

**BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
ORDINANCE 21-01**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 11, SECTION 1107.20
OF THE CITY CODE PERTAINING TO SIGNS**

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLE PLAINE ORDAINS:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Belle Plaine hereby amends City Code Chapter 11, Section 1107.20, Subd. 4, pertaining to definitions of signs by adding the following definition:

SIGN, WINDOW. A Sign that is mounted on, painted on or attached to a window, or is placed within three feet of the inside of a window or opening, which is facing toward the public outside of the building.

Section 2. The City Council of the City of Belle Plaine hereby amends City Code Chapter 11, Section 1107.20, Subd. 6(2)(A), pertaining to sign permit exemptions as follows:

- A. Permanent window Signs. ~~Such Signs shall maintain a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the area of the window in which the Sign is placed, mounted or painted to remain free from signage. A minimum of fifty percent (50%) of doors and windows in each building face shall remain free of any window signage. In addition, a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the area of the window in which the Sign is placed, mounted, or painted shall remain free from signage. Window Signs in the B-3 Central Business District require issuance of a sign permit and shall meet the standards contained in Section 1107.20, Subd. 11(2).~~

Section 3. The City Council of the City of Belle Plaine hereby amends City Code Chapter 11, Section 1107.20, Subd. 6(2) by adding subdivision (G) as follows which pertains to sign permit exemptions:

- G. Individual neon signs not exceeding three square feet in surface area and limited to two (2) neon signs per each building face abutting a public street.

Section 4. The City Council of the City of Belle Plaine hereby amends City Code Chapter 11, Section 1107.20, Subd. 8 by adding the following which pertains to sign maintenance:

- 4 To avoid visual blight and public safety hazards, all signs shall be properly maintained, with all parts in proper working order, finishes maintained in weather-resistant condition, and all parts of the sign firmly affixed to the building or other support structure.
- 5 If a Sign is completely removed or removed and replaced with a different size sign the remaining sign structure of a freestanding sign or the wall of the building to which the sign was attached shall be repaired, patched, painted and otherwise restored to match the rest of the structure or building wall. If no sign is placed on a freestanding sign pole or monument, the entire pole or monument shall be removed. if a Sign is removed and residue, discoloration, sign outlines, or other traces of signage remain on the wall of the building to which the Sign was attached the wall shall be repaired, patched, painted and otherwise restored to match the rest of the structure or building wall.

Section 5. The City Council of the City of Belle Plaine hereby amends City Code Chapter 11, Section 1107.20, Subd. 11(2) pertaining to sign permit review in the B-3 Central Business District as follows:

2. COMMERCIAL CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT – (B-3 AND PUD OVERLAYS).
The following signs are permitted within the Central Business District. All sign permits for properties within the B-3 District shall be forwarded to the Design Committee for approval before any sign permit is issued. Applicants are required to have abutting property owners sign an acknowledgment stating they have received a rendering of proposed signage prior to Applicants appearing before the Design Committee. Abutting property owners need not consent to the sign but must acknowledge they have received a color illustration of proposed signage as it would appear from the street.

Section 6. The City Council of the City of Belle Plaine hereby amends City Code Chapter 11, Section 1107.20, Subd. 11(2) pertaining to sign permit review in the B-3 Central Business District by adding Subsection H as follows:

H. Window Signs. A minimum of fifty percent (50%) of doors and windows in each building face shall be maintained free of any window signage. In addition, no more than fifty percent (50%) of each door or window allowed to have signage shall be covered by a sign.

Section 7. This Ordinance shall become effective upon publication in the official newspaper of the City.

Passed and duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Belle Plaine this 19th day of March, 2021.

BY: _____
Christopher G. Meyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dawn Meyer, City Administrator