

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-15

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING PART ELEVEN, PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, TITLE FIVE,
ZONING, CHAPTER 1161, "EXTERIOR LIGHTING" OF THE CODIFIED
ORDINANCES OF HUNTING VALLEY AND REPEALING CERTAIN
ORDINANCES.**

WHEREAS, Part Eleven, Title Five, Chapter 1161 of the Codified Ordinances regulates exterior lighting for the Village of Hunting Valley; and

WHEREAS, this Council desires to amend Part Eleven, Planning and Zoning Code, Title Five, Zoning, Chapter 1161, "Exterior Lighting", in order to align same with the Village's Vision Statement and Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance has been referred to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a report and recommendation; and

WHEREAS, Council has held a public hearing prior to the adoption of this zoning ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF HUNTING VALLEY, STATE OF OHIO:**

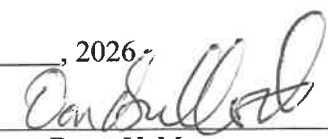
SECTION 1. That existing Part Eleven, Planning and Zoning Code, Title Five, Zoning, Chapter 1161, "Exterior Lighting", of the Codified Ordinances of Hunting Valley, Ohio, is amended to read as is provided in "Exhibit A", which is appended to, and incorporated by reference into, this ordinance.

SECTION 2. That existing Part Eleven, Planning and Zoning Code, Title Five, Zoning, Chapter 1161, "Exterior Lighting", of the Codified Ordinances of Hunting Valley, Ohio is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. That the actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this legislation were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

SECTION 4. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 10 day of March, 2026.



Mayor Bruce V. Mavec

ATTEST:



Pete Drago, Clerk of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Michael E. Cicero, Director of Law

CHAPTER 1161

Exterior Lighting

- 1161.01 Definitions.
- 1161.02 Purpose and intent.
- 1161.03 Applicability, non-conforming lighting and compliance.
- 1161.04 General requirements.
- 1161.05 Residential lighting.
- 1161.06 Non-residential lighting.
- 1161.07 Prohibited lighting.
- 1161.08 Exemptions.
- 1161.09 Enforcement.

1161.01 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this chapter:

(a) "Aiming Angle" when applied to exterior lighting, this term is correctly used only with directional lighting systems. In this case, the aiming angle is the angle between the center of the object or area being lighted and the point on the ground directly beneath the luminaire, which is known as the nadir.

(b) "Exterior Lighting System" means an installation of lamps, luminaires, electrical wiring, controls and mounting hardware (such as poles or brackets) designed to illuminate outdoor areas, landscape or buildings.

(c) "Floodlight" means a type of directional luminaire or lamp which may be adjusted on site to project and direct light out and away from the mounting location. Floodlights are typically designed to illuminate relatively large areas.

(d) "Fluorescent Light Source" means a low-pressure gas discharge lamp in the form of a bulb or tube which utilizes a phosphor as the light-emitting element.

(e) "~~Full Cut-off Luminaire~~" Fully Shielded Luminaire means a type of fixed directional outdoor luminaire which emits no light above a horizontal plane through the optical center of the luminaire or, alternatively, above an angle of ninety (90) degrees where zero (0) degrees is the aim point on the ground directly beneath the luminaire. The light emitter shall not extend below the shield. Bullet and well lighting aimed upward shall be considered unshielded except within social areas located adjacent to the dwelling, an accessory building, or pool area.

~~(f) "Fully Shielded Luminaire" means a luminaire equipped with opaque hoods, louvers or visors so as to completely block the light from going in other than a specified direction. The light emitter shall not be visible below the shield. Bullet lighting that is aimed upward shall be considered unshielded.~~

(gf) "Glare" means the visual sensation produced by brightness in the field of view that is sufficiently greater than the light level to which the eyes are adapted so as to cause annoyance, discomfort or loss of visibility.

(hg) "Halogen Light Source" means an incandescent lamp with a halogen gas filling typically designed to increase energy efficiency and lengthen lamp life compared to standard incandescent lamps.

(ih) "HID Light Source" means a lamp which utilizes a small gas arc discharge or "high intensity discharge" as the light emitter. Examples of HID light sources are mercury, metal halide and ~~high pressure~~high-pressure sodium lamps.

