

Chapter 56 ANTENNAS

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[HISTORY: Adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Montoursville 5-2-1988 as Ord. No. 320. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Zoning — See Ch. 158.

§ 56-1. Purpose.

The express purpose of this chapter is to promulgate reasonable standards to regulate the placement of external antennas in the Borough of Montoursville for the purpose of promoting the health, safety, welfare and aesthetic values of the citizenry.

§ 56-2. Findings; specific objections.

- A. Health and safety. Montoursville is a community with many children. The lots containing residences vary in size and shape. Additionally, there is a great variance in the location of homes on the building lots. In many neighborhoods, children are permitted to freely roam the yards of the neighbors. This raises concern with respect to the manner of installation of antennas or structures as guy wires, falling objects and objects upon which children might climb, or run into, can pose a health and safety risk to the borough citizenry.
- B. Aesthetic consideration. It is the goal of Borough Council to maintain the community standards of beauty and attractiveness, and it is believed that the unregulated placement of antennas would detract from that goal. Council, therefore, deems this chapter to be necessary.

§ 56-3. Specifications for exterior antennas.

- A. Compatibility with Montoursville Zoning Ordinance.¹ It is hereby recognized and declared that all external antennas are structures, as that term is defined in the Pennsylvania

¹ Editor's Note: See Ch. 158, Zoning.

Municipalities Planning Code² and the Montoursville Borough Zoning Ordinance, and are therefore subject to the provisions of the Montoursville Borough Zoning Ordinance.

- B. Exterior antennas defined.
- (1) Exterior antennas shall include all forms of antennas utilized within the Borough of Montoursville, whether the same be for telephone, telecommunication, radio or television or other forms of communication, except antennas utilized by governmental bodies or regulated public utilities.
 - (2) Exterior antennas shall include the towers, receiving dishes or receiving fixtures, bases, supports, guy lines and all attachments.
- C. Regulation of placement. Exterior antennas shall not be placed in front yards or in the street side yard of corner lot properties.
- D. Regulation of size of microwave antennas (dishes). The maximum diameter of microwave antennas shall be ten (10) feet in diameter if roof mounted and twelve (12) feet in diameter if ground mounted.
- E. Regulation of height of exterior antennas.
- (1) No exterior antenna, whether ground or roof mounted, shall exceed forty (40) feet in overall height from ground level.
 - (2) All exterior antennas shall comply with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations.
 - (3) Side-yard mounted antennas shall extend no more than four (4) feet from the building in required side yard.
 - (4) Spherical microwave antennas mounted on the ground shall not exceed fourteen (14) feet in overall height.
 - (5) Spherical roof mounted microwave antenna shall not exceed eight (8) feet above the highest point of roofline. Where a residence or building has multiple rooflines, effort shall be made to place the antenna on the lowest roofline.
 - (6) Roof mounted antennas shall be located (whenever possible) on the portion of the roof offering the least visibility when viewing the building or premises from a frontal or street view.
- F. Set back of exterior antennas. All exterior antennas shall be located as nearly as possible toward the center of the rear of the property or premises. Keeping this goal in mind, owners shall ensure that exterior antennas are set back a minimum of twenty (20) feet from the rear and eight (8) feet from required side yard.
- G. Screening of exterior antennas. Where because of lot shape, lot location or other factors an external antenna has a high visibility to other adjoining property owners or the public view generally, the property owner shall provide screening of such antenna by shrubbery or other building materials so as to minimize the visibility of such structure to adjoining

² Editor's Note: See 53 P.S. § 10101 et seq.

property owners and the public generally, provided that screening may not be required if such requirement would preclude the proper functioning of the antenna.

- H. Mountings for exterior antennas. All exterior antennas shall be supported, anchored and installed in accordance with accepted safety engineering standards, taking into consideration all relevant safety factors, including but not limited to wind forces.

§ 56-4. Installation permit.

- A. All persons who intend to install an exterior antenna within the Borough of Montoursville shall first secure an installation permit for such installation from the Codes Enforcement Officer of the borough, at a fee commensurate with fees charged for other buildings or structures.
- B. At the time of securing such permit, and before installation, such person shall be provided with a copy of this chapter and shall thereafter provide the Codes Enforcement Officer with a sketch of that person's property, illustrating the intended installation site and a statement indicating the applicant's method of complying with the terms of this chapter.

§ 56-5. Variances.

Any variance from the requirements of this chapter may be granted by appeal to the Borough Council of the Borough of Montoursville, and any person aggrieved by any decision made pursuant to this chapter shall have a right of appeal as provided by the Local Agency Law of Pennsylvania.³

³ Editor's Note: Former Section VI, Compliance, which immediately followed this section, was deleted at time of adoption of Code; see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I. See 2 Pa.C.S.A. § 105 et seq. and § 751 et seq.

