

CHAPTER 10

GOLF CARTS

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SEC. 9-10-1 STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION

This ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authorization in 349.18(1)(b) and 349.18 (1m)(a) Wis. Stats.

SEC. 9-10-2 DEFINITIONS

- (a) "Golf Cart" shall mean a vehicle whose speed attainable in one mile does not exceed 20 miles per hour on a paved, level surface, and that was designed and originally intended to convey one or more persons and equipment to play the game of golf in an area designated as a golf course. State Law Reference §23.33(1)(fm) Wis. Stats.
- (b) "Public Street" shall mean a public street, highway or alley located within the municipal boundaries of the City of Thorp.

SEC. 9-10-3 OPERATION, WHERE PERMITTED

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in Section 9-9-4 herein, golf carts are permitted to be operated on those public streets having a posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour or less. State Law Reference §349.18(1m)(a) Wis. Stats.
- (b) Golf carts are permitted to cross County Highway X and STH 73 at one or more designated crossing points where the city has placed signs of a type approved by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation on both sides of

the highway to mark the crossing point; however, the operator of the golf cart shall stop and yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on County Highway X or STH 73 before crossing the highway. State Law Reference §349.18(1)(b) and §349.18(1m)(c)(2) Wis. Stats.

SEC. 9-10-4 OPERATION, WHERE PROHIBITED

No person may operate a golf cart on any portion of, or cross, any state trunk highway or connecting highway, including State Trunk Highway 73, ("Washington Street") except at designates crossing points. State Law Reference §349.18(1m)(c)(2) Wis. Stats.

SEC. 9-10-5 OPERATORS PROHIBITED

No person shall operate a golf cart upon a public street without a current, valid driver's license issued for the operation of a motor vehicle.

SEC. 9-10-6 EQUIPMENT RESTRICTIONS

- (a) No person may operate a golf cart on a public street unless it conforms to all federal, state and local laws and regulations regarding noise, emissions and equipment, and is maintained in proper adjustment and repair.
- (b) No person may operate a golf cart on a public street without displaying a lighted headlight and taillight at all times and said lights must conform to the requirements of this ordinance. Headlights shall be of a white or clear light and must be capable of illuminating the road ahead during hours of darkness and be observed at a distance of 500 feet. Headlights must be properly adjusted, as not to interfere with the operation of other vehicles on the roadway. Taillights shall be red in color and be observable to a distance of 500 feet at night.
- (c) No person may operate a golf cart on a public street without at least 2 direction signal lamps showing to the front and at least two showing to the rear on the golf cart so as to indicate intention to turn right or left.

SEC. 9-10-7 OPERATIONS RESTRICTED

- (a) No person may operate a golf cart on a public street except in conformity with federal, state, and local laws regulating the operation of motor vehicles on public streets and highways.

- (b) No person shall allow a golf cart in the person's custody from standing or remaining unattended on any public street or in any other public place, except an attended parking area, unless either the starting lever, throttle, steering apparatus, gear shift or ignition of the golf cart is locked and the key for that lock is removed from the golf cart.
- (c) No person shall operate a golf cart upon any sidewalk, pedestrian way, public park or upon the (terrace) area between the sidewalk and the curb line of any public street in the City, except as specifically authorized for the purpose of legally crossing the street, or to obtain immediate access to an authorized area of operation.

SEC. 9-10-8 ERECTION OF OFFICIAL TRAFFIC SIGNS AND SIGNALS.

The Public Works Department shall procure, erect and maintain appropriate standard traffic signs, signals and markings conforming to the rules of the State Department of Transportation giving such notice of the provisions of this Ordinance as required by State Law.

SEC. 9-10-9 PENALTIES

Any forfeiture for violation of this ordinance shall conform to the forfeiture permitted to be imposed for violation of those similar state statutes or statutes referenced in this ordinance, as set forth in the Uniform Deposit and Misdemeanor Bail Schedule of the Wisconsin Judicial Conference, including any variations or increases for subsequent offenses, which schedule is adopted by reference. If the ordinance has no corresponding state statute, the penalties for violation of this ordinance shall be in conformity with the penalty provisions of Section 1-1-7 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Thorp.

SEC. 9-10-10 ANNUAL REGISTRATION

- (a) A golf cart must be registered with the city prior to operating on a public street. The registrant shall pay to the city an annual golf cart registration fee of \$10. The registration must be renewed each calendar year. This fee is in addition to any other fees required by law.
- (b) No person shall operate golf cart, not currently registered with the city, on a public street.

SEC. 9-10-11 SEVERABILITY

The provision of this ordinance shall be deemed severable, and it is expressly declared that the City would have passed the other provisions of this ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid. If any provision of this ordinance or the application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be deemed affected.

SEC. 9-10-12 EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as required by law.