

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS WITHIN THE TOWN OF RURAL HALL

Section 1 – Authority to Regulate

Pursuant to NCGS160A-300.6, as enacted by the North Carolina General Assembly, the Town of Rural Hall may regulate, by ordinance, to require the registration of, and to regulate the operation of, golf carts upon public streets, roads and highways within the Town where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less.

Section 2 – Definitions

- a. Golf Cart: A vehicle designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes.
- b. Operator: The Operator is the person driving the golf cart.

Section 3 – Operation on Public Streets and Roads

It shall be unlawful to operate a golf cart on a public street, road, or highway right-of-way within the Town except in accordance with the following provisions:

- a. Golf carts may not be operated on or alongside a public street, road or highway with a posted speed limit greater than 35 miles per hour.
- b. Golf carts may be operated only from dawn to dusk, with the exception of golf carts with two (2) operating headlights, one on each side of the front of the golf cart, and two (2) operating taillights, one on each side of the rear of the cart, which are visible from a distance of 500 feet.
- c. Golf carts must be equipped with a rear view mirror and a rear reflector.
- d. Golf cart operators must be 16 years of age or older.
- e. No golf cart may be operated in a careless or reckless manner. No golf cart may be operated at a speed greater than 20 mph or that is reasonable and prudent for the existing conditions.
- f. Golf carts must be operated at the right edge of the roadway and must yield to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
- g. All applicable state and local laws shall be adhered to.
- h. The number of occupants in a golf cart shall be limited to the number of persons for whom individual seating is installed and provided on the golf cart. The operator and all occupants shall be seated in the golf cart.
- i. Golf carts shall not be operated on private property without the permission and consent of the property owner.
- j. During an emergency situation or at a special event, Town officials may direct that golf carts be operated other than as permitted by this Ordinance.


Section 4 – Enforcement

Violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall be an infraction, the maximum penalty for which shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) per occurrence. Notwithstanding the foregoing, persons who, while driving golf carts on public streets within the Town, violate the "Rules of the Road" applicable to motor vehicles generally as set forth in Part 10 of the NCGS Chapter 20, shall be subject to the same penalties applicable to the operators of such other motor vehicles.

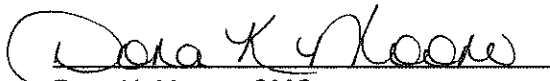
Section 5 – Liability Disclaimer

This Ordinance is adopted to protect public safety. By adopting this Ordinance, the Town does not declare or represent that golf carts are designed or manufactured to be used on public streets or roads and does not advocate or endorse their operation on public streets or roads. This Ordinance is not to be relied on as a determination that operation of golf carts on public streets or roads is safe or advisable even if done in accordance with this Ordinance. All persons who operate golf carts on public streets or roads do so at their own risk and peril, and must observe and be attentive to the safety of themselves and others, including passengers, other motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians. By permitting golf carts to be operated on public streets and roads under the special legislation adopted by the State's legislature, the Town assumes no responsibility or liability for the operation of golf carts.

Adopted this the 8th day of November, 2010.


Larry T. Williams
Mayor

ATTEST:


Dora K. Moore, CMC
Town Clerk