

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS, FLORIDA AMENDING AND RESTATING ORDINANCE NO. 16-01 RELATING TO THE USE OF GOLF CARTS ON TOWN STREETS; TO REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS ORDINANCE AND STATE LAW; ESTABLISHING LICENSING REQUIREMENTS WITH MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR OPERATING GOLF CARTS WITHIN THE TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this ordinance to permit and regulate the use of golf carts, which have passed a safety inspection, within the designated streets of the Town, during nonrestricted hours as provided herein; and

WHEREAS, the Town has determined that it is in the best interest of and for the safety of the citizens of the Town to enact this ordinance regulating the use of golf carts on Town streets.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. DEFINITIONS:

1. *Designated Streets* - All streets within the Town except US Highway 41.
2. *Golf Cart* - A motor vehicle designated and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes as defined in Section 316.003(28), Florida Statutes.
3. *Utility Vehicle* - Means a motor vehicle designed and manufactured for general maintenance, security, and landscaping purposes, but the term does not include any vehicle designed or used primarily for the transportation of persons or property on a street, or a golf cart or an all-terrain vehicle as

defined in Section 316.2074, Florida Statutes.

4. *Permit* - An official authorization designating that the Golf Cart or Utility Vehicle to which the authorization is affixed meets the requirements of state law and the Town Code.

Section 2. AUTHORIZED USES:

1. Drivers may operate Golf Carts and Utility Vehicles, which have been inspected and issued Permits by the Town of White Springs or its agents on all Designated Streets within the Town as provided herein.
2. A Permit to use a Golf Cart on a Designated Street does not permit entry onto private or semi-private property, including retail parking lots or private roads. The property owners and/or property managers may regulate access to these areas.

Section 3. PROHIBITED USES:

The operation in the Town of any Golf Cart or Utility Vehicle in the following manner or under the following conditions is prohibited:

1. By any person under the age of 16.
2. During hours between sunset and sunrise without being equipped with headlights, brake lights, turn signals, and a windshield.
3. Without a valid, current Permit issued by the White Springs Police Department and affixed to the Golf Cart or Utility Vehicle in a conspicuous location.
4. In violation of State or Town traffic regulations.
5. Anywhere on the roadway surface of US Highway 41, except to cross that thoroughfare at marked intersections or intersections regulated by a traffic signal.
6. On the sidewalk, bicycle path or swales of the Town.
7. Parking in violation of posted regulations.



8. Obstructing or interfering with normal traffic flow.
9. Carrying more passengers than those for which the Golf Cart or Utility Vehicle was designed.

Section 4. INSPECTION:

1. The Town shall inspect each Golf Cart or Utility Vehicle annually.
2. Upon submitting a completed Permit application, proof of insurance and the payment of \$30.00 annual application fee, the Town will schedule an inspection to ensure that the required equipment is installed and operating properly.
3. The application fees will be deposited into the General Operating Funds of the Town.
4. The Town shall issue a Permit to a Golf Cart or Utility Vehicle, which passes the required inspection. The Permit shall be displayed in a conspicuous location on the Golf Cart or Utility Vehicle.

