

ORDINANCE NO. 1165

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 79 OF THE CHARLES CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES WHICH PROVIDES RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS WITHIN THE CITY OF CHARLES CITY, IOWA.

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Charles City, Iowa:

SECTION 1. New Chapter. The following new chapter, Chapter 79, titled “Golf Carts” of the Charles City Code of Ordinances is hereby adopted:

**CHAPTER 79
GOLF CARTS**

- 79.01 Purpose
- 79.02 Definitions
- 79.03 Traffic Code Applies
- 79.04 Riding on Golf Cart
- 79.05 Prohibited Areas

- 79.06 Driver’s License Required
- 79.07 Equipment Required
- 79.08 Hours of Operation
- 79.09 Parking Prohibited
- 79.10 Financial Responsibility
- 79.11 Penalty

79.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to permit the operation of golf carts on certain streets in the City, as authorized by Section 321.247 of the *Code of Iowa*, as amended. This chapter applies whenever a golf cart is operated on any street or alley of the City of Charles City, subject to those exceptions stated herein.

79.02 DEFINITIONS. "Golf cart" means a four wheeled recreational vehicle generally used for transportation of person(s) in the sport of golf that is either electric powered or gas powered with an engine displacement of less than 351 cubic centimeters, and a total dry weight of less than 800 pounds.

79.03 TRAFFIC CODE APPLIES. Every person operating a golf cart upon a street or alley shall be granted all of the rights and privileges and shall be subject to all the duties and obligations applicable to the driver of a vehicle and to the laws of the State declaring the rules of the road applicable to the driver of the vehicle, except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application.

79.04 RIDING ON GOLF CART. A person operating a golf cart shall not ride other than on a permanent regular seat attached thereto. Occupancy shall not exceed the number of passengers designed for by the manufacturer. No one may stand in a golf cart while it is being operated.

79.05 PROHIBITED AREAS.

1. Streets. Golf carts shall not be operated upon any City streets with a posted speed limit of greater than 25 mph or any City streets or parts of any City streets listed below:

- A. US Highway 18
- B. Iowa Highway 14

C. Gilbert Street

D. However, golf carts may cross the aforementioned streets.

2. Trails. Golf carts shall not be operated on any recreational, bike or walking trail.
3. Sidewalks. Golf carts shall not be operated upon sidewalks.
4. "Parking". Golf carts shall not be operated upon that portion of a street right-of-way between the curb or edge of street paving and the sidewalk referred to as the "parking".
5. City Parks and other land owned by the City of Charles City. Golf carts shall not be operated off the travelled portion of the road in City parks or upon other city-owned land unless for a special event authorized by the City Council. Golf carts may be operated on the golf course at Wildwood while the operator is playing golf.
6. Special Exemptions. The Chief of Police is authorized to permit golf carts to operate on restricted City streets for certain special events.

79.06 DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIRED. Any person operating a golf cart upon any City street shall possess a valid driver's license and be at least 18 years of age.

79.07 EQUIPMENT REQUIRED. Golf carts operated upon City streets shall be equipped with a minimum of the following safety features:

1. A slow moving vehicle sign.
2. A bicycle safety flag, the top of which shall be a minimum of five (5) feet above ground level.
3. Adequate brakes.
4. Rear view mirror - driver's side.

79.08 HOURS OF OPERATION. Golf carts may be operated on City streets only from sunrise to sunset.

79.09 PARKING PROHIBITED. Golf carts shall not be parked overnight on City streets or alleys at any time.

79.10 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY. Golf carts operated on City streets are not required to be registered under Chapter 321 of the *Code of Iowa*; however, the operator of a golf cart is subject to the financial responsibility provisions of Chapter 321A of the *Code of Iowa*.

79.11 PENALTY. A person who violates this chapter is guilty of a simple misdemeanor punishable as a scheduled violation under Iowa Code.

SECTION 2. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Severability. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 4. When Effective. This ordinance shall be in effect from and after its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the City Council on this 21st day of August, 2023.

Approved this 21st day of August, 2023.

Dean Andrews, Mayor

ATTEST:

Trudy O'Donnell, City Clerk

As certified, the foregoing was published as Ordinance No. 1165 on the 25th day of August, 2023.

City Clerk