

TOWN OF EATON
ORDINANCE NO: 2024-01-04

AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING THE OPERATION OF GOLF CART or OFF-ROAD
VEHICLES ON THE STREETS OF EATON, INDIANA

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of Eaton is charged with protecting the health, welfare and community of the residents of Eaton, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, several members of the community have expressed an interest and desire to utilize golf carts and off-road vehicles for transportation purposes in the Town of Eaton; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council, of Eaton, Indiana hereby determines the need to pass an ordinance on "Operation of Golf Carts or Off-Road Vehicles Ordinance".

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF EATON, INDIANA that:

- (A) A "golf cart" is a gas or electric motorized four wheeled cart designed to carry people and/or materials.
- (B) An "Off-Road Vehicle" shall be defined as
 - 1. Is sixty-four (64) inches or less in width;
 - 2. Has a dry weight of two thousand (2,000) pounds or less;
 - 3. Is designed for travel on at least four (4) non-highway or off-highway tires;
 - 4. Is designed for recreational use by one (1) or more individuals;
 - 5. Has a non-straddle seat or saddle; and
 - 6. Has a steering wheel for steering control.
- (C) The operation of golf carts or Off-Road Vehicles is permitted within the boundaries of the Town of Eaton, Indiana, only upon compliance with the requirements set forth in this Ordinance.
- (D) No person shall operate a golf cart withing the boundaries of the Town of Eaton, Indiana without first completing each of the following provisions:
 - 1 The Operator must have an operator's license issued by the Indiana Bureau of motor vehicles.
 - 2 The owner and/or operator shall allow the Town Marshal or representative of the office of the Town Marshal to inspect the golf cart.
 - 3 The owner and/or operator shall provide the Town Marshal or representative of the office of the Town Marshal with proof of financial responsibility. Said proof of financial responsibility must always be on the golf cart during the operation within town limits.
 - 4 The golf cart shall be equipped with:

- a. a slow-moving vehicle sign on the rear of the golf cart
- b. a rear-view mirror or drivers' side and passenger side mirrors.
- c. two (2) headlights, two (2) taillights, and two (2) brake lights that are in working order.

5. All Off-Road Vehicles must be registered with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and/or Bureau of Motor Vehicles as per Indiana statutes.

6. However if the Off-Road Vehicle is not registered with the State of Indiana, then the Off-Road Vehicle may be registered with the Town of Eaton and pay the fee for registration.

- (E) Any person who wishes to operate a golf cart or Off-Road Vehicles within the Town of Eaton boundaries must register the said golf cart or Off-Road Vehicles with the Eaton Police Department. An annual registration fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) will be charged. The Town Marshal or a representative of the office of the Town Marshal shall issue a registration sticker with current to the owner of the golf cart or Off-Road Vehicles after all the requirements of section (C) have been met. Said registration sticker will expire at midnight on December 31st of current year and shall be placed on the driver's side rear of golf cart or Off-Road Vehicles.
- (F) The headlights and taillights shall be operated during weather conditions that reduce visibility and from sunset to sunrise.
- (G) Golf carts or Off-Road Vehicles shall only be operated on the streets, roadways, and alleyways of the Town of Eaton, NO golf cart may travel on State Road 3 except to traverse across State Road 3.
- (H) No golf carts or Off-Road Vehicles shall be operated on any sidewalk located within the boundaries of the Town of Eaton, Indiana.
- (I) The operator of the golf cart or Off-Road Vehicles shall abide by and follow all Indiana motor vehicle and traffic laws and yield the right of way to all motor vehicle traffic.
- (J) The operator shall carry no more passengers than the golf cart or Off-Road Vehicles is designed to carry, all passengers must always be seated.
- (K) A violation of this ordinance may result in the following penalties, and fines shall be deposited in the general fund:
- (1) A fine in the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for the first offense.
 - (2) A fine in the sum of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) for the second offense.
 - (3) A fine in the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for the third offense.

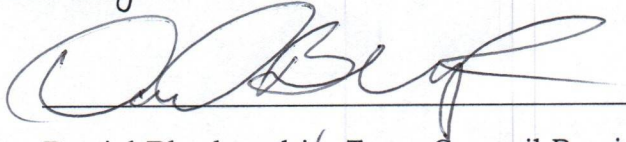
(a) If a person is cited for a violation of this ordinance more than three (3) times, the registration shall be revoked and said golf cart shall be no longer allowed to operate on streets, roads, or alleys within the Town of Eaton.

(b) All fines shall be issued to the registered owner and not the operator.

(c) Traffic and Criminal Violations, such as failure to obey traffic signals, speeding, and OWI) are subject to sanctions as if operation an automobile and will be issued to the operator.

(L) Any and all funds received as a result of the registration or fines shall be placed in the Town's General Fund for appropriation by the Town Council.

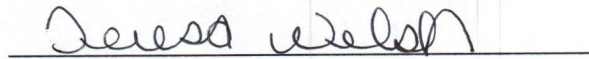
This ordinance shall be effective ten (10) days after publication. Passed and adopted by the Town Council on the 13th day of February, 2024.



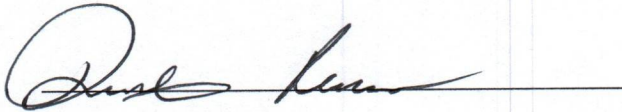
Daniel Blankenship, Town Council President



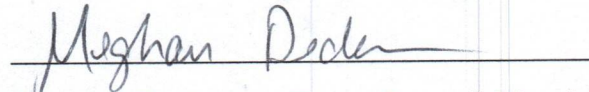
Roger Wells, Town Council Vice-President



Teresa Welsh, Town Council Member

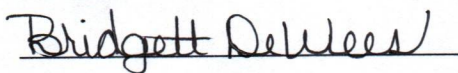


Dustin Reese, Town Council Member



Meghan Deckman, Town Council Member

ATTEST:



Bridgett DeWees, Clerk-Treasurer