CHAPTER 75: MOTORIZED GOLF CARTS

§ 75.01 DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

COMMUNITY EVENT. An event organized by the city or a community-based organization that is open to the general public.

MOTORIZED GOLF CART. An electric or gas-powered vehicle with four wheels used primarily for light terrain slow moving operation.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10)

§ 75.02 PERMIT REQUIRED.

It is unlawful for any person to operate a motorized golf cart on streets in the city without first obtaining a permit as provided herein. Persons who obtain a permit as required below are authorized to operate a motorized golf cart on designated roadways or portions thereof under the jurisdiction of the city. With the exception of motorized golf carts that are being operated in connection with a community event, every motorized golf cart operator must have proof of insurance in possession while operating the motorized golf cart on designated streets and shall produce such proof of insurance on demand of a police officer as specified in M.S. § 169.791.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10) Penalty, see § 75.12

§ 75.03 PERMITS.

(A) Operator permits. All persons operating motorized golf carts that are not being operated in connection with a community event must obtain an annual operator permit from the city.
Application. The application shall be made on a form supplied by the city and shall contain the following:

(a) The name and address of the applicant;
(b) The make, model name, year and serial number of the motorized golf cart;
(c) The applicant's driver's license number;
(d) Proof of insurance complying with M.S. § 65B.48;
(e) Payment of an annual permit fee. The amount of the fee shall be established from time to time by resolution of the City Council; and
(f) Such other information as the city may require.

Term of permit. Operator permits shall be granted for a period of one year and may be renewed annually. Operator permits shall expire on December 31 of each year.

Operator permit conditions. No operator permit shall be granted or renewed unless the following conditions are met:

(a) The city is in receipt of a complete application and permit fee as provided by this chapter;
(b) The applicant is over the age of 16 and provides a valid driver's license;
(c) The applicant provides proof of insurance in compliance with M.S. § 65B.48; and
(d) The motorized golf cart is in good working condition and safe for the transportation of passengers.

Operator permit display. All operator permits shall be issued for a specific motorized golf cart. A current city-issued operator permit tag shall be plainly visible from the front of the motorized golf cart.

Community event permits. Operators of motorized golf carts in connection with a community event are not required to obtain individual operator permits so long as a community event permit is obtained by the organizer of the community event from the city. The community event permit will include all motorized golf carts being used in connection with the event.

Application. Every application for a community event permit under this chapter shall be made on a form supplied by the city and shall contain the following:

(a) The name and address of the organizer of the community event;
(b) A description of the community event, including how and where the motorized golf carts will be utilized;
(c) The number of motorized golf carts to be used in the event;
(d) Proof of insurance in a form and amount acceptable to the city;
(e) Payment of a community event permit fee. The amount of the permit fee shall be established from time to time by resolution of the City Council; and
(f) Such other information as the city may require.

Term of permit. Community event permits shall be granted for the length of the event and shall expire upon the conclusion of the event.

Conditions of permit. No community event permit shall be granted unless the following conditions are met:

(a) The city is in receipt of a complete application and permit fee as provided by this chapter; and
(b) The organizer must provide proof of insurance in a form and amount acceptable to the city.

§ 75.04 OCCUPANTS.

The number of occupants in the motorized golf cart shall not exceed the design occupant load. Each occupant must be seated in a
§ 75.05 DESIGNATED ROADWAYS AND INTERSECTIONS.

Motorized golf carts may be operated within the city on public roadways. Motorized golf carts must not be operated on State Trunk Highways or county roads, unless the road or highway is under the city's jurisdiction through the issuance of a permit or approval to the city from the county or the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the cart is listed on the community event permit issued by the city. The operator of any motorized golf cart may make a direct crossing of any intersecting roadways. Operators must exercise all due care to avoid travel on roadways with a high frequency of automobile usage.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10) Penalty, see § 75.12

§ 75.06 TIMES OF OPERATION.

Motorized golf carts may only be operated on designated roadways from sunrise to sunset. They shall not be operated in inclement weather or when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other conditions, or at any time when there is insufficient light to clearly see persons and vehicles on the roadway at a distance of 500 feet.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10) Penalty, see § 75.12

§ 75.07 APPLICATION OF TRAFFIC LAWS.

Persons operating motorized golf carts on designated roadways have all the rights and duties applicable to drivers of any other motor vehicle under the provisions of any ordinance of the city and M.S. Chapter 169, except when these provisions cannot reasonably be applied to motorized golf carts and except that provisions of M.S. Chapter 171 are not applicable to persons operating motorized golf carts under permit on designated roadways. Except for M.S. § 169.70, the provisions of M.S. Chapter 169 relating to equipment on vehicles is not applicable to motorized golf carts operating under permit on designated roadways.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10)

§ 75.08 SLOW MOVING VEHICLE EMBLEM.

Motorized golf carts shall display the slow moving vehicle emblem provided in M.S. § 169.522, when operated on designated roadways.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10) Penalty, see § 75.12

§ 75.09 OPERATION.

Motorized golf carts shall be operated at all times as close to the right-hand curb as possible, except when the driver is making a left-hand turn.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10) Penalty, see § 75.12

§ 75.10 OPERATION ON SIDEWALKS AND TRAILS.

No person shall operate a motorized golf cart on a public sidewalk or trail unless otherwise authorized by the city.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10) Penalty, see § 75.12
§ 75.11 SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF A PERMIT.

The Chief of Police may suspend or revoke a permit granted hereunder upon a finding that the permit holder has violated any of the provisions of this chapter or M.S. Chapter 169, or if there is evidence that the operator cannot safely operate the motorized golf cart on designated roadways. A suspension or revocation may be reviewed by appeal to the City Council.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10)

§ 75.12 PENALTY.

In addition to the revocation or suspension of the permit, any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10)

§ 75.13 NO ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITY.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as an assumption of liability by the city for injuries to persons or property which may result from the operation of any motorized golf cart by a permit holder or the failure by the Chief of Police or City Council to suspend or revoke a permit.

(Ord. 241, passed 2-16-10)