

CHAPTER 78

OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS AND SIMILAR CONVEYANCES ON CITY STREETS

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78.01 PURPOSE. Iowa Code Section 321.247 grants authority to the City of Williamsburg to permit the operation of golf carts or similar vehicles on the roadways under the City's jurisdiction subject to certain restrictions contained herein. The City Council desires to authorize the use of golf carts but regulate them to enhance the health, safety and welfare of citizens with specialized needs.

78.02 DEFINITION. "Golf cart" is defined as a motorized vehicle with three or four wheels that is not designed to be operated at a speed of more than twenty-five miles per hour (25 m.p.h.), whose purpose can include, but is not limited to, the playing of golf and is generally designed to carry persons including the driver.

78.03 REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS. The following use, operational requirements and restrictions are adopted by the City for golf carts:

1. A golf cart may be operated on a street by persons who are:
 - A. At least sixteen (16) years of age and possess a valid driver's license; and
 - B. Have obtained a permit from the Police Chief pursuant to Williamsburg Code Sections 78.04 and 78.05.
2. Individuals who are allowed by this chapter to operate golf carts on the City streets shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of the State declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the traffic code of the City applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application.
3. The golf cart shall be equipped with a slow moving vehicle sign, a bicycle safety flag, and operating brakes.

78.04 PERMITS. In addition to any other requirements of this chapter, no golf cart shall be driven, operated or controlled on the roadways or shoulders of roadways under the jurisdiction of the City unless the driver, operator or person in control has in his or her actual physical possession a valid, current and unrevoked permit of the City for such driving, operation or control of a golf cart.

78.05 PERMIT ISSUANCE. Permits shall be issued by the Williamsburg Police Chief, or authorized designee, upon compliance with this section.

1. Application for an individual permit shall include the full name and address of the applicant; the applicant's date of birth; the state of issuance of the applicant's current driver's license, the number of the driver's license; the date of application and applicant's signature. The applicant must also submit a brief written statement explaining why the permit is necessary.

2. The Police Chief, or authorized designee, may deny the issuance of a permit for any or no reason.

3. The permit may be revoked by the Police Chief if there is any material misrepresentation made in the permit application, or if there is evidence that the permittee cannot safely operate the motorized golf cart. The Police Chief 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 (3) days after the mailing.

78.06 OPERATION PROHIBITED IN CERTAIN LOCATIONS. Golf carts may cross, but shall not be operated on, the following City roadways:

1. Highway 149
2. North Street
3. Welsh Street
4. East State Street

78.07 EXCEPTIONS TO PERMIT REQUIREMENT. A golf cart permit is not required if the operator operates the golf cart pursuant to all other requirements of this chapter, and the purpose of the operation is for obtaining general maintenance or repair to the golf cart.

78.08 VIOLATIONS. Any person violating any section in this chapter is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.