**Article 13** – To see if the Voters will adopt an Ordinance to Amend the Topsham Zoning Ordinance to amend Chapter 225-6, Definitions and Chapter 225-33, Signs, to define public notice signs and allow the town and school district to utilize electronic message signage for public notice signs.

**Underlined text are additions; struck out text is proposed to be removed**

§ 225-6 Definitions

MUNICIPAL - Any authority, agency or unit of local government or school district.

SIGN, PUBLIC NOTICE – A sign located on municipal property or located at a municipal facility to display notices or information to the public. An official notice posted by public employees in performance of their duties.

§ 225-33 Signs.

A. Purpose. The purposes of these sign regulations are to encourage the effective use of signs as a means of communication within the Town; to maintain and enhance the aesthetic environment of the Town and the Town's ability to attract economic development; to improve pedestrian, bike and vehicular safety; and to minimize possible adverse effects of signs on nearby public and private property.

B. General requirements.

(1) No signs, other than those not requiring permits in the Consolidated Sign Table, shall be erected prior to obtaining a permit.

(2) All signs must be stationary and permanently installed except where exempted by this section.

(3) No sign shall be comprised of, or illuminated by, intermittent light, except digital public service messages, such as time, date, temperature, public notices, public safety, etc., unless allowed by this section.

(3) All lighting shall be hooded or shielded to prevent direct illumination of public streets or abutting properties and shall be designed and installed to minimize lighting the sky.

(4) Projecting signs shall maintain height clearance of ten (10) feet above ground level and shall not extend more than four feet from the building surface.

(6) No sign shall be installed within ten (10) feet of the travelway, unless the applicant presents information that demonstrates to the Codes Enforcement Officer that the sign doesn't impede safe-sight lines.

(7) Signs may be located within the setback area (the area between the property line and the setback line) of the property in which they are erected, but no sign shall overhang any property line, except where projecting signs are permitted to overhang the sidewalk.
All signs shall be located below the ridgeline of the building.

Wall signs may only be installed in the signable area of the facade.

Only one post or monument sign is permitted per building, lot or project, except as provided in Subsection H below.

For purposes of calculating total sign area, only one face of post signs shall be included in the calculation. If a sign has more than two (2) faces, or if the 2 faces are not parallel to each other, all sides shall be calculated.

No signage, other than approved traffic and directional signs, shall be placed within traffic islands.

Limits on the number or size, or the method of measuring, post signs shall also apply to monument signs.

Banners. Only one banner is allowed per business, for a single period not to exceed 90 days, and shall be included in the total square footage of signage allowed. The maximum size of a banner is included in the Consolidated Sign Table. In the Commercial Sign District, banners used to announce the availability of leasable space shall not be subject to the single 90-day restriction.

C. Prohibited signs:

Any sign comprised of, or illuminated by, intermittent light, except digital public service messages, such as time, date, temperature, public notice signs displayed in accordance with Section Js, public safety signs, or etc., except as otherwise noted. Exception: Public Notice Signs, Public Safety Signs, and public service messages such as time/date/temperature may be displayed in accordance with section “J” except as otherwise noted or as authorized under a Declaration of Emergency.

D. Exempt signs: signs that are not counted toward the total square footage allowed to a business in a particular zoning district, but are otherwise exempt from the general standards of this section, unless otherwise noted. The following is a list of signs that shall be exempt from the general standards of this section:

Public notice informational sign. Signs to be located on municipally owned property or located at a municipal facility to display public notices posted by public employees in performance of their duties.

L. Sign types and sizes by sign district.
### Consolidated Sign Table

**X**
- Not permitted

**#**
- Indicates size allowed with permit

**#-A**
- Indicates size allowed with no permit required

**P**
- Indicates permit is required; standards are in Subsections G and H

#### Sign District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign Type</th>
<th>Residential</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>Highway Commercial</th>
<th>LV³</th>
<th>VC⁴</th>
<th>MV³</th>
<th>Highway Corridor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public notice</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**

3. No internally illuminated signs are permitted: except public notice signs displayed in accordance with permitted under section “J.”

4. No internally illuminated signs are permitted, except on those lots that abut Route 196 and public notice signs displayed in accordance with permitted under section “J.”