

**ORDINANCE 18-2020**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE USE OF GOLF**  
**CARTS OPERATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS**  
**OF THE CITY OF RENSSELAER, INDIANA**

**WHEREAS**, there has been an interest in use of golf carts to be operated on public streets, roads, alleys, and walkways within the City of Rensselaer, Indiana; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council believes that in order to help preserve the health and safety of its citizens that it is necessary to regulate the use of golf carts operated on streets, roads, alleys and walkways within the City limits.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RENSSELAER, INDIANA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** For purposes of this Ordinance, a golf cart shall be included in the definition of a slow-moving vehicle as the same is defined in I.C. 9-21-9-1 as a "vehicle that is (1) pulled; (2) towed; (3) self-propelled; or (4) animal drawn; that is not under ordinary circumstances moved, operated, or driven at a speed greater than 25 miles per hour." This ordinance shall also permit the use of UTVs to be operated within the City of Rensselaer under the conditions and terms of this ordinance stated herein.

**Section 2.** In order to operate a golf cart on any street, alley, or road within the limits of the City of Rensselaer, a driver of such a golf cart must be a licensed driver under Indiana law and have such license on his or her person at all times during the operation of said golf cart.

**Section 3.** All golf carts must have insurance with liability coverage in the amount at least \$100,000 and have proof of such insurance in the golf cart at all times during the operation of said golf cart in the City of Rensselaer.

**Section 4.** All golf carts must display a red or amber flashing light at times when headlamps are necessary for other motor vehicles; which light must be visible from a distance of no less than 500 feet from the rear of the golf cart or vehicle. In addition, if said golf cart is operated at times when headlamps are necessary, said golf cart must be equipped with both headlights and taillights that are in working order. In addition, all golf carts must be equipped with a rearview mirror.

**Section 5.** While operating said golf cart within the City of Rensselaer, any operator of the same must abide by all State traffic laws in the operation of said golf cart, including the prohibition of operating a golf cart with an open alcoholic beverage container

**Section 6.** All provisions of the Slow-Moving Vehicle Statute of the State of Indiana found at I. C. 9-21-9 shall be adhered to at all times by those operating a golf cart within the City of Rensselaer

**Section 7.** Except as provided in Section 8 of this ordinance, any person who wishes to operate a golf cart in the City of Rensselaer must register the same with the City of Rensselaer Police Department and pay a registration fee of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) on an annual basis and have attached to said golf cart a sticker or card provided by said City noting said vehicle has

been properly registered with the City. At the time of paying said yearly registration, every golf cart operated under this ordinance shall be inspected by the Rensselaer Police Department to verify road worthiness and to verify any golf cart registered under this ordinance complies with all requirements imposed by the ordinance. Further, all citizens operating golf carts under this ordinance shall execute a hold harmless agreement at the time of registering a golf cart with the City of Rensselaer Police Department.

**Section 8.** Golf Carts shall not be operated on any City Street having a posted speed limit in excess of 35 MPH (Miles Per Hour).

**Section 9.** While in operation, such golf carts must carry no more passengers than such golf carts are equipped to handle, and all passengers must be seated at all times.

**Section 10.** Golf Carts may cross a street that has a posted speed limit in excess of 35 MPH, when crossed at an intersection in a path perpendicular to the street or highway. Golf carts may not be operated on State Highway 114 or U.S Highway 231.

**Section 11.** Golf Carts must have safety belts installed at each designated seating position.

**Section 12** Golf Carts must be parked either on private property or if parked on a public roadway, golf carts must be parked in a designated parking spot.

**Section 13.** Golf carts shall not be operated on City Streets before sunrise or after sunset.

**Section 14.** Golf carts shall not be permitted to be driven on any sidewalks or in any City Parks in in the City of Rensselaer.

**Section 15.** Anyone violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to a fine of One Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$125.00) for a first violation, Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for a second violation in the same calendar year, and Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) for a third violation in the same calendar year. In addition to such fines, the violators shall be responsible for all expenses and costs related to the prosecution and collection thereof, including, but not limited to court costs and the reasonable attorney's fees associated with same. If a person is cited for a violation of this Ordinance more than three (3) times in the same calendar year, the registration shall be revoked and said golf cart shall no longer be permitted to operate within limits of the City of Rensselaer.

**Section 16.** All fines collected under Section 15 of this ordinance and all registration fees collected under Section 7 of this ordinance shall be collected and deposited in the Law Enforcement Continuing Education Fund.

**Section 17.** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and publication.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this 12th day of October 2020

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF RENSSELAER, INDIANA, ON THE 13th DAY OF  
October, 2020

AYE

NAY

Ernest Watkins

Council Member

Gene Whitman

Council Member

George Conroy

Council Member

Council Member

William Hallman

Council Member

Council Member

Gene C. Deib

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

ATTEST:

Presented by me to the Mayor of the City of Rensselaer, Indiana, on the 13th day of  
October, 2020 at 6:00 o'clock p.m.

Frieda Bretzinger

Frieda Bretzinger, Clerk-  
Treasurer

Approved by me this 13th day of October, 2020

Stephen A. Wood

Stephen A. Wood, Mayor  
City of Rensselaer