

Village of Rapids City
Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss Golf Cart Ordinance
July 10th, 2018

President Mire called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Fiems, Clark, Fowler, Rankin, Robertson

Absent: Schneider

Others Present: Adam Reece, Mike Housenga, Mike DeMarlie, Todd J. Verbeckmoes, Matt Pivit, Collin and Evelyn Batey, Attorney Graham Lee, Ryan Bump, Missy Housenga, Ben Barber entered at 6:53pm

President Mire called this Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss amending the Golf Cart Ordinance. Mire identified per Illinois State Statues all carts are to have a slow moving triangle sign and turn signals. Revisions to the current ordinance were presented to all members of the Board. Mire opened the floor to audience members.

Mike DeMarlie addressed the Board reminding everyone should follow rules of the road. He feels the UTVs are safer than a golf cart, safer than a motorcycle. DeMarlie is just asking to have the addition of UTVs to the current ordinance.

Mike Housenga inquired to the reason lighting is required when the carts are not allowed to be used after sunset or sunrise. Stating night events such as Halloween are good times to use the carts.

Clerk Housenga stated she had talked with Chief Engle that day. Engle had no issues with changing the time frame but did affirm the need for the triangle and turn signals.

Through discussion the Board expressed concerns about the speed of all carts, seat belts, and visibility.

Rankin noted if issues arise from misuse of any cart or machinery the ordinance shall be revisited.

Robertson stated he was not in favor of modifying the ordinance as no data has been presented of the additional safety of UTVs. Rankin motioned to amend Section 7 title of the Golf Cart Ordinance to Carts; amending 7.1 A. to read Cart or Golf Cart: a motorized vehicle with three or four wheels designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes, powered by an electric motor or a gasoline engine less than 1200 CC in size. The term cart shall also be used to refer to utility task vehicle (UTV), capable of having 4 or 6 wheels, designed with a non-straddle seat. Riding lawn mowers, Go karts and ATVs are not included in this definition and are not considered carts for the purpose of this section; additionally replacing current verbiage of section 7.4 C. with Carts/UTV will not be operated in a speed greater than what is reasonable for road conditions. Fiems seconded. Fiems, Clark, Fowler, Rankin voted yes. Robertson voted no. Motion carries.

Having no further business to conduct at this time, Fiems motioned to adjourn this Committee of the Whole Meeting, Fowler seconded. The motion passed, President Mire adjourned by consensus of the Board at 7:00pm.

Clerk