

ORDINANCE 22-2021

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF VINCENNES, INDIANA REPEALING ORDINANCE 12-2009, PROVIDING THE SAFE
AND RESPONSIBLE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS AND ESTABLISHING A REVISED
ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF GOLF CARTS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS

WHEREAS, Indiana Code 36-1-3, et seq. authorizes local governmental units to exercise such powers necessary or desirable in the conduct of its affairs granted by statute, or otherwise, to effectively discharge duties and to undertake such actions, not inconsistent with state law, in operating and conducting affairs of local interest; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Vincennes desires to maintain and promote the public safety and welfare of all residents and individuals in the City; and,

WHEREAS, the Common Council has determined that regulations concerning the use of golf carts on City streets is necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Indiana Legislature, pursuant to I.C. 9-21-1-3 and I.C. 9-21-1-3.3, authorized cities to regulate the operation of golf carts on streets and alleys within its jurisdiction; and,

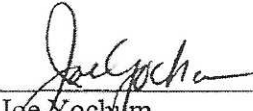
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Vincennes, Indiana as follows:

- Section 1.** The term “golf cart” shall have the meaning as defined in I.C. 9-13-2-69-7, as amended, which defines a golf cart to mean “a four (4) wheeled motor vehicle originally and specifically designed and intended to transport one (1) or more individuals and golf clubs for the purpose of playing the game of golf on a golf course.” The requirements and restrictions imposed by this ordinance as to the operation of golf carts shall refer only to the operation of golf carts on streets and alleys within the jurisdiction of the City.
- Section 2.** Only a licensed driver, age eighteen (18) or older, shall be allowed to operate a golf cart in the City of Vincennes on public streets or alleys within the city.
- Section 3.** Any golf cart operating on a public street or alley within the City of Vincennes must be registered with the city through the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office immediately after purchase and prior to use within the City. At the time of the registration, the owner shall have an inspection of the vehicle performed by the Vincennes Police Department. If the golf cart passes inspection, the owner shall pay a registration fee to the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office of \$50.00 annually and shall provide proof of liability insurance/financial responsibility in an amount not less than the minimum required by Indiana for motor vehicles, at which time a registration sticker will be issued. Proof of insurance and the registration shall be always maintained in the golf cart. All registration fees collected pursuant to this ordinance shall be deposited into the General Fund.
- Section 4.** No person shall operate a golf cart on streets of 35 miles per hour or higher, except to cross in a perpendicular manner. Golf carts shall not be operated on sidewalks.

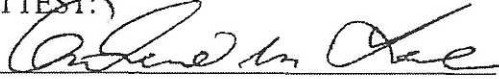
- Section 5.** Persons operating golf carts shall observe and obey all rules of traffic, state laws, federal laws, and City Ordinances. A person shall not operate a golf cart in a reckless or dangerous manner.
- Section 6.** Golf carts shall be equipped with factory seating for all occupants, with only one person seated in each seat. All persons in the golf cart shall remain seated at all times the golf cart is operated. Children under the age of three (3) years shall not be permitted to ride on the golf cart.
- Section 7.** Golf carts shall be equipped with two operating headlamps (one on each side of the front of the golf cart) which can be visible from a distance of 500 feet, front and rear turn signal lamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, brakes, seat belts on all seats and child restraint when appropriate, and a rear-view mirror. A slow-moving vehicle placard mounted at the rear of the golf cart and as near as practicable to the center of mass and at an approximate height not less than three (3) feet and not more than five (5) feet from level ground or pavement surface and a safety flag and a strobe or amber light shall be displayed at all times.
- Section 8.** The Board of Public Works and Safety may designate special events, in which golf carts may be operated in compliance with this ordinance with exceptions. If the golf cart used during special events does not meet the requirements of Section 8, the permitted hours outlined in Section 3 shall be day light hours only. During such special events, a registration fee of \$15.00 per golf cart used shall be paid to the City of Vincennes through the Clerk-Treasurer for deposit into the General Fund. Such special event registrations shall be valid for a period not to exceed one (1) week. All other requirements and terms of this ordinance shall apply.
- Section 9.** Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall, upon a first finding of such violation, be subject to a fine not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00), and upon a second or subsequent finding of such violation, be subject to a fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). Additionally, or alternatively, any operator of a golf cart found to have committed a moving traffic offense as defined in I.C. 9-30-3-14(a), shall be subject to fines and court costs as established by the State of Indiana. Each violation shall constitute a separate offense and be subject to a separate fine. If two (2) or more violations of this ordinance occur within the same calendar year with respect to either an operator or a particular golf cart, the registration of the golf cart involved in the most recent violation shall be suspended and the owner or operator of the golf cart shall not be eligible for another registration for a period of one (1) year from the date of such most recent violation.
- Section 10.** The Vincennes Utility Services Department, the Street Department, and the Public Safety entities are exempt from the provisions of the ordinance.
- Section 11.** The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this ordinance are separable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional, invalid, or unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this ordinance.

Section 12. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, and publication according to law.

PASSED by the Common Council this 24 day of January, 2028 by a vote of 5 to 0 with 0 abstaining.



Joe Yochum
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


Catherine M.M. Lane, City Clerk-Treasurer

Requested by Catherine M.M. Lane