

CHAPTER 5: TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES

ORDINANCE 52 SNOWMOBILES AND OTHER RECREATIONAL VEHICLES..... 52-1

Section 52.01: PURPOSE..... 52-1

Section 52.02: DEFINITIONS..... 52-1

Section 52.03: OPERATION..... 52-2

Section 52.04: CROSSING STREETS OR HIGHWAYS 52-3

Section 52.05: TRAFFIC LAWS..... 52-3

Section 52.06: YIELDING 52-3

Section 52.07: OPERATION BY MINORS..... 52-3

Section 52.08: EQUIPMENT 52-3

Section 52.09: EMERGENCIES 52-4

Section 52.10: ANIMALS 52-4

Section 52.11: ADOPTION OF MINNESOTA STATUTES 52-4

Section 52.12: MOTORIZED GOLF CARTS..... 52-4

Section 52.13: PENALTY 52-5

ORDINANCE 52 SNOWMOBILES AND OTHER RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

Section 52.01: PURPOSE. Because the operation and use of snowmobiles and other recreational vehicles in an uncontrolled manner endangers the public peace, health and safety of the City's inhabitants, the City adopts the following rules to regulate the operation and use of recreational vehicles and provide penalties for the improper use of recreational vehicles to greatly decrease the danger and to provide greater protection to the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City while snowmobiles and other recreational vehicles are operated and used in the City.

Section 52.02: DEFINITIONS. The following terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them.

Subd. 1: All-Terrain Vehicle. A motorized flotation-tired vehicle of not less than three (3) low pressure tires, but not more than six (6) tires, that is limited in engine displacement of less than 800 cubic centimeters and total dry weight less than 800 pounds.

Subd. 2: Owner. A person, other than a lienholder, having the property in or title to a snowmobile or other recreational vehicle and entitled to the use or possession of the vehicle.

Subd. 3: Operate. To ride in or on and control the operation of a snowmobile or recreational vehicle.

Subd. 4: Operator. Every person who operates or is in actual physical control of a snowmobile or other recreational vehicle.

Subd. 5: Person. Includes an individual, partnership, corporation, the state and its agencies and subdivision and any body of persons, whether incorporated or not.

Subd. 6: Public Property. Any real property owned by the City including all city parks and recreation areas.

Subd. 7: Recreational Motor Vehicle or Recreational Vehicle. Any self-propelled vehicle and any vehicle propelled or drawn by a self-propelled vehicle used for recreational purposes, including but not limited to snowmobile, trail bike or other all-terrain vehicle, hovercraft, or motor vehicle licensed for highway operation that is being used for off-road recreational purposes.

Subd. 8: Roadway. That portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel.

CHAPTER 5: TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Subd. 9: Snowmobile. A self-propelled vehicle designed for travel on snow or ice or natural terrain steered by wheels, skis or runners.

Section 52.03: OPERATION. Except as this Ordinance specifically permits and authorizes, no Person shall operate a snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle or other recreational vehicle within the City limits:

Subd. 1: Public Roads. On the portion of any right-of-way of any public highway, street, road, trail or alley used for motor vehicle travel, except the most right-hand lane, (except in passing) which is used for vehicle traffic in the same direction, other than on freeways, interstate, trunk, county state aid, or county highways. A person may operate a snowmobile or other recreational vehicle upon the ditch bottom or outside of trunk, county state aid and county highways where such highways are so configured within the corporate limits.

Subd. 2: Sidewalks. On a public sidewalk provided for pedestrian travel.

Subd. 3: Boulevards. On boulevards within any public right-of-way.

Subd. 4: Private Property. On private property of another without specific permission of the owner or person in control of the property.

Subd. 5: Public Property. On any other public property, including Parks and recreational areas, except as the City's Ordinances may specifically permit.

Subd. 6: Alcohol and Drugs. No person shall operate a snowmobile or other recreational vehicles within the City limits at any place while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, as defined in M.S. §169.121, which is incorporated by reference.

Subd. 7: Speed. No person shall operate a snowmobile or recreational vehicle at a rate of speed greater than reasonable and proper under all surrounding circumstances. No person shall operate a snowmobile or recreational vehicle on public roadways at speeds greater than thirty (30) miles per hour.

Subd. 8: Recklessness. No person shall operate a snowmobile or other recreational vehicle at any place in a careless, reckless or negligent manner or heedlessly in disregard of the rights or safety of others, or in a manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger or cause injury or damage to any person or property.

Subd. 9: Towing. No person shall operate a snowmobile or recreational vehicle so as to tow any person or thing in a public street or highway except through use of a rigid tow bar attached to the rear of the vehicle.

