

CODE OF ORDINANCES

Chapter 16

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***Cross reference** – Abandoned vehicles, § 9-56 et seq.; driving through street where fire is occurring, § 10-2; driving over fire hose § 10-4; throwing litter from vehicles, § 14-67; streets, sidewalks and other public places, Chapter 15.

State law reference – Authority of town to regulate and control traffic, G.S. 20-169, 160A-300; motor vehicles and traffic generally, G.S. 20-1 et seq.

State law reference – Authority of Town to regulate and control golf carts, G.S. 153A-245, 160A-300.6

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ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 16-1. Applicability of state law.

Drivers of vehicles and pedestrians within the town shall conform to the provisions of G.S. 20-115 through 20-175.4 insofar as such provisions are applicable.

Sec. 16-2. Official traffic map.

An official traffic map shall be kept on file in the town clerk's office showing any of the following regulations applicable within the town:

- (1) Location of traffic control devices.
- (2) Regulations applicable to parking, loading, bus stops or taxicab stands.
- (3) Speed limits.
- (4) Location of through streets.
- (5) Stop intersections.
- (6) Yield right-of-way intersections.
- (7) Waiting lanes.
- (8) One-way streets.
- (9) Truck traffic routes.
- (10) Regulations upon vehicle turns at designated locations.

Such map shall constitute the official codification of town ordinances regarding those areas of traffic regulation enumerated by this section.

State law reference – Authority of city to codify traffic regulations by use of official traffic maps, G.S. 160-61-77.

Sec. 16-3. Obedience to stop signs, yield signs, traffic control devices.

It shall be unlawful for any person to disregard or fail to obey the directions of any sign requiring a full stop at an intersection or requiring the operator of a vehicle to yield the right-of-way to other vehicles at an intersection or to disregard or fail to obey the directions of any traffic light or other traffic control device at any intersection or other location.

Secs. 16-4 through 16-35. Reserved.

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ARTICLE II. OPERATION

Sec. 16-36. Vehicles on sidewalks.

No person shall at any time operate or drive any self-propelled vehicle, whether propelled by motor or otherwise, regardless of size or type of construction, upon any of the sidewalks which are now constructed or which may be hereafter constructed within the town.

State law reference – Authority of town to prohibit operation on sidewalk, G.S. 160A-300.

Sec. 16-37. Stop intersections.

When stop signs are placed upon streets which intersect a through street, as designated on the official traffic map, the driver of any vehicle shall bring his vehicle to a stop before entering such intersection, and he/she shall not proceed into or across the through street until he/she has first determined that no conflict with traffic will ensue.

State law reference – Authority of town to designate stop and yield intersections, G.S. 20-158.

Sec. 16-38. Speed limits.

When signs designating the speed limit on streets or portions of streets have been erected, as indicated on the official traffic map, it shall be unlawful for any vehicle to travel in excess of such speed limit.

State law reference – Authority of town to impose speed limits, G.S. 20-141.

Sec. 16-39. Trucks prohibited on certain streets.

When signs prohibiting the operation of trucks exceeding five thousand (5,000) pounds in weight on certain streets have been erected, as indicated on the official traffic map, it shall be unlawful for any truck to travel on any of the designated streets for any purpose other than the delivery of goods, parcels or materials to premises on such streets.

Secs. 16-40 through 16-60. Reserved.

ARTICLE III. STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING*

Sec. 16-61. Obedience to signs.

In any location designated on the official traffic map, no person shall stand or park any vehicle in any place where signs are posted prohibiting parking, nor shall any person park any vehicle longer than the time indicated on any sign restricting parking.

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Sec. 16-62. Compliance with street markings.

In any location designated on the official traffic map where the parking or standing of a vehicle is regulated by markings on any street within the town, it shall be unlawful for any person to park or stand a vehicle in violation of such markings.

Sec. 16-63. Parking on public sidewalks.

It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle upon the public sidewalks in any manner as to obstruct the free passage of pedestrians upon such sidewalks.

