

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON  
COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 217

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON ESTABLISHING STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF RURAL MASONRY MAILBOX STRUCTURES; PROVIDING FOR CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS THEREOF; ESTABLISHING PERMITTED LOCATIONS; ESTABLISHING PROHIBITED LOCATIONS; ESTABLISHING PERMIT APPROVAL PROCESS; AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION HEREOF.

BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Washington Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 1: The Township of Washington hereby establishes regulations for construction and placement of all rural mailbox structures within the Township. A rural mailbox structure shall be defined as any brick, stone, concrete or block fabrication having the singular purpose of supporting a rural mailbox that conforms to U.S. Postal Service Standards and Regulations.

Section 2: Construction standards:

(a) Dimensions - The maximum above grade width and depth of the rural mailbox structure shall not exceed 24" x 24", and the top shall not be higher than 6" above the mailbox opening. The height of the bottom of the mailbox opening is to be a minimum of 42", and a maximum of 48" horizontal to the road pavement per U.S. Postal Service Regulations.

(b) Footing - A concrete footing, having a maximum size of 30" x 30" shall be installed at the bottom of the structure excavation. The top of the footing is not to be deeper than 24" from the edge of the pavement adjacent to the structure.

(c) Foundation - The foundation for the rural mailbox structure, from the top of the footing to existing grade, shall not exceed 24" x 24", and shall not be closer than 12" from the edge of the road shoulder, measured horizontally.

(d) Structure - All structures shall be of a break-away type, and shall not be permanently attached to the footer by use of any wire, rods or reinforcement bars. The use of masonry mastic under the first course of brick, stone or block shall be prohibited.

(e) Permitted locations -

(1) On all Township roads with curbing, the face of all mailboxes is to be even vertically with the inside edge of the curb per U.S. Postal Regulations. The height of the bottom of the mailbox opening is to be a minimum of 42" and a maximum of 48" horizontal to the road pavement per said U.S. Postal Regulations.

(2) On all Township roads without curbing, the face of all mailboxes is to be 12" horizontally from the edge of the shoulders.

(f) Prohibited locations - Mailboxes shall be prohibited as follows:

(1) At locations determined by the U.S. Postal Service.

(2) Directly above, or within five (5') feet of any underground utility, including, but not limited to, water, sewer, electric, gas, telephone and cable.

(3) Any mailbox which is not in compliance with Section 4.4 of the Washington Township Zoning Ordinance. Specifically, no mailbox shall be located or arranged that interferes with traffic, or which otherwise blocks reasonable site lines for streets, sidewalks, or driveways.

(g) Permit approval process - A Building Permit is required for mailboxes that are constructed pursuant to this Ordinance. All procedures applicable to Building Permits within the Township of Washington, as amended, shall be applicable to this Ordinance.

Section 3: Penalties - Anyone found guilty of violating this Ordinance shall be subject, upon conviction, to pay a fine of not less than Two Hundred Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars, and not more than One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars.

Section 4: Removal of illegal structures - In addition to the penalties herein provided, the Township shall have the ability to remove any structures constructed in violation of this Ordinance; provided, however, that thirty (30) days advance written notice shall first be served upon the owner by the Township of intention to remove the structure.

Section 5: If any section, sub-section, paragraph, sentence, or clause of this Ordinance shall be declared to be invalid or unconstitutional, then, in that event, the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain unaffected and in full force and effect.

Section 6: All Ordinances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Ordinance, are hereby specifically repealed.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon enactment.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Supervisors of the Township of Washington, County of Northampton and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, into an Ordinance this 14th day of March, 2001.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

By: Ignatz Klausz, Jr.  
Ignatz Klausz, Jr., Chairman

By: David Renaldo  
David Renaldo

By: David Hess  
David Hess

ATTEST:

By: Mary Ann Dulaney  
Mary Ann Dulaney, Secretary

Approved and certified this 14th day of March, 2001.

Ignatz Klausz, Jr.  
Ignatz Klausz, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

By: Mary Ann Dulaney  
Mary Ann Dulaney, Secretary