THE VILLAGE OF ALSIP
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE
NUMBER 2014-11-4

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 17 OF THE VILLAGE CODE REGARDING MAILBOXES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

PATRICK E. KITCHING, PRESIDENT
DEBORAH VENHUIZEN, CLERK

JOHN SHAPIRO
SHEILA MCGREAL
RICHARD DALZELL
JOHN RYAN
KEVIN MICHAELS
LYNN DWYER

Trustees

Published in pamphlet form by authority of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Alsip on November 17, 2014.
Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton & Taylor - Village Attorney – 9550 Bormet Drive, Suite 201, Mokena, Illinois 60448
ORDINANCE NO. 2014-11-4

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 17 OF THE VILLAGE CODE REGARDING MAILBOXES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

WHEREAS, it is determined that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the Village of Alsip to regulate mailboxes located on the public right-of-way; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Alsip, Cook County, Illinois, in the exercise of their home rule powers, as follows:

SECTION 1: AMENDMENT TO VILLAGE CODE.

The Alsip Village Code, Chapter 17 - STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PROPERTY, ARTICLE I. - IN GENERAL, is hereby amended to ADD THE FOLLOWING SECTION:

17-11: MAILBOXES ON PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY:
A. Definitions: For purposes of this section, the following terms are defined:

MAILBOX: Any standard and ornamental mailbox structure which is placed, located or maintained in, on or over any portion of the right of way.

PERMISSIBLE MAILBOX: All privately constructed and installed ornamental mailbox installations installed in accordance with subsection D. of this section.

PERMITTED MAILBOX: Standard mailbox installations installed in accordance with subsection C. of this section.

PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY: Those areas existing or acquired by dedication, by easement or by fee simple by a public body for highway, pedestrian, bicyclist or public utility purposes.

B. Unauthorized Mailboxes Prohibited: It shall be unlawful for any person to erect or cause to be erected, to retain or cause to be retained within the limits of the public right of way, any mailbox except a permitted mailbox or permissible mailbox.

C. Permitted Mailboxes: The following mailboxes upon the public right of way shall be allowed as permitted mailboxes: Standard mailboxes installed in accordance with the applicable design criteria established by the local United States post office and with the following safety standards. Standard mailbox installations shall: a) be constructed to promote breakaway, bending or otherwise yield in order to minimize damage and harm to motor vehicles and their occupants in the event of a collision or impact with the support and b) utilize one of the following support structures or such other similar structure as may be approved by the village manager or his designee as comparably safe:

1. Wooden post (minimum of 4 inches by 4 inches and a maximum of 6 inch by 6 inches).
2. Light gauge hollow cast iron, galvanized steel or painted steel pipe (maximum of 3 inch diameter).

D. Permissible Ornamental Mailbox Installations: Non-standard mailbox installations placed or constructed in the public right of way by a private individual after applying for a permit and complying with all applicable village approval requirements shall be allowable as permissible ornamental mailbox installations.

1. Permit Requirements: No new ornamental mailbox installations shall be constructed in the right of way after November 30, 2014, until the required revocable right of way permit and license agreement and a building permit has been applied for by the adjacent property owner and issued by the Village. As part of the right of way permit and license agreement, the owner shall sign a statement acknowledging that the Village will not be responsible for no more than one hundred dollars ($100.00) for any damage to the mailbox caused by an agent of employee of the Village.

2. Design and Construction Requirements: The design of any ornamental mailbox installation permitted and constructed in the right of way after November 30, 2014, shall comply with the following restrictions and requirements:

   a. The maximum width of any face of the ornamental mailbox installation shall be twenty eight inches (28").

   b. The maximum height of the ornamental mailbox installation shall be five feet (5') measured from the adjacent road surface.

   c. No electrical lighting shall be incorporated into any ornamental mailbox installation.

   d. Reflectors shall be securely affixed to ornamental mailbox installations as required by the village building inspector and public works department.

   e. All applicable design/installation criteria established by the local United States post office.

E. Maintenance Requirements: All permissible and permitted mailboxes shall be maintained by the adjacent property owner in good repair, structurally sound and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare, including but not limited to maintaining all structural elements, exterior elements and surface coatings, such as paint.

F. Village Reimbursement For Mailbox Damage: At the property owner’s option, the village will either reimburse the owner of a mailbox damaged by a village snowplow or from any other village utility or road work up to a maximum of one hundred dollars ($100.00) upon receipt of a sales receipt or invoice showing the actual costs incurred by the mailbox owner for repair or replacement of a village damaged mailbox or the village will replace the mailbox.
G. Additional Provisions: This section is intended to and shall be in addition to all other ordinances, rules and regulations concerning encroachments and shall not be construed as repealing or rescinding any other ordinance or part of any ordinance unless in direct conflict therewith.

H. Violations: A violation of this section shall be a Class C ordinance violation, and a separate offense shall be deemed committed for each and every day during which a violation continues or exists.

SECTION 2: SEVERABILITY
This Ordinance and every provision thereof shall be considered severable and the invalidity of any section clause, paragraph, sentence or provision of this Ordinance will not affect the validity of any other portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3: EFFECTIVE DATE
This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from after its passage, approval and publication as required by law.
ADOPTED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Alsip, Cook County, Illinois, on November 17, 2014 by the following roll call vote:

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APPROVED:

Patrick E. Kitching  
PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

Deborah Venhuizen  
VILLAGE CLERK

463492/KE