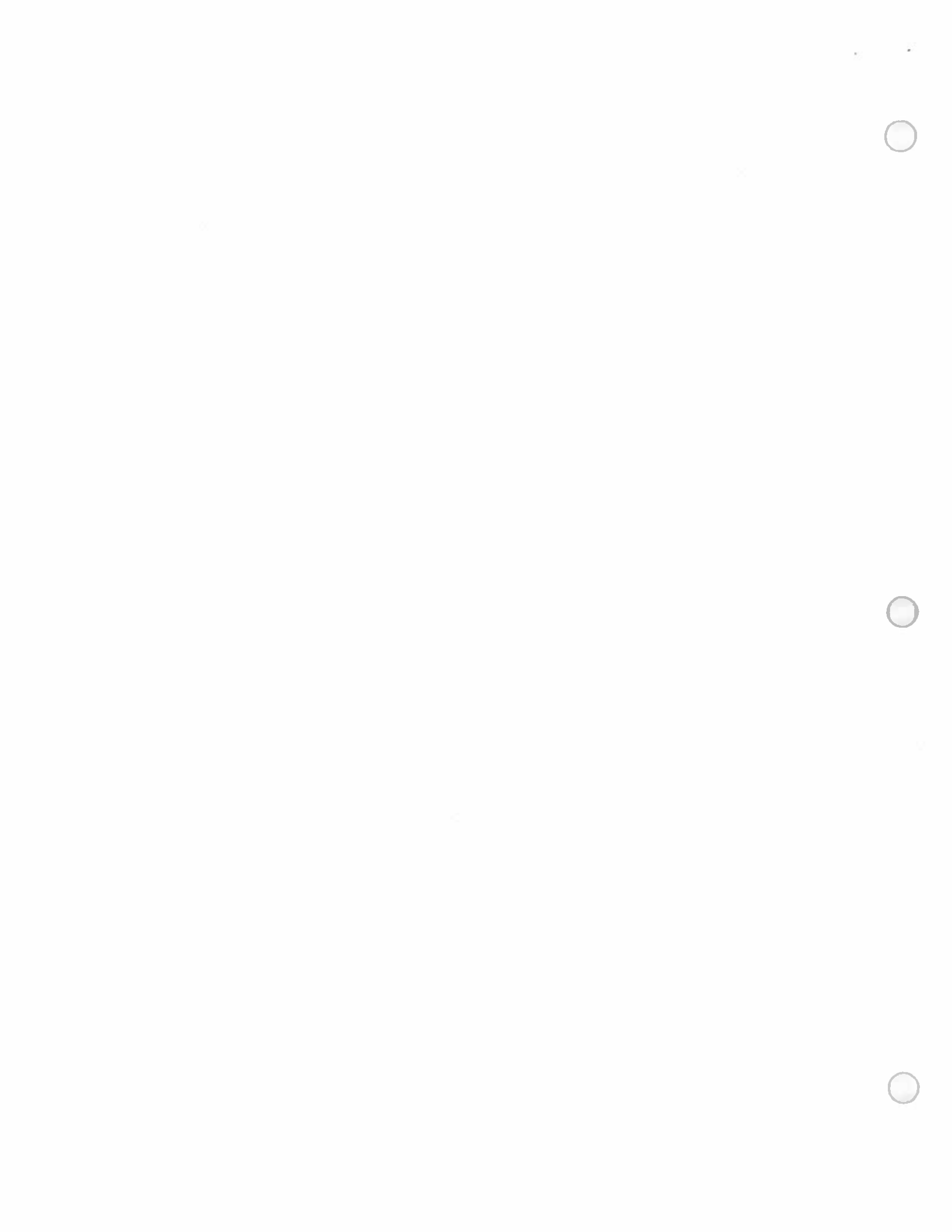
Section 5. REQUIRED EQUIPMENT:

A Golf Cart or Utility Vehicle must be equipped with:

1. Efficient brakes;
2. Reliable steering apparatus;
3. Safe tires;
4. Rear view mirrors;
5. Red reflectorized warning devices, both in front and in rear;
6. Rear stop lamps meeting the minimum standards of Section 316.234 (I), Florida Statutes (required for sunset to sunrise operation); and
7. Turn signals meeting the minimum standards of Section 316.234 (2), Florida Statutes (required for sunset to sunrise operation).

Section 6. SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT:

During any festival or special event, a special permit may be issued by the Town. This permit shall be valid for no longer than five (5) calendar days. Upon submitting a completed Permit application, proof of insurance and the



payment of \$15.00 application fee, the Town will schedule an inspection to ensure that the required equipment is installed and operating properly for any Golf Carts or Utility Vehicles proposed for use at or during a festival or special event.

Section 7. TRAFFIC LAWS:

1. Operators of Golf Carts or Utility Vehicles using Designated Streets within the Town are required to observe all traffic laws as if they were operating any other motor vehicle.
2. Owners and operators of Golf Carts or Utility Vehicles shall comply with applicable State Law pertaining to insurance requirements.

Section 8. ENFORCEMENT:

The Town and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office shall be responsible for enforcing this ordinance.

Section 9. PENALTIES:

Any person who violates any provision of the ordinance shall be issued a Uniform Traffic Citation in accordance with current Florida State Statutes.

Section 10. CONFLICTS:

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances and all sections or parts of sections of any Ordinance or the Code of Ordinances of the Town of White Springs, Florida in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 11. SEVERABILITY:

In the event any section, paragraph, sentence or clause or portion of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held unconstitutional, invalid, or ineffective, the same shall not repeal, nullify, or in any wise affect any other section, paragraph, sentence or portion of this Ordinance. The Town Council of the Town hereby declares that it would have enacted each separate section, paragraph, sentence, clause and portion of this Ordinance irrespective of any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause and portion of this Ordinance.



Section 12. EFFECTIVE DATE:

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Town of White Springs, Florida in accordance with the provisions of Florida Statutes.

PASSED upon first reading this 13th day of April 2021.

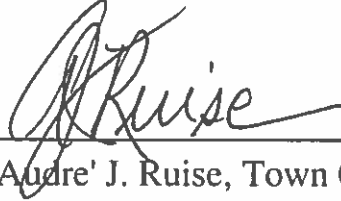
PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED upon second and final reading during regular session this 11th day of May 2021.

TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF WHITE SPRINGS, FLORIDA



ANITA RIVERS, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:



Audre' J. Ruise, Town Clerk

APPROVED as to Form and Legality


Joel Foreman, Town Attorney

