

**VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO
ORDINANCE 2023-05**

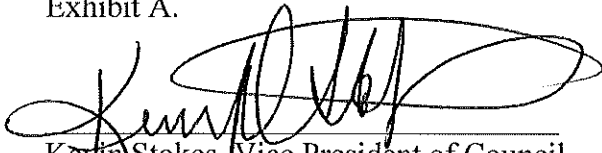
**REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 432.45 "TEXT BASED
COMMUNICATIONS" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF
YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO TO REFLECT CHANGES IN STATE LAW**

WHEREAS, at the recommendation of the Chief of Police, Section 432.45 needs amendment to accurately reflect state law;

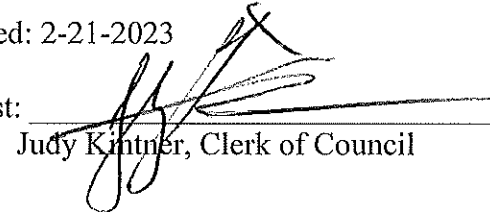
**NOW, THEREFORE, COUNCIL FOR THE VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO
HEREBY ORDAINS THAT:**

Section 1. Section 432.45 entitled "Text Based Communications" of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Yellow Springs, Ohio be repealed.

Section 2. A new Section 432.45 entitled "Text Based Communications" of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Yellow Springs, Ohio be enacted to read as follows with new language underlined and **bolded** and deleted language in ~~strikethrough~~ as show in the attached Exhibit A.


Kevin Stokes, Vice President of Council

Passed: 2-21-2023

Attest: 
Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council

ROLL CALL

Brian Housh Absent

Kevin Stokes Y

Marianne MacQueen Y

Carmen Brown Y

Gavin DeVore Leonard Y

(8) A person conducting wireless interpersonal communication with a device that does not require manually entering letters, numbers, or symbols or reading text messages, except to activate, deactivate, or initiate the device or **using** a feature or function of the **electronic wireless communications device with a single touch or single swipe**, provided that the person does not do either of the following during the use:

(a) Manually enter letters, numbers, or symbols into the device;

(b) Hold or support the device with any part of the person's body;

(9) A person operating a commercial truck while using a mobile data terminal that transmits and receives data.

(10) A person operating a utility service vehicle or a vehicle for or on behalf of a utility, if the person is acting in response to an emergency, power outage, or circumstance that affects the health or safety of individuals;

(11) A person using a handheld an electronic wireless communications device in conjunction with a voice-operated or hands-free device feature or function of the vehicle or of the device without the use of either hand except to activate, deactivate, or initiate the feature or function with a single touch or swipe, provided the person does not hold or support the device with any part of the person's body;

(12) A person using technology that physically or electronically integrates the device into the motor vehicle, provided that the person does not do either of the following during the use:

(a) Manually enter letters, numbers, or symbols into the device;

(b) Hold or support the device with any part of the person's body.

(13) A person storing an electronic wireless communications device in a holster, harness, or article of clothing on the person's body.

(c)(1) On January 31 of each year, the department of public safety shall issue a report to the general assembly that specifies the number of citations issued for violations of this section during the previous calendar year.

(2) If a law enforcement officer issues an offender a ticket, citation, or summons for a violation of division (A) of this section, the officer shall do both of the following:

(a) Report the issuance of the ticket, citation, or summons to the officer's law enforcement agency;

(b) Ensure that such report indicates the offender's race.

(D)(1) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of operating a motor vehicle while using an electronic wireless communication device, an unclassified misdemeanor.

(F) A prosecution for an offense in violation of this section does not preclude a prosecution for an offense in violation of a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance based on the same conduct. However, the two offenses are allied offenses of similar import under section 2941.25 of the Revised Code.

(G)(1) A law enforcement officer does not have probable cause and shall not stop the operator of a motor vehicle for purposes of enforcing this section unless the officer visually observes the operator using, holding, or physically supporting with any part of the person's body the electronic wireless communications device.

(2) A law enforcement officer who stops the operator of a motor vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar for a violation of division (A) of this section shall inform the operator that the operator may decline a search of the operator's electronic wireless communications device. The officer shall not do any of the following:

(a) Access the device without a warrant, unless the operator voluntarily and unequivocally gives consent for the officer to access the device;

(b) Confiscate the device while awaiting the issuance of a warrant to access the device;

(c) Obtain consent from the operator to access the device through coercion or any other improper means. Any consent by the operator to access the device shall be voluntary and unequivocal before the officer may access the device without a warrant.

(H) As used in this section:

(1) "Electronic wireless communications device" includes any of the following:

(a) A wireless telephone;

(b) A text-messaging device;

(c) A personal digital assistant;

(d) A computer, including a laptop computer and a computer tablet;

(e) Any device capable of displaying a video, movie, broadcast television image, or visual image;

(f) Any other substantially similar wireless device that is designed or used to communicate text, initiate or receive communication, or exchange information or data.

An "electronic wireless communications device" does not include a two-way radio transmitter or receiver used by a person who is licensed by the federal communications commission to participate in the amateur radio service.

(2) "Voice-operated or hands-free feature or function" means a feature or function that allows a person to use an electronic wireless communications device without the use of either hand, except to activate, deactivate, or initiate the feature or function with a single touch or single swipe.