Subd. 10: Operation Near People. No person shall operate a snowmobile or other recreational vehicle within one hundred (100) feet of any fisherman, pedestrian, skating rink or sliding area where the operation would conflict with use or endanger other persons or property.

CHAPTER 5: TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Section 52.04: CROSSING STREETS OR HIGHWAYS. A snowmobile or recreational vehicle may make a direct crossing of a street or highway except an interstate highway or freeway provided:

Subd. 1: The crossing is made at any angle of approximately ninety (90) degrees to the direction of the street or highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing.

Subd. 2: The vehicle is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main traveled way.

Subd. 3: The driver yields the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic which constitutes an immediate hazard.

Subd. 4: In crossing a divided street or highway, the crossing is made only at an intersection of such street or highway with another public street or highway.

Subd. 5: If the crossing is made between the hours of one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise or in conditions of reduced visibility, only if both front and rear lights are on.

Section 52.05: TRAFFIC LAWS. City Traffic Ordinances, including but not limited to Ordinance 50, shall apply to the operation of snowmobiles and recreational vehicles upon streets and highways, except for those relating to required equipment and except those which by their nature have no application.

Section 52.06: YIELDING. No snowmobile or recreational vehicle shall enter any intersection without yielding the right-of-way to any vehicles or pedestrians at the intersection, or so close to the intersection as to constitute an immediate hazard.

Section 52.07: OPERATION BY MINORS.

Subd. 1: No person under fourteen (14) years of age shall operate on streets or the roadway surface of highways, or make a direct crossing of a trunk, county state-aid, county highway or city street as the operator of a snowmobile. A person fourteen (14) years of age or older, but less than eighteen (18) years of age, may operate a snowmobile on streets and highways as permitted under this Ordinance and make a direct crossing of streets and highways only if he or she has in his or her possession a valid snowmobile safety certificate issued by the commissioner, as provided by M.S.A. §84.872.

Subd. 2: No owner of a snowmobile or recreational vehicle shall permit the vehicle to be operated contrary to the provisions of this Section or state law.

Section 52.08: EQUIPMENT. No Person shall operate a snowmobile or recreational vehicle any place within the City limits unless it is equipped with the appropriate equipment required by state law.

CHAPTER 5: TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Section 52.09: EMERGENCIES. Notwithstanding any prohibitions in this Ordinance, a snowmobile or other recreational vehicle may be operated on a public thoroughfare in an emergency during the period of time when, and at locations where, snow upon the roadway renders travel by automobile impractical.

Section 52.10: ANIMALS. No person shall intentionally drive, chase, run over or kill any animal with a snowmobile or recreational vehicle.

Section 52.11: ADOPTION OF MINNESOTA STATUTES. Minn. Stat. §84.81 to 84.929 and the following sections of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 169 are adopted by reference and shall be applicable to snowmobiles and recreational vehicles.

Sections 169.09, 169.122, 169.15, 169.18, 169.19, 169.32, 169.33, 169.34 and 169.46.

Section 52.12: MOTORIZED GOLF CARTS.

Subd. 1: Operation. Motorized golf carts are allowed on City streets not subject to the State of Minnesota's jurisdiction, if the owner obtains a permit under this Section.

Subd. 2: Permit. Any Person desiring a permit to operate a golf cart shall submit an application to the City Clerk/Administrator along with a fee established Appendix A and the following information:

- a) Applicant's Name
- b) Application Date
- c) Street or streets upon which Applicant wishes to drive
- d) Time periods within which Applicant wishes to drive
- e) Insurance Company and Policy Number

All permits shall be valid for a period not to exceed one (1) year and shall be annually renewed. The City shall issue permits only to a Person having a valid Minnesota Driver's License. The City may revoke the permit at any time if there is evidence that the permittee cannot safely operate a motorized golf cart on the designated roadway.

Subd. 3: Hours of Operation. Motorized golf carts may be operated on City streets with a permit only between sunrise and sunset.

Subd. 4: Requirements.

- a) The City Clerk/Administrator may designate on the permit the street and hours of operation as the Clerk determines is in the public's safety interest.
- b) No Person shall operate a motorized golf cart in inclement weather or when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other conditions, or at any time when there is insufficient light to clearly see persons in vehicles on the roadway at a distance of 500 feet.

CHAPTER 5: TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES

- c) Motorized golf carts shall display the slow moving vehicle emblem provided for in Minn. Stat. §169.522, as amended.
- d) The operation and regulation of all motorized golf carts is governed by this Ordinance and Minn. Stat. §169.045, as amended.

Section 52.13: PENALTY. Any Person violating this Ordinance shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor upon the first offense and a misdemeanor upon the second and subsequent offenses. Fines for violations are as established by the City Council in Appendix A.

Section 52.13 amended on 1/4/06