Introduced January 24, 2023, by Councilman Burgoyne, seconded by Councilman DiSanti

Item No. 23-01-3462

ORDINANCE NO. 4117

An ordinance to amend Chapter 27, Article V of the city's Code of Ordinances to authorize, under specific conditions, the operation of golf carts upon certain city roads and streets.

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 carts; and

WHEREAS, the city council desires to authorize, under specific conditions, the operation of golf carts upon certain city roads and streets.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the city council that it does hereby amend the city's Code as follows:

1. The title of Article V of Chapter 27 of the Code is amended to read:

ARTICLE V. - MOTORCYCLES AND MOTOR-DRIVEN CYCLES; GOLF CARTS

2. Section 27-110 of Article V of Chapter 27 of the Code, previously reserved, is added to read:

Sec. 27-110. - 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, ATV's, go-carts, or other motor propelled carts.

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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.

3. Section 27-111 of Article V of Chapter 27 of the Code, previously reserved, is added to read:

Sec. 27-111. – Use of a Golf Cart on City Roads and Streets; Limited Authorization.

The operation of any golf cart on the public roads and streets of the city is prohibited except under the following circumstances, in which case it is authorized:

- (a) The golf cart is equipped 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
- (b) The golf cart is being operated by a person with a valid driver's license; and
- (c) 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
- (d) The golf cart is registered with 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
- (e) The golf cart is registered with the city and displays the requisite decal issued by the City of Slidell or its designee; and
- (f) Except as may be otherwise provided in section 27-113(e), the golf cart is being operated exclusively on a public road or street with a speed limit of twenty-five (25) miles per hour or less, and if said public road or street is multi-lane in the direction traveled, the golf cart is being operated on the

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outside lane, except when preparing to turn left; and

- (g) Occupants of the golf cart are seated and buckled, the number of passengers in the golf cart does not exceed the amount for which the golf cart was designed, and no passenger is riding on the lap of any other passenger.
- 4. Section 27-112 of Article V of Chapter 27 of the Code, previously reserved, is added to read:

Sec. 27-112. – Registration of golf cart with the city.

- (a) Prior to initial registration of a golf cart with the city, the cart must pass inspection by the City of Slidell or its designee.
- (b) 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.
- (c) 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
- (d) 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 city.
- (e) The city may refuse to issue a city 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.
- (f) The City of Slidell 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 City of Slidell administration may also designate the location on the golf cart on which a registration decal must

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be displayed.

5. Section 27-113 of Article V of Chapter 27 of the Code, previously reserved, is added to read:

Sec. 27-113. - Golf Carts; Additional Provisions.

- (a) 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.
- (b) Operators of golf carts shall be subject to the provisions of La. R.S. 32:299.4, as amended, and the rules and regulations for golf carts promulgated by the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections.
- (c) 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 city.
- (d) The public roads and streets of the city do not include city sidewalks, parks, or trails. Golf carts are not allowed to be operated on public sidewalks, parks, or trails in the city.
- (e) Golf carts may not be operated on state or federal highways or on any other roadway with a speed limit in excess of twenty-five (25) miles per hour (each a "Restricted Roadway"). Notwithstanding the foregoing, at a signal-controlled intersection, golf carts may cross from a city road or street that has a speed limit of twenty-five (25) miles per hour or less, over a Restricted Roadway running perpendicular to that city road or street, to directly connect with a contiguous, far side city road or street that has a speed limit of twenty-five (25) miles per hour or less.
- (f) License, insurance, and registration information must be in immediate possession of the operator of the golf cart.
- (g) Any person who operates, or rides upon, a golf cart within the city assumes the risk of such activity. The regulation by the city of golf cart operations on city roads and streets, as set forth in sections 27-110, et seq., is not a determination by the city that any such operations are safe or advisable. The city has no liability and assumes no liability, under any

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> theory, for permitting golf carts, in conformity with state law, to be operated on its public roads and streets.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if one or more of the provisions of this ordinance shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this ordinance, but this ordinance shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained herein. Any constitutional or statutory provision enacted after the date of this ordinance that validates or makes legal any provision of this ordinance that would not otherwise be valid or legal, shall be deemed to apply to this ordinance.

This ordinance shall take effect on the 15th day of June, 2023.

ADOPTED this 28th day of March, 2023.

Genry Valorella Kenny Tamborella

Vice President of the Council

Councilman, District E

Greg Cromer

Mayor

Council Administrator

8:45 cm to the Mayor

DELIVERED

4/4/23 RECEIVED 11:15 an from the Mayor

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