

VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE  
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN, STATE OF MICHIGAN  
VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE ORDINANCE NO. 2025-007  
ADOPTED: JUNE 10, 2025  
EFFECTIVE: OCTOBER 16, 2025

VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE GOLF CART ORDINANCE

The Village of Lawrence ordains:

SECTION 1: PURPOSE.

An ordinance adopted to regulate the use and operation of golf carts in the Village of Lawrence.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Village": the Village of Lawrence, County of Van Buren, State of Michigan
- B. "Driver's License": an operator's or chauffeur's license 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": a vehicle that is designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes.
- D. "Maintained Portion": that portion of a road improved, designated or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic, as well as the gravel shoulder/paved shoulder for purposes of this ordinance.
- E. "Operate": to ride in or on or be in actual physical control of the operation of a golf cart.
- F. "Operator": a person who operates or is in actual physical control of the operation of a golf cart.
- G. "Registration": the process through which every person intending to operate a motorized golf cart on roads or streets within the Village must follow.
- H. "Registration Sticker": a person operating a motorized golf cart by permit in the Village shall have a current registration sticker displayed on the driver's rear fender of the cart.
- I. "Street": a road, roadway, street, or right-of-way" within the corporate boundaries of the Village of Lawrence, County of Van Buren 'State of Michigan, excluding State or Federal Highways. The terms road, roadway, street, and right-of-way are interchangeable.

J. "Slow Moving Vehicle": a slow-moving vehicle sign is a reflective orange triangle bordered with red that warns other road users that the vehicle displaying the sign is traveling slower than the normal speed of traffic.

K. "Daylight hours": the time from sunrise to sunset.

### SECTION 3. Michigan Vehicle Code and Uniform Traffic Code adopted.

#### A. Michigan Vehicle Code.

1. The Michigan Vehicle Code, Public Act No. 300 of 1949 (MCL 257.1 et seq.), is adopted by reference.
2. References in the Michigan Vehicle Code to "local authorities" shall mean the Village.

#### B. Uniform Traffic Code adopted.

1. The Uniform Traffic Code for Cities, Townships and Villages, promulgated by the director of state police and published in the Michigan Administrative Code (R 28.1001 et seq.), in accordance with Public Act No. 62 of 1956 (MCL 257.951 et seq.), is hereby adopted by reference.
2. References in the Uniform Traffic Code for Michigan Cities, Townships and Villages to governmental unit shall mean the Village.

### SECTION 4. OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS ON VILLAGE STREETS

A person may operate a golf cart on village streets, subject to the following restrictions:

- A. A person shall not operate a golf cart on any street unless he or she is at least sixteen (16) years old and has a current valid license to operate a motor vehicle.
- B. The operator of a golf cart shall comply with the signal requirements (hand and arm signals) of MCL 257.648, as amended, that apply to the operation of a vehicle.
- C. All golf carts are required to have a slow-moving vehicle sign on the rear of the golf cart that shall be visible from all distances up to five hundred (500') feet.
- D. The operator of a golf cart shall obey by all sections pertaining to traffic in the Michigan Vehicle Code and the Uniform Traffic Code.
- E. A person operating a golf cart may operate on the far-right maintained portion of a street, roadway or public right-of-way and shall ride as near to the far-right side of the maintained portion as practicable.

- F. A golf cart shall not be operated on a public sidewalk constructed for the use of pedestrians.
- G. The maximum speed at which a golf cart may be operated is 15 mph.
- H. Golf carts may only be operated on designated roadways and operated on Village streets during daylight hours without lamps as required by the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code.
- I. Golf carts may only be operated on designated roadways and operated on Village streets during night hours with lamps as required by the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code.
- J. A person who is a passenger in a golf cart, and who is six (6) years of age or under, is required to wear a crash or bicycle helmet.
- K. A golf cart shall not be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.
- L. A golf cart shall not be operated in inclement weather or when visibility is impaired by weather or when roads are snow and/or ice covered.
- M. Golf carts shall not be operated on a road or street in a negligent manner so as to endanger any person or property, or to obstruct, hinder, or impede 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.
- N. All golf carts operated within the village shall have no increased power, wheelbase or tire modifications for a standard manufactured gas or electric golf cart without prior approval from the village.
- O. Off-road vehicles (ORVs), such as Gators, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), a multitrack or multi-wheel drive vehicle, dune buggy, or like-vehicles are not considered golf carts.

## SECTION 5. REGISTRATION AND REGISTRATION STICKERS

- A. Any person violating any provisions of this ordinance shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction citation (ticket). The Village Council shall establish municipal civil infraction fines, which are subject to change from time to time, on a fee schedule by resolution.
- B. A court may order a person who causes damage to the environment, a road, or other 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.
- C. Impoundment. Golf carts can be impounded if the operator is under 16 years old or does not possess a current valid driver's license. The owner of the golf cart is responsible for towing/storage fees.

## SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

If any section, sub-section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance shall be declared invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of this ordinance which shall remain in force and effect, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

#### SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective on the date of its publication.

Adopted: June 10, 2025

Effective: October 16, 2025

Motion by Deloach, seconded by Rowlee, to adopt the ordinance.

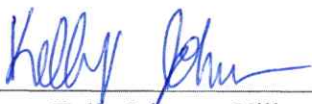
Ayes: Gritter, Crandall, Rowlee, Glennie, Deloach

Nays: None

Absent: Lorenzo

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true and complete copy of the ordinance adopted by the VILLAGE COUNCIL of the VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE, County of Van Buren, State of Michigan, at a regular council meeting held on the 10th of June 2025, and that said meeting was conducted pursuant to and in full compliance with No 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976 as required by said act.



Kelly Johnson, Village Clerk



Date