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Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Carolyn Back, Community Development Director
Re: Text Amendment for Political Signs, Section 18 – Sign Codes
Date: 10.19.2020

BACKGROUND

Recent Supreme Court Cases have revealed the need to change our City of Coweta Zoning Code pertaining to Political Campaign Signs.

Current:

Section 18.3.4.h. General Use Conditions - Election Campaign Signs.

Election Campaign Signs, if erected not more than forty-five (45) days prior to an election and removed within seven (7) days following the elections and not exceeding sixteen (16) square feet of display surface area.

City Legal recommends amending Section 18.3.4.h to delete the reference to time periods for posting.

Proposed Text Amendment to Section 18.3.4.h:

Political campaign signs may not exceed sixteen (16) square feet of display surface area.

Current:

Section 18.8 Political Signs

Political campaign signs are allowed in any zoning district. No political campaign sign shall be erected more than forty-five (45) days prior to any election, nor shall any sign be permitted to remain on any property more than seven (7) days following an election; no political campaign signs shall be permitted on public property and they shall be permitted on private property only with the consent of the property owner; the display surface area of each political campaign signs located in R or O zoning districts shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in surface area; only one side of a double-faced sign shall be computed in the computation of display area. These signs are not to be located in any public park or city owned property.

Proposed Text Amendment to Section 18.8:

Political campaign signs are allowed in any zoning district. The display surface area of each political campaign sign located in R or O zoning districts shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in surface area, only one side of a double-faced sign shall be used in the computation of display area. No political campaign sign shall be erected on public property.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the proposed text amendments to Section 18.3.4 h and Section 18.8 within the City of Coweta Zoning Code