

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, BEAVER COUNTY, A FIRST CLASS TOWNSHIP UNDER THE LAWS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING A POLICY PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 96-7 FOR THE PLACEMENT OF STOP SIGNS ON VARIOUS TOWNSHIP STREETS AND ROADWAYS

WHEREAS, the Township of Hopewell adopted Ordinance No. 96-7, and prior thereto Ordinance No.82-6, to authorize the placement of stop signs on various Township streets and roadways to ensure the safety and welfare of motorists and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, stop signs are a common traffic control device intended to assign the right-of-way at intersecting street locations and are not to be used to control speed as studies have shown that this only causes a brief interruption or reduction of speed followed by an immediate acceleration between stop signs to make up for a motorist's perceived lost time; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation adopted (at 67 Pennsylvania Code Chapters 201, 203, 204, 211, 212 and 217) the National Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) as published by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) setting forth standards for traffic control in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania including additional study requirements, warrants, principles and guidelines; and

WHEREAS, certain amendments to Title 67 of the Pennsylvania Code (Publication 212) establish greater uniformity for the design, location and operation of all official traffic signs, signals, markings and other traffic-control devices within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, in order to properly place, revise or remove a stop sign in accordance with the above-referenced code provisions and regulations, sufficient data regarding vehicular volume counts, sight distance measurements, delay estimates, intersection geometry, adjacent roadway features, vehicle speeds and historical accident reporting must be obtained and evaluated; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Commissioners of Hopewell Township and the purpose of this Resolution to incorporate uniform procedures to be followed when placing or removing a stop sign in accordance with the amendments to Title 67 of the Pennsylvania Code and the MUTCD in order to ensure public safety by reducing accidents and properly regulating traffic through the Township of Hopewell.


AND NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL THIS 8th DAY OF June 2009:

1. Stop signs hereafter erected upon, revised or removed from the streets or roads of Hopewell Township, shall (in accordance with Chapter 67 of the Pennsylvania Code Publication 212, Chapter 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes and the MUTCD) be subject to an engineering and traffic study by the Township which study shall entail an orderly examination or analysis of physical features and traffic conditions on or along a highway, conducted in accordance with the aforementioned provisions, for the purpose of ascertaining the need or lack of need for a stop sign at the subject location.
2. Engineering and traffic studies will be performed by a Public Safety Committee comprised of the Chief or Assistant Chief of Police, Township Manager or his designee, Road Foreman, Township Engineer or his designee and one resident citizen of the Township as appointed by the Board of Commissioners.
3. A warrant is a description of the threshold conditions to be used in evaluating the potential safety and operational benefits of a stop sign based upon average or normal conditions.
4. The establishment or revision of a stop sign may be justified if one of the following applies:
 - a. One or more of the engineering and traffic study warrants justifies the establishment or revision of a stop sign.
 - b. Sound engineering judgment based upon a combination of all data sources substantiates the need for the restriction.
5. The removal of a stop sign may be justified if one of the following applies:
 - a. A study indicates that no engineering or traffic study warrant justifies the existing stop sign.
 - b. The condition that originally justified the stop sign no longer exists.
6. Warrants provide the threshold for consideration of the installation, revision or removal of a stop sign, but are not a substitute for engineering judgment.
7. The warrants to be applied by the Public Safety Committee when installing, revising or removing a stop sign shall be those set forth in the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Publication 212, as amended from time to time. A copy of the current version is attached hereto as Exhibit "A."
8. The policy adopted by this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption hereof and shall remain in effect unless or until modified or changed by further Resolution of the Township.

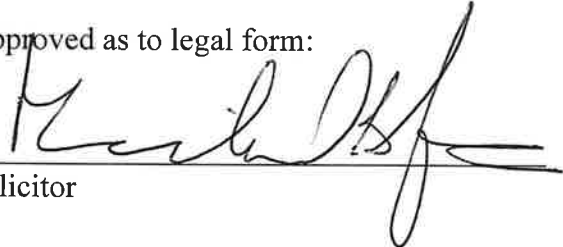
RESOLVED and **ADOPTED** this 8th day of June, 2009.

SEAL

Township of Hopewell

Attest: 
Township Manager

By: 
President

Approved as to legal form:

Solicitor