



Town of Topsham, Maine
100 Main Street
Topsham, Maine 04086
www.topshammaine.com
Codes Enforcement Office
PH (207) 725-1723/ FX (207)725-1737

August 22, 2016

TO: Linda Dumont, Town Clerk

FR: Tom Lister, Codes Enforcement Officer

RE: POLITICAL SIGNS

In accordance with the Town's Ordinance, political signs are not to be placed on public property earlier than October 9, 2016; please note the Topsham ordinance does not regulate political signs placed on private property. Public property is understood to be those areas that are owned or maintained by the Town of Topsham which may include, but are not limited; properties owned and occupied by Town buildings, parks, boat launches, athletic fields and road right of ways (ROW).

In the past, there has been some confusion over where the Town's ROW lines are on the face of the earth, and without any property markers, it's difficult to locate the ROW lines accurately. As a policy, if the sign is located between the road and features such as sidewalks, utility poles, fire hydrants, guard rails, MDOT or Town fencing, gravel shoulders, MDOT or Town maintained lawns/ditches/culverts, etc., assume that it is within the ROW and subject to the ordinance.

Political signs legally placed on public property within the 30 day period are subject to the following size limitations: 32 square feet in zoning districts MUC, MUC-1, CC-196, BP, CC, RCU, BP-2, LI, I, portions of MUL fronting Rt. 196 and; 16 square feet in all other districts. A zoning district map can be found at the following link;
http://www.topshammaine.com/vertical/sites/%7B95A28B10-4485-4BEC-B8FC-5E8BF056A147%7D/uploads/TM-2015_Official_All_Zoning_ARCH_E.pdf

I hope the above will create a better understanding in regards to the placement of political signs. If there are any questions, please free to call the Codes Office at (207) 725-1724.