

ORDINANCE NO. 97-5
ENHANCED 911 EMERGENCY
TELEPHONE SERVICE ORDINANCE
OF
WYTHE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

ARTICLE I - Title, Authority, Jurisdiction & Purpose

- 1.1 Title. This Ordinance shall hereinafter be known as and may be cited as the "Enhanced 911 Emergency Telephone Service Ordinance of Wythe County, Virginia", Ordinance 97-5.
- 1.2 Authority. It is adopted pursuant to the provisions of Virginia Code Section 58.1-3818, of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended.
- 1.3 Jurisdiction. The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to Wythe County, Virginia.
- 1.4 Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to implement enhanced 911 emergency telephone service and to assist in the proper planning and development of the County of Wythe. To this end, the Board of Supervisors has determined that it is necessary for all streets and roadways in the County to be named and that all buildings located thereon shall be numbered in a logical and sequential manner.

ARTICLE II - Definitions

- 2.1 Street. The word "street" shall mean a highway, street, avenue, boulevard, road, lane, alley or any other way which provides unrestricted ingress and egress by the public, business and personal invitees.
- 2.2 Axis of Reference. The words "Axis of Reference" shall mean the beginning of a street at an intersection or otherwise.

ARTICLE III - Street Names

- 3.1 Street Names. All street names within the unincorporated areas of the County have been and shall be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Proposed streets which are obviously a continuation of other existing and named streets, shall bear the names of the existing streets. In no case shall the names of proposed streets duplicate existing names, irrespective of the use of suffixes, such as "street", "avenue", "boulevard", "driveway", "place",

"lane", or "court". Street names shall be indicated on all plats of survey admitted for recordation in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Wythe County. Names of existing streets shall not be changed except upon approval by the Board of Supervisors.

3.2 Official Map. The names of streets as shown upon the official map of Wythe County, as adopted by the Board of Supervisors, shall be the official names of the streets within the County.

3.3 Naming Guidelines:

- A. Named streets within the incorporated towns in Wythe County shall be extended out into the County, when possible. This provides consistency and ease in finding addresses.
- B. Duplicate and sound-alike street names already in use in the incorporated towns and in the County will be avoided. This will necessitate the changing of some subdivision street names within the County.
- C. Names featuring the natural characteristics of an area or the area's history or historical associations will be favored and promoted.
- D. The following suffixes shall be employed:
 - 1. Road (Rd) for the longer, more important street, such as streets with the same town/county name, which change to road when they extend out into the County.
 - 2. Street (St) and Avenue (Ave) for shorter streets, especially within communities, such as Max Meadows, Ivanhoe and Austinville.
 - 3. Lane (Ln) for shorter, dead-end streets.
 - 4. Drive (Dr) for shorter streets, especially within subdivisions.
 - 5. Circle (Cir) for short streets that begin and end on the same street, especially within subdivisions.
 - 6. Court (Ct) and Place (Pl) for cul-de-sac or permanent dead-end streets, especially within subdivisions.
- E. Street and road names will be limited to 20 characters and spaces in length, due to the standard sizes of street signage. This character limit includes the suffix, and short names are encouraged.

- F. Only streets within the unincorporated areas of the County will be given names.
 - G. Every street which has three or more buildings or dwellings thereon shall be given a name.
 - H. A named street may contain more than one state highway number. All proposed names will be taken into consideration. Streets in the County duplicating existing Town of Wytheville or Town of Rural Retreat names will be changed. In order to avoid duplications, suggested names will be cross-checked against all existing town names.
- 3.4 Reserved Street Names. If a street has not been named because it contains less than three residences or businesses thereon, but it is anticipated that this condition will be met in the near future, a petition may be presented to the Board of Supervisors signed by all affected residents or business owners or abutting property owners requesting that a particular name be reserved. If the requested name does not conflict with existing names or County naming policy, then the name may be reserved by vote of the Board of Supervisors for a period of one year. Such petitioners may request an extension of this reserved name for additional one year periods in the same manner.
- 3.5 New Streets Within Subdivisions. New street names in subdivisions or divisions of property with a right-of-way serving three or more lots or parcels shall be approved by the Board of Supervisors or its subdivision approval officer as part of the final plat approval process. Failure of a subdivider to file an approved final plat with the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court within the time period required by the Wythe County Subdivision Ordinance shall void any street name approval. Subdividers shall be required to advance sums sufficient to pay all signage costs for new streets within the proposed subdivision prior to final plat approval.
- 3.6 County Initiated Street Names. When the County becomes aware (through building permits or other information) that an un-named street has three or more active residences or businesses thereon, the County shall advise the owners or tenants in writing that they may petition the Board of Supervisors to name their street. If such a petition be filed, and provided that the requested street name does not conflict with existing street names or County policy, the Board of Supervisors may approve the name suggested. The cost of naming streets and providing necessary signage shall be borne by the County.