(ji) "Incandescent Light Source" means a lamp containing a tungsten wire filament heated to a high temperature as the light-emitting element.

(kj) "Lamp" means a bulb, globe, tube or capsule, usually formed out of glass, containing an electrical and physical assembly of materials designed to convert electricity into light.

(k) "LED Light Source" means a lamp or luminaire which utilizes a light emitting diode as the light emitting element

(l) "Light Pollution" means wasted light directed into the sky which results in sky glow and the loss of the natural beauty and visibility of the sky and stars.

(m) "Light Source" means the light emitting portion (filament, arc tube or element) of a lamp that emits visible light.

(n) "Light Trespass" means outdoor lighting which emits unwanted light or glare beyond the boundaries of the property on which it is located.

(o) "Lumen" means the unit measure of light flux or light output from lamps and luminaires.

(p) "Luminaire" means a complete lighting unit typically consisting of all electrical and mechanical parts necessary for operation including a lamp, ballast (in the case of discharge lamps), optical assembly and enclosure.

(q) "Luminaire Mounting Height" means the vertical distance between the ground and the optical center of the luminaire in an outdoor lighting system.

(r) "Optical Center of Luminaire" means the point inside of a luminaire at the middle of the light emitting area of the light source.

(s) "Recreational Lighting" means lighting of ball fields, courts, pools, playgrounds, and/or other outdoor sports, play, or recreational areas other than those accessory to single family residences.

~~{Ord. 2023-6. Passed 6-15-23.}~~

1161.02 PURPOSE AND INTENT.

(a) This chapter is intended to preserve and protect the nighttime lighting environment for residents and to maintain the established rural village atmosphere of the community by controlling the installation and use of exterior illumination to prevent glare from bright light sources, light trespass and light pollution.

(b) This chapter is intended to regulate exterior illumination to ensure it is functional, glare-free, energy efficient and safe. Owners and designers are to consider the impact of their lighting on ~~their neighbors' properties~~contiguous properties and vehicular rights of way, and to minimize that impact in the design phase.

(c) The specific goals are to:

- (1) Preserve the nighttime rural-village atmosphere of the community;
- (2) Prevent glaring and offensive lighting;
- (3) Conserve energy and encourage the use of efficient lighting technology;
- (4) Promote safety;
- (5) Prevent light pollution;
- (6) Provide clear guidance to builders, contractors and residents;
- (7) Minimize environmental impacts on light sensitive flora and fauna.

~~{Ord. 2023-6. Passed 6-15-23.}~~

1161.03 APPLICABILITY, NON-CONFORMING LIGHTING, AND COMPLIANCE.

(a) New Dwelling Construction. All construction initiated after the effective date of this legislation must meet the requirements set forth herein and shall be reviewed for compliance with the provisions hereof by the Architectural Board of Review. Supporting documentation ~~may~~shall be required which specifies lamp lumens, luminaire description, mounting height and arrangement, shielding and placement details. A "Full Lighting Plan" shall be required as specified in Section 1161.04(a) and shall be provided to the Architectural Board of Review as part of the permitting process.

(b) ~~Other Construction~~Existing Exterior Lighting. Existing exterior lighting that does not conform to the requirements of this legislation shall be brought into compliance as part of any addition to, modification of, and/or replacement of such lighting, except as provided in subsection (c) hereof ~~If a project causes more than 60% of the allowable lumens for the property per Section 1161.05(a) to be modified, the entire property must be brought into conformance with this chapter. Otherwise, only the new lighting needs to be in conformance with this chapter, with the exception that the total lumens for the property not exceed Section 1161.05(a).~~

(c) Permits. The Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector may issue permits for minor replacements or extensions of exterior lighting systems without requiring a Full Lighting Plan and evidence of conformance provided that:

- (1) The residential lighting system was in existence prior to the effective date of this regulation;
- (2) The total initial lumen rating of the proposed improvement does not exceed 2,500 lumens; and
- (3) Not more than one such permit shall be issued per residential property per each 365 days.

(d) Lighting Nuisance. Exterior lighting which does not comply with this regulation is declared to be a public nuisance. Upon receipt of a lighting complaint the Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector shall investigate to determine compliance. If lighting is found to be in violation of these provisions the Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector shall proceed as set forth in Section 1161.09.

