

Motorized Carts Ordinance

1. Findings; definition.

The city council finds that all streets located within the corporate limits of the city, other than the streets hereinafter specifically excepted, are designed and constructed so as to safely permit their use by motorized carts in combination with regular vehicular traffic. "Motorized cart" as used in this chapter is defined as an electric or gasoline powered motor vehicle, having no less than three wheels and an unladen weight of one thousand three hundred (1,300) pounds or less, commonly called a golf cart, which is not designed for speeds in excess of twenty miles per hour.

2. Registration.

- a. The owner of every motorized cart operated on the streets of the city shall cause such cart to be registered with the City of Mansfield within ten (10) days of the date of its purchase. Upon such registration the City of Mansfield shall issue two numerical identification decals to the owner and shall maintain a record of each identification number, along with the name and address of the registered owner. The identification decals shall be affixed to the front windshield and rear fender area of the cart so as to be fully visible when the cart is in operation.
- b. A registration fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for each cart shall be payable at the time of registration, and the registration shall be effective for a period of five years. If the cart is transferred to another owner for operation in the city, the registration shall also be transferred to the new owner within ten (10) business days of the date of transfer of the cart, and a transfer fee in the amount of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) paid to the city.

3. Cart Maintenance

- a. The exhaust system of every registered cart which is powered by a gasoline engine shall be maintained in proper working condition.
- b. It is unlawful for any registered cart on which any device installed thereon by the manufacturer for the purpose of controlling exhaust emissions has been removed or altered so as to interfere with its operation to be operated on any city street.

4. Operation

- a. Operation of motorized carts in the city shall comply in every respect with the requirements of Georgia law, including, without limitation, the provisions of O.C.G.A. Sections 40-6-330 and 40-6-331, and all other statutory regulations applicable to vehicular traffic and safety equipment.
- b. Only persons possessing a valid driver's license or instruction permit issued by the state of Georgia, another state of the United States of America or an appropriate international agency shall be permitted to operate a motorized cart on the streets of the city.
- c. Motorized carts shall not be operated on sidewalks in the city.
- d. Motorized carts shall not be operated on any street within the city for which the posted speed limit is over thirty-five (35) miles per hour, nor on or across any street on which such operation is determined by the mayor and council to be otherwise unsafe.
- e. Motorized carts may cross any street within the corporate limits of the city at intersections of such street with streets designated in subsection D. of this section.
- f. Crossing of Georgia state highways by motorized carts shall only be permitted at crossings approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

g. Motorized carts shall only be operated on city streets that are posted with signage authorizing such operation as required by O.C.G.A. 40-6-331.

5. Penalties.

Any person who is convicted of violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be punished as provided in Chapter 1-109 of the Mansfield Code of Ordinances.

Adopted this 14th day of May, 2012.

Estona Middlebrooks
Estona Middlebrooks, Mayor

Pat O'Sullivan
City Clerk

