

Chapter 4

NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES

7-4-1: DEFINITION:

As used in this chapter, "neighborhood electric vehicle" means a self-propelled, electronically powered, four-wheeled motor vehicle which is capable of attaining in one mile a speed of more than twenty (20) miles per hour, but not more than twenty five (25) miles per hour, and which conforms to federal regulations under 49 CFR part 571.500. (Ord. 2005-1242, 7-5-2005)

7-4-2: RESTRICTED OPERATION GENERALLY:

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, it shall be unlawful for any person to drive or operate a neighborhood electric vehicle on any street or highway under the jurisdiction of the village. (Ord. 2005-1245, 8-16-2005)

7-4-3: PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES; PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Request For Exemption Permit: Subject to the limitations set forth in this chapter, any person with disabilities¹, with a valid Illinois driver's license issued in his or her name by the secretary of state of the state of Illinois may request the village board to operate a neighborhood electric vehicle on any street or highway under the jurisdiction of the village where the posted speed limit is thirty five (35) miles per hour or less. An authorized neighborhood electric vehicle is not prohibited from crossing a road or street at an intersection where the road or street has a posted speed limit of thirty five (35) miles per hour or more, unless such crossing is prohibited in this chapter or in any resolution or permit issued under this chapter.
- B. Review Of Request; Decision: Any permit request will be reviewed by the village board, and based upon the volume, speed and character of the traffic on the roadway, the village board will decide whether a neighborhood electric vehicle can operate safely on the roadway and that the public safety will not be jeopardized.
- C. Contents Of Permit: Any permit granted by the village board to operate a neighborhood electric vehicle on roadways of the village will specifically designate the portions of the roadways where

the neighborhood electric vehicle may be operated.

- D. **Restrictions On Permit:** This section shall not be construed as permitting or granting any person operating a neighborhood electric vehicle to drive upon any street or highway under the jurisdiction of the city of Peoria, the county of Peoria, the Peoria park district or any other municipality or to drive upon or cross any street or highway under the jurisdiction of the Illinois department of transportation.
- E. **Physician's Statement Required:** Prior to being granted any permit to operate a neighborhood electric vehicle on any street or roadway under the jurisdiction of the village, the person requesting a permit to operate a neighborhood electric vehicle shall provide the village board with a signed, written statement from a physician, licensed to practice medicine in the state of Illinois, to the effect that the operator is able to safely operate the neighborhood electric vehicle upon the roadways of the village in a fashion that would not be inimical to the public safety or the safety of the operator or his/her passengers.
- F. **Term Of Permit; Renewal:** A permit issued pursuant to this section shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance. A permit may be reissued upon the reapplication and compliance with the provisions of this chapter by the applicant and after review by the village board.
- G. **Permit Fee:** A permit fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be paid to the village clerk before any permit is issued. (Ord. 2005-1245, 8-16-2005)

7-4-4: INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS:

The neighborhood electric vehicle, driver and passengers shall be covered with either automobile insurance to the extent required by state law or by comprehensive general liability insurance with a combined single limit of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00). Written proof of the insurance coverage must be filed with the village administrator prior to permission being granted to operate a neighborhood electric vehicle in the village. (Ord. 2005-1245, 8-16-2005)

7-4-5: OPERATION REGULATIONS:

When on a street or highway under the jurisdiction of the village, a neighborhood electric vehicle shall be operated in accordance with the following regulations:

- A. The neighborhood electric vehicle shall have its headlights and taillamps lighted at all times.
- B. Any person operating a neighborhood electric vehicle, as authorized in this chapter, shall travel on the street or highway in the same direction as traffic and as near the right side of the roadway as possible.
- C. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any person operating a neighborhood electric vehicle, pursuant to a permit, on streets or roadways under the jurisdiction of the village shall obey any and all traffic regulations set forth in either any ordinance of the village or in the Illinois vehicle code. (Ord. 2005-1245, 8-16-2005)

7-4-6: REQUIRED EQUIPMENT:

No neighborhood electric vehicle may be operated on a street or highway under the jurisdiction of the village unless, at a minimum, the vehicle conforms to the federal regulations under 49 CFR part 571.500, and it has the following additional safety equipment:

- A. Brakes.
- B. Steering apparatus.
- C. Tires.
- D. Rearview mirror.
- E. Red reflectorized warning devices on the front and rear.
- F. A slow moving emblem, as required of other vehicles by 625 Illinois Compiled Statutes 5/12-709, on the rear of the neighborhood electric vehicle.

- G. A headlight that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet (500') to the front.

- H. A taillamp that emits a red light visible from a distance of at least one hundred feet (100') from the rear.

- I. Brake lights.

- J. Turn signals.

- K. Seat belts for driver and all passengers. (Ord. 2005-1242, 7-5-2005)

7-4-7: SIGNS POSTED:

After the village board determines that a neighborhood electric vehicle may safely operate on a roadway in the village and adopts a resolution authorizing the operation on the village streets, appropriate signs shall be posted. (Ord. 2005-1245, 8-16-2005)