If no petition has been filed by the residents within 30 days after notification by the County, the Board of Supervisors shall name the street and advise all of its residents or occupants of their new address.

- 3.7 Citizen Initiated Street Names. Those persons wishing to name a street containing less than three (3) residences or businesses must provide the following to the County:
- A. A petition signed by at least three fourths (75%) of the residents or occupants of each residence or business premises located on the street. If there are no such residents or occupants, such a petition may be signed by at least three fourths (75%) of all abutting property owners.
 - B. Fees will be charged as specified in paragraph 3.8 of this ordinance.

3.8 Fees to be Charged:

- A. \$150.00 per intersection for installation, plus the cost of the sign(s). All signs to be installed are to be supplied by the County.
- B. \$25.00 per residence or business for mapping changes.
- C. \$25.00 per parcel for new subdivisions.

ARTICLE IV - Street Signs and Numbers

- 4.1 At a suitable corner of all streets there shall be placed a standard street sign, as approved by the Board of Supervisors, designating the name of such street or streets.
- 4.2 Houses and other buildings located on all named streets in the County shall be numbered according to the 100 plan. Beginning at the axis of reference and moving therefrom, the buildings and lot upon any particular street shall be numbered beginning with One Hundred (100) upwards, allowing one number for each 20 feet of street frontage.
- 4.3 Odd-number addresses shall lie on the North and East sides of streets and even-number addresses shall lie on the South and West sides.
- 4.4 Block numbers shall begin every One Thousand (1,000) feet.
- 4.5 The Board of Supervisors shall promulgate rules and regulations as necessary to administer this Article. Numbers shall be assigned for houses

and other buildings and designated on a map to be maintained for such purpose.

4.6 Display of Numbers:

- A. Each property owner shall display on his structure the number assigned to that house or building. If the number on the structure is not visible from the road, the property owner must also display the structure number on a post 3 to 5 feet in height at the entrance or on the mailbox, if the mailbox is located at the entrance and serves only one structure. Numbers shall be a minimum of three inches (3") in height and in a block lettering style. All numbers shall be constructed of durable material. The color shall contrast with the color scheme of the structure to which they are affixed, and, if mounted on glass, shall contrast with the background and be clearly visible. The structure number shall be posted and maintained within a three (3) foot perimeter of the front entrance of the structure or within three (3) feet from the driveway entrance.
- B. Any person who shall fail or refuse to number his house or building according to this section, or shall interfere with the numbering process, shall be guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor. In the event of an emergency call at a residence or business which has not been properly numbered, there may be assessed a civil penalty of \$500 to be paid to the E-911 Fund.
- C. For new construction no Certificate of Occupancy shall be issued until a house or building number has been installed and properly displayed. A plat or map accurately depicting driveway and structure locations must be furnished by the owner before a number can be assigned. A surveyor's plat is not required.
- D. Mobile home parks shall have an identification system consisting of a logical, sequential pattern of lot numbers. Such numbers shall be displayed on permanent markers placed on the mobile home or mobile home site fronting the named street or the access way to the named street. Such numbers must be visible from the named street or the access way.
- E. Following the posting of assigned numbers as required, the owner shall maintain the structure number in compliance with the requirements of this ordinance. Structure numbers, as viewed from the public road, shall not be obstructed from view by landscaping, shrubs, vegetation, screen doors, canopies, or any other plant or structure.

ARTICLE V - Validity, Conflict, Copies, Effective Date

- 5.1 Validity. Should any article, section, subsection or provision of this ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the ordinance as a whole or any part thereof other than the part so declared to be invalid or unconstitutional.
- 5.2 Conflicting Ordinances. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of their conflict.
- 5.3 Certified Copies of Ordinance. Certified copies of this ordinance and all amendments thereto shall be filed in the offices of the County Administrator, the Clerk's Office of the Wythe Circuit Court and the Clerk's Office of the Combined District Courts of Wythe County, Virginia.
- 5.4 Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective on August 6, 1997, and was adopted by the Board of Supervisors by a vote at the regular meeting on August 5, 1997 as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Wythe B. Sharitz	X		
Mark C. Munsey	X		
Charles S. Dix	X		
R. T. DuPuis	X		
S. Clay Lawrence	X		
Giles C. Rose	X		
Harvey E. Atkinson, III			X

I certify that this is a true and correct copy taken from the August 5, 1997 minutes of the Wythe County Board of Supervisors meeting.

R. Cellell Dalton, Clerk