

## **Chapter 3**

# **GOLF CARTS**

### **7-3-1: POLICY STATEMENT:**

This chapter is adopted in the interest of public safety. Golf carts are not designed or manufactured to be used on public streets and roads, hereinafter "streets", and the village in no way advocates or endorses their operation on streets. The village, by regulating such operation is merely addressing safety issues. This chapter is not to be relied upon as determination that operation on streets is safe or advisable even if done in accordance with this chapter. All persons operating golf carts must be observant of and attentive to the safety of themselves and others, including their passengers, other motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. All persons who operate or ride golf carts on streets inside the village do so at their own risk and peril. The village has no liability under any theory of liability for permitting golf carts to be operated on village streets. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008)

### **7-3-2: DEFINITIONS:**

**GOLF CART:** A vehicle originally designed for operation on a golf course. A golf cart shall not be capable of speeds exceeding twenty (20) miles per hour. The definition of "golf cart" specifically excludes all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) or any vehicle that is not a golf cart.

**VILLAGE STREETS:** Any of the streets within the boundaries of the village of Cerro Gordo except for state and county roads. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008)

### **7-3-3: PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:**

- A. **Permit Required:** No person shall operate a motorized golf cart without obtaining a permit from the village police department as provided in this section.
  
- B. **Application For Permit; Proof Of Compliance:** Golf cart owners must complete the permit application form attached to the ordinance codified herein. The completed forms will be maintained by the village police department. The village police department may issue visible proof of compliance that must be attached to the rear of the golf cart.
  
- C. **Permit Fee; Insurance Required:** The cost of a permit is twenty five dollars (\$25.00) per golf cart to cover the costs of implementing and maintaining this chapter. Insurance coverage will be verified as in effect by the police department when issuing or renewing a permit.

- D. Term Of Permit; Renewals: Permits shall be granted for a period of one year and may be renewed annually.
  
- E. Denial Or Revocation Of Permit: The village police chief or his/her designee retains the right to refuse to issue and/or revoke any permit sticker for any golf cart at any time for any reason that he/she feels is appropriate to ensure the safety and well being of the citizens of the village. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008)

### **7-3-4: RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

Golf carts may only be operated on streets within the village in accordance with the following rules and regulations:

- A. Any person who operates a golf cart in the village takes full responsibility for all liability associated with operating the golf cart. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008)
  
- B. Any person who operates a golf cart must be at least sixteen (16) years of age and possess a valid driver's license to operate a motor vehicle issued by Illinois or any other state. (Ord. 594-2013, 8-19-2013)
  
- C. Any person who operates a golf cart must possess proof of liability insurance. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008)
  
- D. Golf carts may be driven on village streets at any hour. (Ord. 578-2012, 9-17-2012)
  
- E. A golf cart shall have its headlight and taillamps lighted at all times when operated on village streets.
  
- F. Golf carts may not be operated when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other conditions or at anytime when there is insufficient light to clearly see persons and vehicles on the roadway at a distance of five hundred feet (500').
  
- G. Golf carts may not be operated on sidewalks or village parks other than parking areas.
  
- H. Golf carts may be operated on village streets which have a posted speed limit of thirty five (35) miles per hour or less.

- I. Golf carts may not be operated on the following national or state highways except to cross said highways at intersections in a path ninety degrees (90°) to said highways: State Highway 105, State Highway 32.
  
- J. Golf carts must be equipped with brakes, a steering apparatus, tires, a rearview mirror, front and rear red reflectorized warning devices, a slow moving vehicle emblem on the rear of the cart in conformity with section 12-709 of the Illinois vehicle code, a headlight that emits a white light visible from a distance of five hundred feet (500') to the front, a taillamp that emits a red light visible from at least one hundred feet (100') from the rear, brake lights, and turn signals.
  
- K. Any person who operates a golf cart on the streets in the village must adhere to all applicable state laws concerning the possession and use of alcoholic beverages and all other illegal drugs, as well as all other state traffic laws.
  
- L. Golf cart drivers must yield the right of way to overtaking vehicles at all times. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008)
  
- M. The maximum occupancy of golf carts traveling on village streets will be one person per bucket seat or three (3) people per bench seat. (Ord. 578-2012, 9-17-2012)
  
- N. Children must be properly seated while the golf cart is in motion and may not be transported in a negligent manner. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008)
  
- O. Golf carts are only allowed to park in parking spaces for persons with disabilities if the driver or at least one passenger has a valid parking sticker for persons with disabilities. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008; amd. 2012 Code)
  
- P. No modifications of a golf cart's suspension system, tires, or combination thereof, shall be made which causes the factory floorboard height to exceed twenty two inches (22") as measured from the ground to the top of the factory installed floorboard. (Ord. 539, 11-2-2009, eff. 11-2-2009)
  
- Q. All golf carts operated on the streets must be inspected by the village chief of police or his/her designee and must have valid permit documentation from the village police department. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008)

### **7-3-5: ENFORCEMENT:**

- A. Any act constituting a violation of this chapter or failure to comply with any of its requirements is deemed a petty offense and shall be punishable by a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) and not more than three hundred dollars (\$300.00).
  
- B. Repeat offenders may have the privileges granted by this chapter revoked by the village board of trustees upon recommendation by the village police department and/or the village president.
  
- C. Upon investigation by and the recommendation of the village police department, the village board may suspend or revoke a permit granted hereunder upon a finding that there is evidence that the permittee cannot safely operate the motorized golf cart on the designated streets.
  
- D. The village police department's and/or the village board's interpretation of the rules and regulations of this chapter are final.
  
- E. The village board of trustees reserves the right to revoke this chapter at any time. (Ord. 530, 6-30-2008, eff. 7-20-2008)