



**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2023, 6:00PM  
ABITA SPRINGS TOWN HALL  
22161 Level St., Abita Springs, LA 70420**

Posted: July 31, 2023 4pm

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Curtis  
INVOCATION: Alderman Boudreaux  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Alderman Patterson

**MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:** 1.) Sheriff Randy Smith

**ROLL CALL:**

Call for Agenda Modifications  
Accept July 11, 2023, Town Council Meeting Minutes  
New Procedure for Presentation of Financial Reports and Finance/Budget Meetings

**CHAIRMEN UPDATES**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1.) NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1.) DISCUSSION: LICENSING OF GOLF CARTS ON TOWN ROADWAYS

**OPEN/ADJOURNMENT:**

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT US AT (985) 892-0711.  
PLEASE CONTACT TOWN HALL AT THE SAME NUMBER FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THIS AGENDA.

An ordinance to amend Part 5 Chapter 2 Traffic Regulations

WHEREAS, pursuant to state law (LA. R.S. 32:299.4) the operation of golf carts upon public roads and streets is prohibited except when the relevant governing authority has designated streets for the operation of qualified cards; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Alderman desires to authorize, under specific conditions, the operation of golf carts upon certain town roads and streets.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Alderman that it does hereby amend the town's Code as follows:

Golf Cart- Definitions.

A *golf cart* means an electric four-wheeled vehicle originally intended for use off-road on golf courses and other green spaces whose maximum speed is twenty-five miles per hour. The term *golf cart* shall not include lawn mowers, tractors, four-wheelers, ATVs, go-carts, or other motor propelled carts.

A reflective triangle is a "slow moving vehicle: sign that is mounted to the rear of the golf cart and is clearly visible at all times. The reflective triangle must be a minimum of 12 inches by 12 inches.

Section 5-209 of Part 5 Chapter 2 of the Code, previously reserved, is added to read:

The operation of any golf cart with the following minimum and functioning motor vehicle safety equipment; a seatbelt for each passenger, efficient brakes (including a parking brake), horn, reliable steering apparatus, safe tires, rear view mirror, red reflectorized warning devices in both the front and rear of the vehicle (to include a reflective triangle on the back of the golf cart), front and rear turn signal lamps, tail lamps, brake lamps, headlamps, and vehicle identification number or serial number; and

The golf cart is being operated by a person with a valid driver's license; and

The golf cart operator is covered by a policy of liability insurance, with respect to the golf cart, with at least the minimum amounts as required by the provisions of La. R.S. 32:900(B); and

The golf cart is registered with the state of Louisiana through the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles, as an off-road vehicle and displays the requisite decal issued by the office of motor vehicles; and

The golf cart is registered with the town and displays the requisite decal issued by the Town of Abita Springs or its designed; and

The golf cart may only be operated on a public road or street with a speed limit of twenty-five (25) miles per hour or less.

Occupants of the golf car are seated and buckled, the number of passengers in the golf cart does not exceed the amount for which the golf cart is designed, an no passenger is riding on the lap of any other passenger.

Section 5-210 of Part 5 Chapter 2 of the Code, previously reserved, is added to read:

Prior to initial registration of a golf car with the town, the cart must pass inspection by the Town of Abita Springs or its designee.

Registrations shall be issued on a biennial basis from, at the earliest, July 1 of an odd-numbered year through June 30 of the next odd-numbered year, except that the first registration period for those registering on or before July 1, 2023, shall be the date of registration through June 30, 2025, and any renewal registration may be obtained up to sixty (60) days prior to expiration of the then current registration.

A biennial registration fee of \$100.00 shall be payable at the time of registration and for each renewal period thereafter. Registrations obtained for a registration period for which there is less than one (1) year remaining in the biennial period may be obtained for \$50.00

Registrations are non-transferable and non-assignable. Any new golf cart owner must obtain his or her own city registration if he or she intends to operate the golf cart on public roads or streets within the town.

The town may refuse to issue a town registration for a golf cart, or it may revoke a previously issued registration, if the golf cart or the owner of same is involved in two or more violations of the golf-cart related provisions of this article within a one-year period. Said denial or revocation shall be effective for up to one year.

The Town of Abita Springs administration may develop, implement, and update, from time to time as may be necessary, forms and processes to carry out the provisions of this section and may set the implementation date for the first registration period. The Town of Abita Springs administration may also designate the location on the golf cart on which a registration decal must be displayed.

Section 5-211 of Part 5 Chapter 2 of the Code, previously reserved, is added to read:

Golf carts may only be parked in the same manner and at the same places designated for parking of motor vehicles or in parking spaces specifically designated for golf carts.

Operators of golf carts shall be subject to the provisions of La. R.S. 32:2999.4, as amended, and the rules and regulations for golf carts promulgated by the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

Operators of golf carts shall be subject to all traffic, open container, and alcohol and drug laws of the city and the state of Louisiana to the same extent as an operator of any other vehicle on the roads and streets of the town.

The public roads and streets of the town do not include town sidewalks, parks, or trails. Golf carts are not allowed to be operated on public sidewalks, parks, or trails in the town.

License, insurance, and registration information must be in immediate possession of the operator of the golf cart.

Any person who operates, or rides upon, a golf cart within the town assumes the risk of such activity. The regulation by the town of the golf cart operations on town roads and streets, as set forth in the preceding sections is not a determination by the town that any such operations are safe or advisable. The town has no liability and assumes no liability, under any theory, for permitting golf carts, in conformity with state law, to be operated on its public roads and streets.