

ORDINANCE 820

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MEXICO BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 689 REGARDING HOURS OF GOLF CART OPERATION, NUMBER OF GOLF CART PASSENGERS AND ADDING GOLF CART REGISTRATION; PROVIDING FOR FINES FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER AND FOR OPERATION OF GOLF CART AFTER REGISTRATION IS REVOKED; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the Mexico Beach ("City") has determined that it is in the best interests of the citizens of Mexico Beach that an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 689 be enacted, which amends Section 70.04 (Hours of Operation), 70.05 (Compliance with Traffic Laws), and adds Section 70.06 reinstating golf cart registration for operation of a golf cart within the City; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEXICO BEACH, FLORIDA that:

SECTION 1: Ordinance 689 Section 70.04. HOURS OF OPERATION, shall be amended to read as follows:

Section 70.04. HOURS OF OPERATION. Golf Carts will only be permitted on City streets from sunrise to sunset. During times of fog, smoke, rain, and low light conditions golf carts must be equipped with headlights, brake lights, turn signals, and windshield. The City of Mexico Beach strongly recommends placement of reflective devices or reflective tape on the sides of all golf carts. Violations of this section may be cited using the code enforcement citation. Fines for violation shall be \$50.00. Failure to pay citation may result in violator being found in civil contempt and being issued a notice to appear before the Special Master. The Notice to Appear shall serve as legal notice of the violation and the date of appearance must be more than 30 days after notice is given.

SECTION 2: Ordinance 689 Section 70.05. COMPLIANCE WITH TRAFFIC LAWS, shall be amended to read as follows:

Section 70.05. Compliance with Traffic Laws. Golf carts shall comply with all applicable local and state traffic laws and may be cited for traffic violations in the same manner as motor vehicles. Drivers of such golf carts must have a valid driver's license. Golf carts can have only the number of passengers as the number of seats contained in golf cart. Violations of this section may be cited using the code enforcement citation. Fines for violations shall be \$50.00. Failure to pay citation may result in violator being found in civil contempt and being issued a notice to appear before the Special Master. The Notice to Appear shall serve as a legal notice to of the violation and the date of appearance must be more than 30 days after notice is given.

SECTION 3: The following Section entitled “Section 70.06. GOLF CART REGISTRATION” shall hereby be added to Ordinance 689:

Section 70.06. GOLF CART REGISTRATION.

All golf carts operated on City of Mexico Beach Streets must first be registered with the City. Registration must be made by the owner who is at least 18 years of age. The owner will be charged an annual registration fee of \$15.00. There will be no prorated registrations. Funds from the registration fees collected will support costs of street designation signs, and registration stickers. Registration stickers shall be placed on the driver’s side rear fender area of the golf cart. All registrations must be renewed annually during the month of January. If an owner fails to renew their registration on or before January 31st their registration shall be deemed expired, and they shall not be permitted to operate their golf cart on City streets. If the registered golf cart has a change in ownership, the new owner must register the golf cart under his or her name before the golf cart can resume operation on the streets of Mexico Beach.

- a. Fines for driving a golf cart without registration:
 1. First Offense: \$50.00
 2. Second Offense: \$75.00
 3. Third Offense: \$150.00, registration revoked for a year.
- b. Driving a golf cart with registration revoked shall result in a fine of \$250.00, and permanent revocation of registration by owner for any golf cart.
- c. If fines are paid within ten days of issuance, the owner may register the golf cart at no additional costs. If the fines are paid after ten days, the owner must pay the fine and the registration costs. If the fines are not paid within 30 days of the issuance, the city may seek an Order to Show Cause from a judge, and the violator may be found in civil contempt. If found in civil contempt the violator may be issued a notice to appear before the Special Magistrate.
- d. A list of all golf cart registrations shall be maintained by the City of Mexico Beach.

SECTION 4: All other provisions of Ordinance 689 other than the amendments and addition set forth above shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. Codification: It is the intention of the City council of the City of Mexico Beach, Florida, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this Ordinance be made a part of the City Code of the City of Mexico Beach, Florida; that the Sections of this Ordinance may be remembered or re-lettered to accomplish such intention; that the “Ordinance” may be changed to “Section”, ‘Article”, or other appropriate wording.

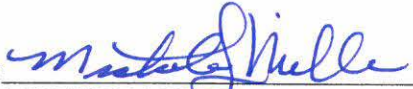
SECTION 6. Repeal: All other ordinances, parts of ordinances and resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7. Severability: If any portion of this ordinance or the original ordinance 689 is deemed to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction the remainder shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption pursuant to law.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Mexico Beach, Florida this the 28 day of November, 2023.

THE CITY OF MEXICO BEACH

BY: 
MICHELE MILLER, Mayor

ATTEST: 
TAMMY BRUNSON, City Clerk