~~{Ord. 2023-6. Passed 6-15-23.}~~

1161.04 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.

(a) Lighting Plans. Full lighting plans shall be required prior to the installation of any lighting improvements or fixtures. Lighting plans shall show the following:

- (1) The location and height above grade of the luminaires.
- (2) The lumens, color temperature, manufacturer 's cutsheet and type of each light source such as incandescent, fluorescent, metal halide, etc.
- (3) The general type and appearance of each luminaire such as lantern, globe, floodlight, full-cutoff fully-shielded area luminaire, wall pack, downlight, etc.
- (4) ~~Calculated or manufacturer-rated numerical values of total light output (lumens) of the luminaire or luminaires and the light output above a horizontal plane through the optical center of the luminaire if the light output per lamp is greater than allowed by this regulation.~~
- ~~(5) Building walls to be illuminated by wall mounted or facade-mounted luminaires in conformance with Section 1161.05(ee) including relevant building elevations showing the location of the luminaires, their aiming direction and aiming angle (if directional), the portions of the building walls to be illuminated, and their color.~~
- (5) All information shall be presented in a table that lists all the above information, including total allowable lumens per Section 1161.05(a), as well as subtotals for shielded lumens, unshielded lumens and a lumen grand total.

(b) Light Trespass. An exterior lighting system is considered to produce excessive light trespass when the light source (the light emitting portion of the lamp) is visible from normal viewing positions on an adjoining property contiguous properties and vehicular rights of way and the maximum light output per lamp is greater than allowed by Section 1161.05.

(c) Light Pollution. An exterior lighting system is considered to contribute excessively to light pollution when light is emitted above a horizontal plane through the optical center of the luminaire and if the maximum light output per lamp is greater than allowed by Section 1161.05.

(d) Glare. An exterior lighting system is considered to produce glare when the light source inside the luminaire is visible as seen from normal viewing positions whether or not the light from the source is diffused or refracted by lens optics, and the light output per lamp is greater than allowed by Section 1161.05.

(e) Lighting Controls.

(1) To minimize the amount of light trespass, light pollution, excess lighting and energy use at night, unnecessary lighting not necessary for safety and security shall be switched off. The use of photocell or photocell/timer switches which allow lighting to operate all night is prohibited.

(2) Motion sensor switches which turn lights on only when activated by motion and only for a set period of time shall not activate for longer than ten (10) minutes after motion ceases. are permitted.

(3) Motion lights shall be designed and set so that they are not activated by movement that occurs beyond the property boundaries.

(f) Post Plan Approval Lighting Alterations. Modifications to site lighting made subsequent to the Village's approval of a Lighting Plan as provided in Section 1161.04(a) shall be submitted to the Building Department for review and approval prior to installation.

{Ord. 2023-6. Passed 6-15-23.}

1161.05 RESIDENTIAL LIGHTING.

The following lighting standards shall apply to residential property U1, U2, and U4 Zoning Districts.

(a) The total light output of all exterior lighting, including buildings and landscaping, shall not exceed 75,000 lumens for any residential property, provided, however that the total aggregate light output of all exterior lighting in any Conservation Development District shall not exceed a maximum of 37,500 lumens per dwelling unit. 50,000 lumens for homes with up to 5,500 square feet of building ground coverage. Homes which exceed 5,500 square feet of building ground coverage shall be permitted an additional 500 lumens for each additional 100 square feet of building ground coverage above 5,500 square feet up to a maximum of 75,000 lumens.

(b) Total lumens shall be calculated by adding the manufacturer initial lumen rating for each lamp type to obtain a total lumen value.

(c) Unshielded luminaires shall not constitute more than thirty percent (30%) of the total permitted illumination on any property

(bd) All exterior lighting shall be designed and installed to avoid glare and light trespass on adjoining properties and public rights of way. Indoor lighting shall not be the source of exterior light trespass or glare including lighting during construction.

(e) All exterior lighting shall be limited to a maximum color temperature of 2700 except security lighting as provided in Section 1161.05(l).

