

**VILLAGE OF STEVENSVILLE
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

ORDINANCE NO. ____

**AN ORDINANCE TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE V, ENTITLED “GOLF
CARTS,” TO CHAPTER 32 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES,
VILLAGE OF STEVENSVILLE, MICHIGAN TO ALLOW THE USE OF
GOLF CARTS IN THE VILLAGE LIMITS**

The Village of Stevensville Ordains:

Section 1. Addition. A new Article V, entitled “Golf Carts,” is added to Chapter 32 of the Code of Ordinances, Village of Stevensville, Michigan, to read as follows:

**Article V
Golf Carts**

Sec. 32-111. Purpose

These regulations are intended to secure the public peace, health and safety of the residents and property owners of the Village of Stevensville for the regulation of the use of golf carts on public roads within the corporate limits of the Village, to provide for the issuance of decals in connection with the registration of golf carts, and to provide penalties for the violation of these provisions.

Sec. 32-112. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this article except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- (a) Decal means the sticker displayed on every registered golf cart within the Village, which are obtained by completing and submitting the proper registration form to the Village Hall.
- (b) Driver license means an operator’s or chauffeur’s license or permit issued to an individual by the Secretary of State under Chapter III of the Michigan Vehicle Code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.301 to MCL 257.329, as amended, for that individual to operate a vehicle, whether or not conditions are attached to the license or permit.
- (c) Golf cart means a vehicle designed for transportation while playing the game of golf.
- (d) Maintained portion means that portion of a road improved, designated or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic.
- (e) Operator means a person who operates or is in actual physical control of the operation of a golf cart.
- (f) Registration means the process through which every person intending to operate a motorized golf cart on roads or streets within the village must follow.
- (g) Street means a road, roadway, street or right-of-way within the Village of Stevensville street system, but does not include a private road. The terms road, roadway, street and right-of-way are interchangeable.
- (h) Sunset and sunrise mean that time determined by the National Weather Service on any given day.

Sec. 32-113. Operation of Golf Carts on Village Streets.

A person may operate a golf cart on Village streets subject to the following regulations:

- (a) Golf carts may only be operated on Village Streets from April 15 to October 15 each year.
- (b) A golf cart shall not be operated on the streets of the Village during the time period from one-half hour before sunset to one-half hour after sunrise.
- (c) A person shall not operate a golf cart on any street unless he or she is at least 16 years old and is licensed to operate a motor vehicle.
- (d) The operator of a golf cart shall comply with the signal requirements of MCL 257.648, as amended, that apply to the operation of a vehicle.
- (e) All golf carts operating on Village streets must be equipped with the following safety equipment:
 - (1) At least 1 stop lamp and 1 lamp or mechanical signal device that comply with MCL 257.697 and MCL 257.697b;
 - (2) One exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side of the golf cart and either 1 exterior mirror mounted on the passenger side of the golf cart or 1 interior mirror as required for low-speed vehicles by 49 CFR 571.500.
 - (3) Brakes and a parking brake that comply with MCL 257.704.
- (f) The operator of a golf cart shall obey by all sections pertaining to traffic in the Michigan Vehicle Code and the Uniform Traffic Code.
- (g) A person shall not operate a golf cart on a state trunk line highway. This subsection does not prohibit a person from crossing a state trunk line highway when operating a golf cart on a Village street, using the most direct line of crossing.
- (h) A golf cart shall be operated at a speed not to exceed 15 miles per hour and shall not be operated on a roadway or street with a speed limit of more than 30 miles per hour except to cross that roadway or street.
- (i) A person operating a golf cart or who is a passenger in a golf cart is not required to wear a crash helmet.
- (j) A golf cart shall not be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.
- (k) Golf carts shall not be operated on a road or street in a negligent manner, endangering any person or property, or obstructing, hindering, or impeding the lawful course of travel of any motor vehicle or the lawful use by any pedestrian of public streets, sidewalks, paths, trails, walkways or parks.
- (l) The owner of a golf cart operated on Village streets shall obtain insurance covering bodily injury and property damage liability in connection with golf cart accidents occurring on such streets. Such insurance may be obtained as a rider or endorsement to a homeowner's or renter's policy, or in any other form of policy selected by the owner.
- (m) Golf carts shall comply with all parking regulations that apply to other vehicles operating in the Village.

(n) No flags or banners shall be attached to any golf cart while such golf cart is in motion on a Village Street.

Sec. 32-114. Registration and Decals.

- (a) After the effective date of this ordinance, a golf cart owner shall register each golf cart that operates on Village streets by making application to the Village Hall. Such application shall include proof of insurance as required by Section 32-113(1). The Village shall approve the application after confirming that the insurance requirements are satisfied.
- (b) There shall be no charge for the registration of a golf cart that operates on Village streets, and each approved golf cart shall be issued a registration decal or plate with a numerical identifier. The golf cart owner shall affix the decal or plate in a specified location on the golf cart. The font size on such decal or plate shall be sufficiently large so that the identification number can be reasonably seen by other drivers and bystanders while the golf cart is in motion.
- (c) Failure to register a golf cart as required by this section shall constitute a violation of this article.

Sec. 32-115. Violations and penalties.

- (a) Any person violating any provisions of this article shall be responsible for a civil infraction. The penalty for the first offense shall be \$50.00, and \$100.00 for the first repeat offense. For any second or subsequent repeat offense, the fine shall be no more than \$500.00.
- (b) A court may order a person who causes damage to the environment, a road, or other public property as a result of the operation of a golf cart to pay full restitution for that damage above and beyond the penalties paid for civil infractions.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective either 20 days after adoption or upon publication, whichever occurs later.

YEAS: Trustees: Ken Hansen, Brian Liggett, Chris Mason, Amanda Pohyba, Carl Steinberger, Pat Arter, President David Wenger

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

CERTIFICATION

As the duly appointed Clerk of the Village of Stevensville, Berrien County, Michigan, I certify this is a true and complete copy of an ordinance adopted by the Stevensville Village Council at its meeting of May 12, 2021.

Tiffany Moore, Village Clerk

Approved: 5.12.21
Published: 5.20.21
Adopted 6.9.21