Sec. 16-64. Parking near fire hydrants.

No person shall park any vehicle within fifteen (15) feet of any fire hydrant that may be needed for fire protection.

State law reference – Similar provisions, G.S. 20-162.

Sec. 16-65. Blocking entrances, exits, etc.

- (a) In any area set aside for the use of the public for parking vehicles therein, it shall be unlawful for any person to park or otherwise leave a vehicle stationary in such position as to interfere with the free entry into such parking area or withdrawal therefrom. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person, having entered such an area with a vehicle, to park such vehicle in such manner and in such position with reference to any other vehicle already parked therein as to interfere with the free movement of such other vehicle.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle in such a manner that it will block or obstruct the passage of vehicles into or out of any alley or public or private driveway.

Sec. 16-66. Moving vehicle into area where parking is prohibited or illegal.

No person shall move a vehicle into any prohibited area, where parking is prohibited or limited, or sufficiently away from the curb to make the distance between the curb and the vehicle unlawful.

State law references – Standing and parking, G.S. 20-161 – 20-163; authority of town to regulate on-street parking, G.S. 160A-301.

Sec. 16-67. Moving vehicles within limited parking areas.

The changing of the position of a vehicle from one point directly to another point within the same block shall not be deemed to interrupt the period of continuous parking within limited parking areas within the town.

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Sec. 16-68. Fire lanes.

- (a) *Designation.* Pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 160A-301 and for the protection and safety of the lives and property of the citizens of the town, there are hereby established certain fire lanes as designated on the traffic map and subject to those policies on file in the office of the traffic engineer. Fire lanes may be established upon the request of the property owner or person in general charge of the operation and control of the area, with approval by the town Board of Aldermen, both on private property which constitutes a public vehicular area as that term is defined by G.S. 20-4.01(32), and on any public drive, driveway, road, roadway, street, alley or other surface generally used or reserved for the movement or parking of motor vehicles.
- (b) *Blocking fire lane; authority to remove vehicles.*
- (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to park a vehicle or permit it to stand, whether attended or unattended, or to put or place any other object, structure or obstruction in a fire lane which has been established and properly marked under the provisions of the section; provided, however, that it shall not be unlawful for governmental vehicles, including municipal transit buses, or nongovernmental emergency vehicles, including rescue squad vehicles, to stop, stand or travel within such fire lanes when required to do so in the performance of their official duties.
 - (2) Any vehicle which shall be or remain standing or parked in any fire lane established under this section may be removed by or upon order of the chief of police or his designee with the concurrence of the property owner upon whose premises the fire lane is located.

Sec. 16-69. Handicapped parking spaces.

It shall be unlawful for any person to park or leave standing any vehicle in a parking space designated for handicapped or visually impaired persons when the vehicle does not display the distinguishing license plate or placard as provided in G.S. 20-37.6. The penalty for violation of this section shall be a fine in the amount of \$100.00.

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Sec. 16-80. Golf Cart Regulations.

The establishment of a golf cart ordinance is necessary to address the interests of public safety. Golf carts, are not designed or manufactured to be used on public streets, roads and highways, hereinafter "road(s)," and the Town of Granite Quarry in no way advocates or endorses their operation on roads. The Town of Granite Quarry, by regulating such operation is merely trying to address obvious safety issues, and adoption of this Ordinance is not to be relied upon as a determination that operation on roads is safe or advisable if done in accordance with this Ordinance. All persons who operate or ride upon carts on roads do so at their own risk and peril and must be observant of and attentive to the safety of themselves and others, including their passengers, other motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. The Town of Granite Quarry has no liability under any theory of liability for permitting carts to be operated on roads under special legislation granted by the State Legislature. Any person who operates a cart must procure liability insurance sufficient to cover the risks involved in using a cart on the roads of the Town of Granite Quarry.

(A) PURPOSE: The purpose of this ordinance shall be to establish a Golf Cart Ordinance within the Town of Granite Quarry to promote the health, safety and welfare of persons operating cart(s) within the Town of Granite Quarry and to protect the safety of their passengers and other users of roads.

