

ORDINANCE NO. 553

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO REPEAL EXISTING SECTIONS OF THE POLSON CITY SIGN STANDARDS AND ADOPT INTERIM STANDARDS UNTIL NEW SIGN STANDARDS ARE DRAFTED.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POLSON, MONTANA

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Montana provides that all residents have a right to a clean and healthful environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Polson has a compelling governmental interest in eliminating traffic hazards to motorists and pedestrians from distracting billboards and signs; and

WHEREAS, The Polson City Council has received numerous complaints regarding the construction of advertising signs and billboards adjacent to the right-of-way of U.S. Highway 93 and 35 and the greater jurisdictional area of the City of Polson; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Polson has resolved that there exists ambiguity in the current ordinances regarding signage applicable within the City's jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Polson finds that this emergency ordinance is necessary to preserve the public health and safety until such time as a new and uniform plan of sign standard ordinances can be implemented by future ordinance or resolution; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Polson adopted certain ordinances addressing sign standards, those being found at Title 11 of the Polson City Code, and specifically sections 11.02046, 047, 050, 051, 053, 054, 055, 056, 057, 058 and 059 thereof, adopted under Ordinance No. 531 as Appendix B to the Polson Development Code adopted March 7, 1994; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Polson now finds it necessary for the public health and safety to repeal certain provisions of Ordinance #531, and in particular to repeal Appendix B to the Polson Development Code, save and except the provisions set forth herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF POLSON:

- Section 1. Repealing clause: All provisions of Ordinance #531, and any other ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed except as set forth herein.
- Section 2. Approval. Any request to install, replace, or alter existing or new signage within the jurisdiction of the City of Polson must first be approved by the City of Polson governing body under the following parameters:
 - A. Definitions.
 - (1) Off-Premises Signs. A sign not associated with the activity of the

lot or tract upon which it is located and which advertises the goods and services of, or location of or direction to an activity, business or entity, either commercial or non-commercial, located elsewhere.

B. Prohibition of Off-Premises Signs.

(1) Except as permitted in paragraph 2, below, the erection or enlargement of off-premises signs is prohibited within 600 feet of the right-of-way of U.S. Highway 93 and U.S. Highway 35 within the Polson City Limits and the greater jurisdictional area of the Polson Master Plan adopted February 21, 1994.

(2) The following off-premises signs are permitted:

(i) Signs directing traffic or providing direction to public facilities erected by a governmental agency.

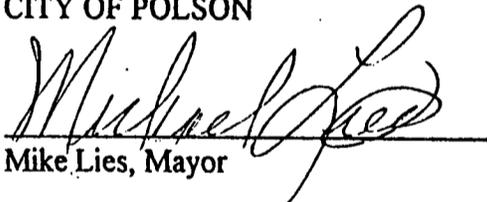
Section 3. Interim measure. This Ordinance shall be in effect from the Effective Date until such time as it is repealed by a new plan of uniform sign standard ordinances and resolutions.

Section 3. Effective date: This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the Council members.

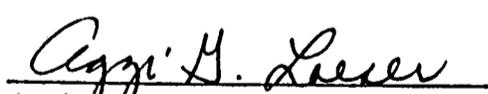
NOW THEREFORE, it is resolved that the current Ordinance shall be repealed and the new Ordinance as hereinabove set forth shall become effective on the 21st day of September, 1998.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 21st day of September, 1998.

CITY OF POLSON


Mike Lies, Mayor

ATTEST:


Aggi Loeser, City Clerk