

BETHEL TOWNSHIP, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-2

AN ORDINANCE OF BETHEL TOWNSHIP, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING BETHEL TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NO. 2008-07 ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BETHEL, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, CONSOLIDATING PRIOR TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES WHICH REGULATE TRAFFIC AND PARKING AND REENACTING THE SAME AND REVISING THREE OF THE SAME AS PART OF THE CONSOLIDATION AND REENACTMENT, AND ADDING FURTHER REGULATIONS REGARDING STOP SIGNS AND SPEED LIMITS ON CERTAIN TOWNSHIP ROADWAYS” TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE VII ENTITLED “TAMPERING WITH PUBLIC PROPERTY” TO PROHIBIT THE TAMPERING OF TOWNSHIP STREETS, ALLEYS, OR PUBLIC GROUNDS AND PUBLIC PROPERTY LOCATED THEREON, AND THE PENALTIES ASSOCIATED THEREIN

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Bethel Township enacted Ordinance Number 2008-07 on October 28, 2008, establishing regulations for traffic and parking within the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to amend Ordinance Number 2008-07 to add regulations prohibiting the tampering of Township streets, alleys, and public grounds and public property located thereon, and setting forth the penalties associated therein.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Bethel Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, that the following be and is hereby enacted:

Section 1. Ordinance Number 2008-07 is hereby amended to add a new Article VII, to be entitled “Tampering with Public Property”, which shall read in its entirety as follows:

ARTICLE VII

TAMPERING WITH PUBLIC PROPERTY

Section 1. Definition and Interpretation

Person - any individual, corporation, partnership, association, firm or other legal entity. The singular shall include the plural; the plural shall include the singular; and the masculine shall include the feminine and the neuter.

Section 2. Tampering with Public Property on Streets, Alleys or Public Grounds Prohibited.

No person shall destroy, injure, tamper with or deface any street, alley, or public grounds of the Township, or any grass, walk, lamp, ornamental work, building or streetlight on or in any of the streets, alleys, sidewalks, or public grounds in the Township.

Section 3. Tampering with Stakes, Posts and Monuments Prohibited.

No person shall in any manner interfere or meddle with, or pull, drive, change, alter or destroy any stake, post, monument or other marking, made, placed or set, or hereafter made, placed or set, or caused to be done by the authorities of the Township, to evidence the location, elevation, line, grade, corner or angle of any public street, alley, sidewalk, curb, gutter, drain, or other public work or thing.

Section 4. Tampering with Warning Lamps, Signs or Barricades Prohibited.

No person shall destroy, remove, deface, obliterate or cover up any lamp, sign or barricade erected as a warning of danger by the authorities of the Township or by any person doing work by permission of the authorities of the Township on any of the streets, alleys, sidewalks or bridges in the Township or on any public grounds of the Township, within or without the Township.

Section 5. Removal of Material from Streets, Alleys, or Public Grounds Prohibited.

No person shall take any earth, stone or other material from any street, alley, or public grounds in the Township.

Section 6. Deposit of Harmful Substances on Streets, Alleys, Sidewalks, or Public Grounds Prohibited.

No person shall pour, throw or deposit any harmful or destructive substance or matter on any street, alley, sidewalk, or public grounds in the Township.

Section 7. Exceptions.

This Article shall not apply to normal activities in connection with construction, maintenance and repair of streets, alleys, sidewalks, and public grounds and the structures and fixtures located thereon or therein, or to incidental results of work done thereon or therein upon permit from or by authority of the Township.

Section 8. Penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Article, upon conviction thereof in an action brought before a magisterial district judge in the manner provided for the enforcement of summary offenses under the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure,

shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 90 days. Each day that a violation of this Article continues or each Section of this Article which shall be found to have been violated shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 2. Any ordinance or resolution or part of ordinances or resolutions conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as they are inconsistent with this Ordinance.

Section 3. If any article, section, subsection, provision, regulation, limitation, restriction, sentence, clause, phrase or word in this Ordinance, is, for any reason declared to be illegal, unconstitutional or invalid, by any Court of competent jurisdiction, this decision shall not affect or impair the validity of the Ordinance as a whole, or any other article, section, subsection, provision, regulation, limitation, restriction, sentence, clause, phrase, word, or remaining portion of the within Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors of Bethel Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, hereby declares that it would have adopted the within Ordinance and each article, section, subsection, provision, regulation, limitation, restriction, sentence, clause, phrase and word thereof, irrespective of the limitations, restrictions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or word that may be declared illegal, unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall become effective in accordance with applicable law.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED as an Ordinance of Bethel Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, this 14 day of March, 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
BETHEL TOWNSHIP,
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

By: [Signature]
Chair

[Signature]
Vice Chair

[Signature]
Member

Attest: [Signature]
Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF ENACTMENT

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of Ordinance No. 2024 - _____ enacted by the Board of Supervisors of Bethel Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania at a public meeting held on March, pursuant to notice as required by law.

Dated: 03/14/2024

Bobbi Wessell
Township Secretary