



Public Notice

The Chatfield City Council will hold a Public Hearing to consider implementation of an ordinance regulating the use of special vehicles within the City of Chatfield. The Public Hearing will be held Tuesday, May 28, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Meeting Room, Thurber Building, 21 Second Street SE in Chatfield. A copy of the proposed ordinance is available at City Hall, 21 Second Street SE, Chatfield, MN 55923, or at www.ci.chatfield.mn.us.

ORDINANCE NO, 472

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF SPECIAL VEHICLES BY PERSONS ON THE PUBLIC STREETS AND PUBLIC AREAS WITHIN THE CITY OF CHATFIELD, MINNESOTA; REQUIRING A PERMIT FOR THE OPERATOR; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND USE OF A DISABLED PERMIT IN CERTAIN INSTANCES; SETTING FORTH EXCEPTIONS AND PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT OF ITS PROVISIONS; AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE *CHATFIELD CODE*, SUBPART A, BY ADDING A CHAPTER 29 THERETO.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATFIELD, MINNESOTA, DOES ORDAIN:

Section 1. The provisions of the *Chatfield Code, Subpart A*, are amended to add a Chapter 29 thereto to read as follows:

CHAPTER 29 - SPECIAL VEHICLES

Sec. 29-1. - Definitions.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context indicates or requires a different meaning.

“All-terrain vehicle” has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes, Section 84.92.

“Designated roadway” means a public street or alley within the city not excluded for the use by a special vehicle by the provisions of this chapter.

“Mini truck” has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes, Section 169.011, subd. 40a.

“Driver” means the person driving, operating or being in actual physical control of a motorized golf cart, utility task vehicle, or mini-truck.

“Motorized golf cart” means a passenger conveyance of less than 800 pounds dry weight with four wheels and four low pressure tires with a limited engine displacement of less than 800 cubic inches, or an electrical propulsion system of equivalent power.

“Special vehicle” means an: all terrain vehicle; mini truck; motorized golf cart;; or, utility task vehicle as those terms may be defined by the provisions this chapter or the provisions of the *Minnesota Statutes*.

“Utility task vehicle” has the meaning set forth in the provisions of *Minnesota Statutes*, Section 169.045, subd.1(3).

Sec. 29-2. - Authorized use.

A special vehicle may be operated on a designated roadway and public areas within the city, provided that at the time the operator has a valid Minnesota drivers license, or a valid reciprocal driving privilege from another jurisdiction; and, the driver has obtained the special permit from the city established by the provisions of Sec. 29-3 of this chapter.

Sec. 29-3. - Specific regulations governing the operation and use of a special vehicle.

- (1) Speed limit. The speed limit for an all-terrain vehicle or motorized golf cart within the city is 15 miles per hour, regardless of location. The speed limit for any other type of special vehicle operating on a designated roadway is the posted speed limit on that roadway that location.
- (2) A special vehicle when operated on a designated roadway shall be operated, as much as practical, on the extreme right hand side of the roadway.
- (3) A special vehicle is not permitted to operate, unless specifically authorized by a sign authorizing it to do so, on a public designated pedestrian path, sidewalk or bicycle trail, or within the boundary of a public park.
- (4) A special vehicle may be operated only on city streets, and not State or Federal highways. The operator of a special vehicle may make a direct crossing of a State or Federal highway intersecting the designated roadway of travel.
- (5) A special vehicle shall only be operated on a designated roadway between the hours or sunrise to sunset, unless equipped with headlights, tail lights and rear facing brake lights.
- (6) A special vehicle shall not be operated on a designated roadway when weather conditions or smoke impair visibility so that there is insufficient light to clearly see persons, other vehicles or roadway hazards from a distance of 500 feet.
- (7) If a special vehicle is equipped with seat belts, such belts must be utilized by the occupants if the special vehicle is operated on a designated roadway.
- (8) A child being transported in a special vehicle on a designated roadway who would be required to be otherwise secured in special child seating in a motor vehicle shall be secured in special child seating while transported in a special vehicle.
- (9) A passenger being transported in a special vehicle on a designated route shall remain seated in a seat specifically designed for that purpose during the time of such transportation.

- (10) A special vehicle when operated on a designated route shall be equipped with a rear view mirror that conforms to the standards described in the provisions of *Minnesota Statutes*, Section 169.70.
- (11) The operator of a special vehicle on a designated route must have insurance coverage otherwise required by the provisions of Minnesota law, and shall provide evidence of such insurance coverage when requested to do so by a law enforcement officer.
- (12) The operator of a special vehicle on a designated route shall otherwise observe all laws relating to the operation of vehicles on a public roadway, except those that cannot otherwise be reasonably applied to the special vehicle.
- (13) Any occupant of a special vehicle operated on a designated route under the age of 18 shall wear a DOT approved motorcycle helmet.
- (14) A motorized golf cart operated on a designated route shall display the slow moving vehicle emblem described in the provisions of *Minnesota Statutes*, Section 169.522.

Sec. 29-4. - Permits.

Permit required. In addition to any requirement of driver licensing or insurance, person operating a special vehicle on a designated route shall have a permit issued by the city. Provided, that a permit is not required for a special vehicle principally housed and used outside of the city limits which uses a recreational trail and a short section of a designated roadway to directly access a business located within the city. A permit issued shall be valid for a period not to exceed one year and shall expire on December 31, of the year issued. The annual fee for issuance of the permit shall be \$10.

- A. An applicant for such permit shall provide, at the time of application: name and address; copy of valid Minnesota drivers license reciprocal driving privilege from another jurisdiction; proof of liability insurance providing coverage for the special vehicle;
- B. The owner of a utility task or all terrain vehicle shall also provide evidence that it is currently registered with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.
- C. The permit issued shall be displayed on the rear of the special vehicle while operating on a designated roadway.
- D. A permit shall may suspended if the owner of the special vehicle is convicted of an offense in violation of the provisions of this chapter.

- E. A permit may be revoked if the owner of the special vehicle has a driver's license or reciprocal driving privilege from another jurisdiction revoked; or is unable to provide evidence of insurance required by Section 29-3 (11) of this chapter.

Sec. 25-5. - Disabled Permit.

- A. A disabled permit may be issued by the city to a person who has been issued a handicapped permit by the Commissioner of Public Safety for display on a motor vehicle and is otherwise able to safely operate a special vehicle described this chapter.
- B. An operator of a special vehicle displaying a disabled permit issued by the city may operate the special vehicle on park property and paths only to directly access a park facility or attend a function conducted on park property.

Sec. 25-6. - Exceptions.

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to a motorized vehicle designed and actually used for the purpose of lawn or grounds maintenance, snow removal and associated winter maintenance; or, as an emergency vehicle used by a law enforcement agency, fire department, or emergency medical service.

Sec. 25-7. - Liability of the city.

Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed as an assumption of any liability by the city; or the creation of any duty that the city may owe a person operating or riding in a special vehicle within the city on public or private property.

Section 25-8. - Enforcement.

A law enforcement officer may issue a citation to the owner or operator of a special vehicle for any act committed in violation of a provision of this chapter.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be effective 30 days following its publication. Passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Chatfield
this 28 day of May, 2024.

Approved:

Attest:

By its Mayor

By its City Clerk