

## Ordinance No. 15-2022

### ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF MORRISTOWN, INDIANA, GOVERNING THE USE OF GOLF CARTS AND UTILITY TASK VEHICLES

WHEREAS, the use of golf carts on streets within Morristown's municipal boundaries remains frequent.

WHEREAS, there has been an increase in rates of labor and repair due to violations of usage ordinances for golf carts and similar vehicles since the previous adoption of such an ordinance in 2009.

WHEREAS, the use of Utility Task Vehicles ("UTV") within Morristown's municipal boundaries have increased in recent years.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Morristown to establish an ordinance governing the use of golf carts and UTVs in Morristown.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Morristown to revisit the penalties related to such ordinances from time to time.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MORRISTOWN TOWN COUNCIL, as follows:

#### 1. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this chapter the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:

(a) Golf Cart: A vehicle with four wheels originally designed for operation on a golf course and powered by a battery or internal combustion motor.

(b) UTV: A motorized vehicle, with not less than four (4) nonhighway tires that is limited in engine displacement to less than one thousand five hundred (1,500) cubic centimeters and in total highway dry weight not more than two thousand (2,000) pounds and that has a seat that is of bucket or bench design not intended to be straddled by the operator, a steering wheel, or control levers for control, and is equipped with a bed or cargo box for hauling materials. Vehicles designed for the primary purpose of recreation are also included. Vehicles such as dune buggies, not registered as road legal motor vehicles, shall not fit this definition and are not allowed under this section. The chief of police shall have the final say on whether a vehicle meets this definition. The definition for UTV shall not be construed to include all-terrain vehicles ("ATV") as currently defined in I.C. 14-8-2-5.7. No individual shall be allowed to use, operate, drive, or park an ATV on the streets, alleys, and properties under the jurisdiction of the town under this Ordinance.

(b) Driver's License: A valid license to operate a motor vehicle issued by the state of Indiana or any other state.

(c) Financial Responsibility: Liability insurance coverage on a golf cart or UTV in an amount not

less than required by Indiana law for motor vehicles operated on public highways in the State of Indiana.

2. OPERATION OF GOLF CART OR UTV

The operation of a golf cart or UTV within Morristown's municipal boundaries is strictly prohibited unless the golf cart or UTV is operated and equipped in full compliance with this Chapter.

3. OPERATOR

Only persons over sixteen (16) years of age and holding a valid driver's license may operate a golf cart or UTV.

4. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The financial ability of the operator or owner notwithstanding, the operator of a golf cart or UTV must show financial responsibility when operating a golf cart or UTV. Written proof of financial responsibility must be available either on the golf cart or UTV or carried by the operator at all times.

5. SLOW MOVING VEHICLE SIGN

All golf carts and UTVs must display on the back of the golf cart or UTV a "slow moving vehicle" sign of the same type required under Indiana Law.

6. OPERATION AT NIGHT

Golf carts and UTVs shall not be operated one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise.

7. OCCUPANTS

The number of occupants in a golf cart or UTV shall be limited to the number of persons

for whom factory seating is installed and provided on the golf cart or UTV. The operator and all occupants shall be seated in the golf cart or UTV and no part of the body of the operator or occupant shall extend outside the perimeter of the golf cart or UTV while the golf cart or UTV is being operated.

8. TRAFFIC RULES

The operator of the golf cart or UTV shall comply with all traffic rules and regulations adopted by the State of Indiana and the Town of Morristown which govern the operation of motor vehicles.

9. REGISTRATION

(a) No person shall operate a golf cart or UTV without valid registration with the town. The Town Clerk-Treasurer shall make forms available for the registration of golf carts or UTV and shall collect all fees for registration. The registration fee shall be \$75.00 every three (3) years. Each registration shall last from January 1 of the first year to December 31 of the third year and shall not be prorated for portions of the year already lapsed.

(b) The following steps are also required for the registration of a golf cart or UTV with the Clerk-Treasurer:

(1) Prior to registration, the golf cart or UTV must have been inspected by the Town of Morristown Police Chief or his or her deputy to ensure it complies with the equipment requirements of this section.

(2) At the time of registration, the owner of the golf cart or UTV shall present proof of insurance for the golf cart or UTV. Such insurance must be maintained on the golf cart or UTV for as long as it is operated on streets, alleys, and properties under the jurisdiction of the Town of Morristown.

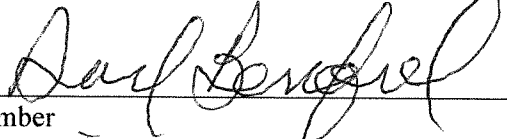
10. PENALTY

A violation of any provision of this Chapter shall constitute a violation of the Morristown Code. An owner, lessee, or operator may be cited to appear in a court of competent jurisdiction by issuance of an Indiana Uniform Traffic Ticket. Upon a finding by such court that an owner, lessee, or operator of a golf cart or UTV has violated any provision of this Chapter, such person shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$250.00 for each offense along with Court costs in the amount same now exists or may hereafter be determined by ordinance or statute. If such person makes payment within seventy-two hours, the fine shall not exceed \$150.00.

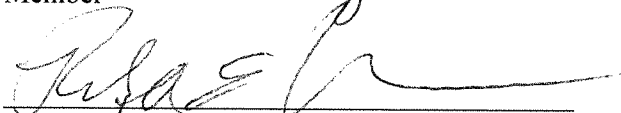
11. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately after its passage as required by law.

PASSED ON THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2022.


President, Morristown Town Council

  
Member

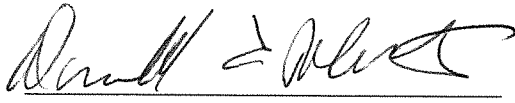
  
Member

  
Member

  
Member



ATTEST:

  
Clerk-Treasurer