(B) DEFINITIONS: For the purpose of this section, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings.

1. Golf Cart: A vehicle designed and manufactured for operation on a golf course for sporting or recreational purposes and that is not capable of exceeding speeds of 20 MPH.G.S. 20-4.01(12a).
2. Driver's License: A valid license issued to operate a motor vehicle issued by North Carolina or any other state.
3. Financial Responsibility: Liability insurance coverage on a golf cart in an amount not less than required by North Carolina law for motor vehicles operated on public highways in the State of North Carolina.
4. Operator: Only persons 16 years of age and older holding a valid driver's license may operate a golf cart on roads.

Section 1: Rules and Regulations

This ordinance is to establish guidance in the interest of public safety. Golf carts hereinafter:

1. Golf carts shall not be operated on or alongside a public road or street with a posted speed limit greater than 35 miles per hour.

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2. Golf carts may cross a road with a posted speed limit greater than 35 mph. However, once this segment of road has been transversed, the golf cart is still required to travel only on or along a roadway with a speed limit of 35 mph or less. Golf carts must cross in a manner that is the most direct route in order to decrease crossing distance, i.e. no riding along a road or crossing at an angle. Under no circumstance is a golf cart allowed to cross a control access facility other than at bridges which cross over or under a control access facility.
3. With exception to the aforementioned paragraph, at no point shall golf carts travel on any portion of Hwy 52 but may be transversed, otherwise known as Salisbury Ave. North and South.
4. Any person who operates a golf cart must be responsible for all liability associated with operation of the golf cart and must have liability insurance coverage which will cover the use of a golf cart in an amount not less than required by North Carolina law for motor vehicles operated on public highways in the State of North Carolina.
5. Any person who operates a golf cart must be at least sixteen (16) years of age or older. No person may operate a golf cart unless that person is licensed to drive upon the public streets, roads and highways of North Carolina and then, only in accordance with such valid driver's license. Golf cart operators must carry their driver's license on their person at all times while operating a golf cart on public roads.
6. Any person who operates a golf cart on public streets and roads must adhere to all applicable State and local laws, regulations and ordinances, including but not limited to those banning the possession and use of alcoholic beverages, and all other illegal drugs. In addition, no golf cart containing any open container of alcohol shall be operated on public roads.
7. The operator of the golf cart shall comply with all traffic rules and regulations adopted by the State of North Carolina and the County/Town/City which governs the operation of motor vehicles.
8. An operator may not allow the number of people in the golf cart at any one time to exceed the maximum capacity specified by the manufacturer. The operator shall not allow passengers to ride on any part of a golf cart not designed to carry passengers, such as the part of the golf cart designed to carry golf bags.
 - a. In no instance shall a golf cart be operated at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour. No golf cart may be operated at a speed greater than reasonable and prudent for the existing conditions.
9. Golf carts must be operated at the right edge of the roadway and must yield to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
10. Golf carts must park in designated spaces in such a manner that multiple golf carts can utilize the space. All parking rules and limits apply. No parking on sidewalks is allowed.
11. Golf carts must have basic and safety equipment supplied by the manufacturer, including a vehicle identification or serial number. Such equipment must include rear view mirror and rear reflectors of the same type required by North Carolina law.
12. Golf carts without lights may be operated only during daylight hours. Golf carts meeting the requirements set forth below may operate at any time:

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- a. Golf carts having two (2) operating headlights, one on each side of the front of the golf cart and two (2) operating tail lights, one on each side of the rear of the cart, all four (4) lights must be visible from a distance of 500 feet; and
- b. If a mechanical turn signal indicator is not installed, then hand signals are required for turns.

Section 2: Enforcement

Violation of the provisions of this Ordinance shall constitute an infraction in accordance with Chapter 20 of the North Carolina General Statutes, the maximum penalty for which shall be (\$150) dollars.

Adopted by the Granite Quarry Board of Aldermen on April 7, 2014