(fe) Wall or Facade Mounted Lighting. Wall mounted fixtures and/or facade mounted luminaires shall be used solely for illuminating entrances and walkways and shall not be used or designed for building architectural illumination. Illumination of foundation landscaping adjacent to buildings shall be directed parallel to the building wall only from the sides to avoid "wall-washing". There shall be no up-lighting of buildings or structures.

(dg) Driveway Lighting. Driveway and parking area lighting shall be limited to low-mounted luminaires only. Low-mounted lighting is defined as lighting where the optical center of the luminaire is no more than seven (7) feet thirty (30) inches above driveway grade, with the exception of moon lighting in conformance with Section 1161.05(i)(4) and lampposts. The maximum lumens per fixture shall be 1260 for a shielded fixture and 450 for an unshielded fixture, except that lampposts shall be a maximum of 2400 lumens per fixture. Lampposts shall have a max height of seven (7) feet from optical center to driveway grade, and can only be installed at driveway entrances, intersections, and unloading zones

~~(1) If lanterns or unshielded luminaires utilizing clear, diffusing or prismatic lenses are installed, the maximum light output shall be 375 lumens.~~

~~(2) If fully shielded luminaires are installed, the maximum light output shall be 600 lumens.~~

(eh) Area Lighting Sports Courts. Floodlights and spotlights may be permitted for the purpose of illuminating tennis courts or other similar permitted uses or activities in compliance with the following:

(1) Luminaires shall be mounted at thirty (30) feet or less measured from the optical center of the luminaire to grade directly beneath the luminaire.

(2) Lamp output is limited to 1350 lumens per socket and no more than three (3) sockets per mounting location.

(3) The lighting shall be designed and operated to provide the minimum and no more than one and one-half (1.5) times the minimum maintained illumination values recommended for the application by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America as expressed in the IESNA Lighting Handbook (current edition) or current Recommended Practice for the application.

(4) Such lighting shall not be operated between midnight and 9:00 a.m.

(5) Such lighting shall be operated only when the sport court is in active use

(fi) Landscape Lighting.

(1) Landscape lighting is defined as lighting installed and arranged to primarily illuminate "softscape" such as bushes, trees, vines, shrubs and flowers or "hardscape" such as terraces, fences, bridges, walls (non-building), sculpture, water features, ornaments, and formed earth shapes.

- (2) The maximum lumens per fixture shall be 1260 for a shielded fixture and 450 for an unshielded fixture.
- (3) Landscape lighting may be automatically or manually switched provided that the operating period extends only from dusk to midnight.
- (4) Moonlight fixtures may be permitted to illuminate landscaping provided such fixtures are mounted a maximum of twenty (20) feet above grade, are shrouded, and are limited in number.
- (5) Pathway lighting shall be a maximum of thirty (30) inches above grade.

~~(g)~~ House Numbers, Identification Signs. House numbers, identification signs, and entrance gates may be illuminated internally or externally, provided that lamp output is limited to 450 lumens.

~~(h)~~ Private Streets. There shall be no lighting of private streets.

(l) Outdoor Televisions. The screen of an outdoor television shall not be clearly visible from contiguous properties and vehicular rights of way.

(m) Flags. Lighting of the American Flag and/or State of Ohio Flag shall be permitted in accordance with State and Federal law, provided that the maximum illumination shall be 5000 lumens.

(n) Social Area Lighting. Lighting beneath pergolas and other gathering structures shall be accomplished solely with ceiling lights and coach lights. The maximum illumination of porches, decks, patios, and other outdoor social areas shall be limited to 15 lumens per square foot.

(o) Security Lighting. Security lighting shall be limited to a maximum of 3,200 lumens per fixture. Security lights may have a maximum color temperature of 3,500.

(p) Location of Lighting. Not more than ten percent (10%) of the total permitted lumens shall be located further than 100 feet from the dwelling or any accessory building.

~~{Ord. 2023-6. Passed 6-15-23.}~~

1161.06 NON-RESIDENTIAL LIGHTING.

Non-residential lighting includes exterior lighting installed on institutional properties for area lighting, safety lighting, entranceways, walkways, service areas, driveways, parking areas and recreation. Non-residential lighting shall comply with the following criteria:

- (a) The total output of all exterior lighting shall not exceed one and one-half (1.5) lumens per square foot of area to be illuminated as determined by the Architectural Board of Review.
- (b) Pole heights shall be limited to thirty (30) feet including base structures.
- (c) Only ~~full cut-off or~~ fully-shielded luminaires shall be used.

