

Chapter 10.60 Golf Carts

10.60.010 Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to permit the operation of golf carts on certain streets in the City of Chariton, Iowa, as authorized by Section 321.247 Code of Iowa, as amended. This chapter applies whenever a golf cart is operated on any street or alley, subject to those exceptions stated herein.

(Ord. No. 912, & 2, 5-20-2019)

10.60.020 Definitions

“Golf cart” means a motorized vehicle with an engine displacement less than eight hundred cubic centimeters and a total dry weight of less than eight hundred pounds manufactured in compliance with the national highway and traffic safety administration standards for low-speed vehicles in 49 C.F.R 572.500, i.e. a four wheeled motor vehicle, other than a truck, whose speed attainable in one mile is more than twenty miles per hour and not more than twenty-five miles per hour on a paved level surface.

“Operate” means to ride in or on, other than as a passenger, use or control the operation of a golf cart in any manner, whether the golf cart is moving.

“Operator” means a person, who operates or is in actual physical control of a golf cart.

“Roadway” means that portion of a highway improved, designated, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel.

“Street or highway” means the entire width between the lines of every way or place of whatever nature when any part thereof is open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, for the purpose of vehicular travel.

(Ord. No. 912 & 2, 5-20-2019)

10.60.030 Operation on roadways, streets, or highways

Motorized golf carts as defined herein may be driven, operated or controlled during authorized times on city streets under the jurisdiction of the city, but golf carts shall not be operated on a city street which is a primary road extension through the city (Highway 14 and Highway 34), except to the extent necessary to cross a city street which is a primary road extension through the city. The operation of golf carts in the City of Chariton, Iowa is specifically prohibited on Ilion Avenue from 7th street to 16th street, Osceola Avenue from Hy-Vee Road to North 13th Street and Albia Road.

(Ord. No. 912 & 5-20-2019)

10.60.040 Authorized times of operation

Golf carts may be operated on city streets only between sunrise and sunset and shall not be operated when visibility is such that there is insufficient light to clearly see persons and vehicles at five hundred feet. Golf carts owned and operated by any governmental entity, school district, and utility are exempt from these time restrictions when used in the performance of their duties.

(Ord. No. 912 & 2, 5-20-2019)

10.60.050 Traffic code applies.

Every person operating a golf cart upon a street or alley shall be granted all of the rights and privileges and shall be subject to all the duties and obligations applicable to the driver of a vehicle and the laws of the state declaring the rules of the road applicable to the driver of the vehicle, except as to those provisions which by nature can have no application.

(Ord. No. 912, & 2, 5-20-2019)

10.60.060 Street etiquette

When necessary to prevent congestion of traffic, golf carts shall be pulled to the right-hand edge of streets and be stopped to allow other motor vehicles traveling in the same direction to pass. When two or more golf carts are being operated in the same direction and general vicinity on a city street or alley, they shall proceed in single file.

(Ord. No. 912, & 2, 5-20-2019)

10.60.070 Required equipment.

Golf carts operated upon city streets shall be equipped with at least the following:

1. An unobstructed retro-reflective slow-moving vehicle sign that meets ASAE standards or newer.
2. An orange safety flag, the top of which shall be a minimum of six feet above ground level.
3. Valid liability insurance covering the golf cart in the same limits as required of automobiles by the financial responsibility provisions of Chapter 321A of the Iowa Code.
4. A valid permit from the City of Chariton, Iowa.

(Ord.No. 912, &2, 5-20-2019)

10.60.080 Unlawful operation

No person shall drive or operate a golf cart:

1. In a careless, reckless, or negligent manner as to endanger the person or property of another or cause injury or damage thereto.
2. While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit-forming drugs.
3. In or on any park, playground, sidewalk, or upon any publicly owned property except with the permission of the governing body thereof.
4. With passengers on any portion not designed to carry passengers. No person may stand on or ride in the cargo area of a golf cart while it is in motion. Each person riding must be in their own seat. No more than three people may ride on a bench seat. No person may ride on the lap of another.

(Ord. No. 912, & 2, 5-20-2019)

10.60.090 Permit and permit holders

- (1) An application for a permit shall be made on a form supplied by the city, which shall contain the name and address of the applicant, and the make, model, year, and serial number of the golf cart/
- (2) The applicant shall provide a valid driver's license issued by the Iowa Department of Transportation and be eighteen years or older on the date of issuance.
- (3) The applicant shall provide and maintain public liability insurance and bodily injury insurance in the amounts required by the Iowa Code for the operation of motor vehicles upon public streets and highways.
- (4) The annual registration fee for such a permit shall be twenty-five dollars per year. The fee will not be pro-rated for permits purchased during the year and the fee will not be refunded if the golf car is sold or the permit is suspended or revoked.
- (5) Each permit shall be issued for a specific motorized golf cart, except as otherwise stated.
- (6) Permit holders will be issued a number, which shall be affixed to the rear driver's side of the golf cart.
- (7) All permits will expire on December 31st of each year. Permits may be purchased at any time during normal business hours at City Hall.
- (8) The permit may be suspended or revoked upon finding evidence that the permit holder has allowed the operation of a motorized golf cart in violation of the conditions of the permit or has abused the privilege of being a permit holder. There will be no refund of the license fee.
- (9) Businesses selling or repairing golf carts are exempt from having to obtain permits unless the vehicle is being used for general transportation and not as a test vehicle.

(Ord.No 912, & 2, 5-20-2019; Ord. No 933, && 3, 4, 8-1-2022)

10.60.100 Revocation of permit

A permit may be revoked by the city if there is any material misrepresentation made in the permit application, liability insurance is no longer in effect, or if there is evidence that the permittee cannot safely operate the motorized golf cart. A permit shall also be revoked if the permittee no longer has a valid driver's license. The city shall issue a notice of revocation of a permit in writing and either hand deliver the notice to the permit holder or send the notice by certified mail to the address on the application. The revocation shall be in effect immediately after personal service or three days after the mailing.

(Ord. No 912, & 2, 5-20-2019)

10.60.110 Violation and penalty

A violation of this chapter shall be considered a simple misdemeanor. Any person who is found to have violated this chapter shall be subject to the standard penalty set forth in Chapter 1.20.010. The violation of this chapter may also be cited as a municipal infraction within the discretion of the City of Chariton, Iowa.

(Ord. No. 912, & 2, 5-20-2019)