

## **Addressing Ordinance Town of Paris, Maine**

### **Section 1. Purpose**

The purpose of this ordinance is to permit the easy identification of buildings for location, emergency services, and postal purposes. Each residence and business location shall have a road name and a number indicating its position on that highway, street, road, lane or private way on which it is located.

### **Section 2. Authority**

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to and consistent with Home Rule Powers as provided for in Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Maine and Title 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 3001, (Home Rule).

### **Section 3. Administration**

The map entitled "Building Numbering Map of the Town of Paris, Maine" dated January 1, 1992 is hereby adopted as the official map by which building numbers and road names are designated. The map shall be held in the custody of the Town Clerk. Assignment of number to buildings shall be the responsibility of the E-911 Addressing Officer. The Board of Selectmen is authorized to, and shall assign road names to new roads or the renaming of existing roads. See section 7 of the Sub-Division Ordinance.

### **Section 4. Numbering System**

In general one whole number shall be assigned for every fifty (50) feet of street/road frontage, whether the property is improved or vacant on every street/road within the Town, excluding Market Square, where the ancient number sequence will be preserved. In general, numbering shall begin with the end of the street/road closest to Market Square, with even numbers appearing on the left side of the street/road and odd numbers appearing on the right side of the street/road.

### **Section 5. Compliance**

All owners of structures shall display and maintain in a conspicuous place on said structure, the assigned numbers in the following manner:

- a. **Number on the Structure or Residence.** Where the residence or structure is within 50 (fifty) feet of the edge of the road right-of-way, the assigned number shall be displayed on the front of the residence or structure in the vicinity of the front door or entry.
- b. **Number at the Road Line.** Where the residence or structure is over 50 (fifty) feet from the edge of the road right-of-way, the assigned number shall be displayed on a post, fence, wall or on some structure at the property line adjacent to the walk or access drive to the residence or structure. The numbers shall be posted so that they are visible from both directions of travel. Posting the number on mail boxes shall not constitute compliance with this section.
- c. **Size, Color, and Location of Number.** Numbers shall be of a color that contrasts with their background color and shall be a minimum of four (4) inches in height. Numbers shall be located to

be visible from the road at all times of the year.

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- d. Proper number. Every person whose duty is to display an assigned number shall remove any different number which might be mistaken for, or confused with, the number assigned in conformance with this ordinance.
- e. Interior location. All residents and other occupants are requested to post their assigned number and road name adjacent to their telephone for emergency reference.

#### **Section 6. Unlawful to Deface Number/Road Name**

It shall be unlawful for any person to alter, deface, or take down any number placed on any property in accordance with this ordinance, except for repair or replacement of such number. Moreover, it shall be unlawful for any person to alter, deface or remove any road sign placed in right-of-ways in accordance with this ordinance.

#### **Section 7. Road Name System**

All roads that serve two or more properties shall be named regardless of whether the ownership is public or private. "Road" refers to any highway, road, street, avenue, lane, private way or similar paved, gravel or dirt thoroughfare. "Property" refers to any property on which a more or less permanent structure has been erected or could be placed. A road name assigned by the Town of Paris shall not constitute or imply acceptance of the road as a public way.

#### **The following criteria shall govern the naming system:**

- a. No two roads shall be given the same name (e.g., Pine Road and Pine Lane)\*
- b. Now two roads should have similar-sounding names (e.g., Beech , Beach)
- c. Each road shall have the same name throughout its entire length.\*

\* Historic significance of roads will be maintained when at all possible.

#### **Section 8. New Streets in Subdivisions**

New streets in subdivisions shall be named in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of this ordinance.

On the Final Plan as described Article 7, Section 7.2.H of the "Planning Board Standards for Reviewing Land Sub-Division", the sub divider shall place a line or dots in the middle of each street at fifty (50) foot intervals, so as to aid the Town in assigning numbers to buildings subsequently constructed.

#### **Section 9. Separability**

If any portion of this ordinance shall be declared invalid, it shall not affect any other portions of the ordinance.

**Section 10. Effective Date**

This ordinance shall become effective September 24, 2007 and will be the duty of each property owner to comply with this ordinance.

**Section 11. Enforcement/Penalty**

- a. It shall be the duty of the Code Enforcement Officer to enforce the provisions of this ordinance.
- b. Any violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a civil penalty, payable to the Town of Paris, of not less than \$25.00 and not more than \$250.00, for each violation, together with payment of attorney's fees as provided by law.

**It was voted to accept the Addressing Ordinance at a Special Town Meeting on September 24, 2007.**

**A TRUE COPY ATTESTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Elizabeth M. Larson, Town Clerk, Paris, Maine**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_