

### Chapter 3

#### DEFINITIONS; RULES OF INTERPRETATION

- § 3.1. **Definitions of terms.**
- § 3.2. **Word usage.**
- § 3.3. **Interpretation and application of provisions generally.**

**[HISTORY: Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Upper St. Clair 4-5-76 as Ord. No. 615. Amendments noted where applicable.]**

§ 3.1. **Definitions of terms.**

3.1.1. As used in the Code of the Township of Upper St. Clair, and in any other ordinance of the township, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly indicates another meaning or unless otherwise specifically provided in another chapter of the Code or ordinance of the township:

**ADMINISTRATIVE CODE** - The administrative code adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Upper St. Clair, pursuant to the provisions of the Home Rule Charter, which defines the responsibilities of municipal departments, offices and agencies.<sup>1</sup>

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF** - Includes the Manager, officers in charge of designated staff functions of the Manager and the heads of administrative departments, as described in the Administrative Code.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** - The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Upper St. Clair elected by the qualified voters of said township pursuant to the Home Rule Charter.

**CODE** - The Code of the Township of Upper St. Clair as adopted by the Board of Commissioners. The Code contains all township ordinances of a general and permanent nature, including the Administrative Code.

**COMMONWEALTH** - The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Use of the term "state" shall be deemed to mean "commonwealth."

**COUNTY** - The County of Allegheny in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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<sup>1</sup>Editor's Note: The Administrative Code appears as Part II (Chapters 11 through 35) of this Code.

**HIGHWAY or STATE HIGHWAY** - A road or highway of the highway system of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**HOME RULE CHARTER** - The Home Rule Charter of the Township of Upper St. Clair approved by the voters of the Township of Upper St. Clair November 6, 1973, effective January 5, 1976, under the provisions of the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**LAW** - Any applicable act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of the Congress of the United States.

**LEGISLATURE** - The elected legislative body of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, otherwise known as the "General Assembly."

**MANAGER** - The Township Manager of the Township of Upper St. Clair appointed by the Board of Commissioners pursuant to the Home Rule Charter. Pursuant to § C-601 of the Home Rule Charter, the Township Manager is also the Township Secretary.

**MONTH** - The calendar month.

**MUNICIPALITY** - The Township of Upper St. Clair.

**PERSON** - Any natural person, partnership, firm, association, corporation, utility, governmental agency or other entity capable of being sued. Whenever used in any section prescribing and imposing a penalty, the term "person," as applied to associations, shall mean the partners or members thereof, and as applied to corporations, the officers thereof.

**STREET** - Any street, road, alley, lane, court or other public way accepted or maintained by the township, county, commonwealth or United States government.

**TOWNSHIP** - The Township of Upper St. Clair, a home rule municipality, in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**YEAR** - The calendar year.

3.1.2. Any term not specifically defined in this section or in any other chapter of the Code or ordinance of the township shall be construed according to its common usage.

### **§ 3.2. Word usage.**

In this Code and in other ordinances of the township, the following rules of word usage shall apply unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

3.2.1. **Gender.** Words importing the masculine gender only shall also mean and

include the feminine and neuter genders, and shall also apply to firms, associations, corporations and other artificial persons.

3.2.2. Number. Words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number, and words importing the plural number only shall include the singular number.

3.2.3. "Shall;" "May." The word "shall" is mandatory, and the word "may" is permissive.

**§ 3.3. Interpretation and application of provisions generally.**

In interpreting and applying the provisions of this Code, they shall be held to be the minimum requirements for the promotion of the public health, safety, comfort, convenience and general welfare. Where the provisions of this Code impose greater restrictions or requirements than those of any law, other ordinance or regulation, the provisions of this Code shall control. Where the provisions of any law, other ordinance or regulation impose greater restrictions or requirements, the provisions of such law, other ordinance or regulation shall be controlling.