(d) Recreational lighting shall be prohibited.

~~{Ord. 2023-6. Passed 6-15-23.}~~

1161.07 PROHIBITED LIGHTING.

This section identifies lighting applications which cause glare, decrease visibility, produce unattractive lighting environments or excessive light trespass or light pollution. ~~These applications are prohibited.~~ The following types of lighting are prohibited, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Roof Lights. Luminaires shall not be mounted to the tops of building roofs.
- (b) Unshielded Light Sources. This type of lighting is prohibited except as described in Section 1161.05 (d)(1)
- (c) Building Illumination. The floodlighting of buildings utilizing luminaires designed, installed and aimed for such purpose is prohibited.
- (d) Changing Lights. Lights which flash, move, blink, flicker, vary in intensity or change color are prohibited from being installed on buildings or grounds except as provided in Section 1161.08 (a).
- (e) Types of Lamps. Mercury, high pressure sodium, metal halide, and ~~low pressure~~low-pressure sodium (LPS) discharge lamps are prohibited ~~because of their poor color qualities.~~ Laser and neon light sources are prohibited.
- (f) Architectural Lighting. Linear rope lighting ~~such as "rope" light~~ or high-voltage (neon) tubing is prohibited. Facade lighting designed primarily to attract attention or which is used as a means of identification or advertising is prohibited.
- (g) Location of Lighting. No lighting, except specifically permitted entry lighting, shall be installed within forty-five (45) feet of any property boundary line. No lighting shall be installed within 300 feet of the Chagrin River.
- (h) Large Area Lighting. Broad-based lighting of woods and large areas of a property are prohibited.
- (i) Fountain Lighting. Lighting of fountains, statues or sculptures not in compliance with Section 1155.10 or which are visible from contiguous properties is prohibited.

~~{Ord. 2023-6. Passed 6-15-23.}~~

1161.08 EXEMPTIONS.

(a) Holiday Lighting. Holiday lighting which is of a temporary nature may be illuminated ~~from November 15th through January 16th~~ for no more than sixty (60) consecutive days.

(b) Municipal Lighting. Lighting which is installed for reasons of public health, safety and welfare is allowed.

(c) The Architectural Board of Review may authorize specific exemptions when the Board determines that there will be no adverse impact resulting from the lighting and that such lighting is consistent with the spirit and intent of this chapter.

(d) Underwater pool and hot tub lighting and decorative lighting using fossil fuel sources shall not be counted toward the maximum permitted illumination set forth in Section 1161.05(a).

~~(Ord. 2023-6. Passed 6-15-23.)~~

1161.09 ENFORCEMENT.

(a) Violation. The Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector shall promptly examine or cause to be examined every alleged condition or perpetration in violation of this chapter and, if such violation exists, shall immediately give written notice of such violation, directing the owner, lessee, tenant or person responsible for such violation to make such changes, alterations or repairs as shall satisfy the requirements hereof. If necessary to secure compliance, the Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector may further cause the prosecution of the person responsible for such violation.

(b) Appeals. Within ten (10) days of receipt of a Notice of Violation from the Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector, the owner, tenant, lessee or person responsible may file a Notice of Appeal of such determination with the Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector. Upon receipt of such Notice of Appeal, the Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector shall refer the matter to the Planning and Zoning Commission which shall hear the matter within sixty (60) days of receipt of such appeal by the Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector. The Planning and Zoning Commission shall have the authority to affirm, modify, or reverse the determination of the Building ~~Commissioner~~Inspector regarding the existence of violations. The decision of the Board shall be final.

(c) Penalties. Persons and corporations who or which shall violate any of the provisions or requirements of this chapter, or fail to comply therewith, or who shall construct or install lighting improvements in violation of any detailed statement of specifications or plans submitted and approved thereunder, shall, for each violation or noncompliance, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), and each day during which any such person continues to violate any provision of this chapter or fails to comply therewith or any of the requirements thereof, after having been notified of such violation or failure to comply, shall constitute a separate offense.

~~(Ord. 2023-6. Passed 6-15-23.)~~