purposes of 400 Sq. Ft., and if there were two other signs on the other side of the structure of equal size, the total area for licensing would be 800 Sq. Ft.