

ORDINANCE NO. 13-09-09

**AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SIGNS
ATTACHED TO UTILITY POLES OR
PLACED IN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAYS
WITHIN THE CITY OF MERTZON, TEXAS**

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that certain signs unduly distract and confuse motorists by diverting attention away from the roadway, and result in safety threats to vehicular and pedestrian traffic; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it to be in the best interest of the public to regulate signs so as to promote roadway and pedestrian safety and improve the appearance of the City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERTZON, TEXAS THAT:


Section 1: A sign regulated by this Ordinance is any lettered, numbered, symbolic, pictorial, or other visual display designed to identify, announce, direct, or inform that is attached to a utility pole or placed in a public right-of-way. The term "sign" includes posters, banners, pennants, placards, streamers, and other such displays.

Section 2: Signs attached to utility poles or placed in public right-of-ways are prohibited and subject to removal. Signs removed by the City will be held for 48 hours and may be claimed at City Hall. After 48 hours, such signs are considered abandoned and may be destroyed.

Section 3: Notwithstanding the prohibition in Section 2, temporary signs for community events will be permitted in public right of ways. The term "community events" includes Hunter Appreciation Day, Cinco de Mayo, Ranch Rodeo, Homecoming, City holiday, decorations, the flying of flags honoring our armed forces or commemorating national holidays, and similar events. Signs must be removed by the sponsoring organization promptly after the event.

Section 4: It is a violation of state law (Chapters 392 and 393 of the Transportation Code) to place a political sign in the right-of-way of a highway. The prohibition in Section 2 includes political signs placed in any public right-of-way within the City of Mertzton.

PASSED AND APPROVED this, the 16 day of September, 2013.



Art Uber, Mayor

ATTEST:



Ida Montez, City Secretary