

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION FIVE TO ADD CHAPTER 342 TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF LEWISBURG, OHIO.

Whereas; the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Village of Lewisburg is best served by regulating the operation of slow speed (under speed) vehicles, utility vehicles, and mini-trucks;

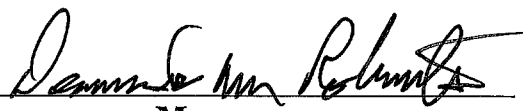
And Whereas; it is necessary to establish and promulgate rules and regulations pertaining to the operation of such vehicles within the Village of Lewisburg in addition to those set forth in Chapter 4511 of the Ohio Revised Code;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF LEWISBURG, PREBLE COUNTY, OHIO, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The council amends Section Five of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Lewisburg to establish Chapter 342 concerning the operation of slow speed (under speed) vehicles, utility vehicles, and minitrucks as set forth in attached exhibit "A".

Section 2. This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency and shall be effective upon its passage.

Dated: 06-03-2026


Mayor

Attest: 
Clerk of Council

- 342.01 **Definitions.**
- 342.02 **Inspection of golf carts and other under-speed vehicles.**
- 342.03 **Operation of golf carts and other under-speed vehicles.**
- 342.99 **Penalty.**

342.01 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this chapter, the following words shall be defined as set forth herein:

- (a) "Vehicles" has the same meaning as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4501.01(A).
- (b) "Motor Vehicle" has the same meaning as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4501.01(B).
- (c) "Operator" has the same meaning as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4501.01(X).
- (d) "Utility vehicle" has the same meaning as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4501.01(VV).
- (e) "Low-speed vehicle" has the same meaning as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4501.01(WW).
- (f) "Under-speed vehicle" has the same meaning as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4501.01(XX).
- (g) "Mini-truck" has the same meaning as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4501.01 (BBB).

342.02 INSPECTION OF GOLF CARTS AND OTHER UNDER-SPEED VEHICLES

- (a) No person shall operate a Utility vehicle or Mini-Truck on the streets of the Village of Lewisburg,
- (b) No person shall operate an Under-speed vehicle on the streets within the Village of Lewisburg unless the Under-speed vehicle has been inspected and approved by the Chief of Police or his/her designee for the compliance with the State of Ohio's statutory safety requirements under OAC 4501:2-1-02 and Ohio R.C. 4513.02, is registered in accordance with Ohio R.C. 4503, and is titled in accordance with Chapter Ohio R.C. 4505.
- (c) If the Chief of Police or his/her designee determines that the Under-speed vehicle complies with the minimum State of Ohio statutory requirements under Ohio R.C. 4513.02, the Police Department shall authorize the Preble County Clerk of Courts to issue an Ohio Certificate of Title to the Under-speed vehicle.
- (d) The Police Department will inspect Under-speed vehicles, at times, places, and by procedure established by the Chief of Police.
- (e) Under-speed vehicles must be inspected, titled, and registered before they can be operated on a public street or property.
- (f) The following are examples of equipment requirements established by Ohio law:
 - (1) At least one (1) working rear taillight (ORC 4513.05)
 - (2) At least one (1) light to illuminate license plate and make license plate legible from distance of fifty (50) feet (ORC 4513.05)
 - (3) At least one (1) working brake light (ORC 4513.071)
 - (4) At least two (2) working headlights (ORC 4513.04)
 - (5) One (1) horn (ORC 4513.21)
 - (6) At least one (1) rearview mirror (ORC 4513.23)
 - (7) A windshield (glass, plexiglass, or safety glass) (ORC 4513.24)
 - (8) Directional signals (ORC 4513.261)

- (9) Brackets for mounting one (1) license plate (rear)
(ORC 4503.21)
- (10) Must be equipped with safety belts (ORC 4513.262)
- (11) Additionally, all such vehicles shall comply with all other equipment requirements established by Ohio law, including, but not limited to, child safety seat requirements.
- (12) Must have a Vehicle Identification Number or serial number.

(g) Only permits issued by the Village of Lewisburg will be accepted. All permitted vehicles must display the sticker issued by the Village of Lewisburg.

(g) Upon completion of a successful inspection by the Chief of Police or his/her designee, the Village will issue the permitted Under-Speed Vehicle a permit sticker issued by the Chief of Police, to be displayed on the vehicle, as required in this Chapter.

342 .03 OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS AND OTHER UNDER-SPEED VEHICLES

- (a) While operating an Under-speed vehicle, Low-speed vehicle on the streets within the Village, any owner or operator shall comply with any and all laws pertaining to motor vehicles including, without limitation, safety requirements and insurance requirements.
- (b) While an Under-speed vehicle is being operated on the streets of the Village, it shall at all times be in compliance with the requirements of the Under-speed vehicle Inspection Sheet.
- (c) No person shall operate a Low-speed vehicle upon any street or highway having an established speed limit greater than thirty-five miles per hour.
- (d) Village employees are authorized to operate utility vehicles within the boundaries of the Village within the scope and duties of their employment.
- (e) Nothing shall prohibit a person operating a Low-speed vehicle, Under-speed vehicle, or Utility vehicle or a Mini-truck from proceeding across an intersection of a street or highway having a speed limit greater than thirty-five miles per hour as set forth by Ohio R.C. 4511.214(B).
- (f) The Village reserves the right to permit or prohibit an Under-speed vehicle, Utility vehicle or Mini-truck from operating on any street within the Village as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4511.215.
- (g) Lap belts shall be properly installed and available with respect to each seating position located on an Under-speed vehicle, Low-speed vehicle. There shall be no more than two (2) seating positions in any row of seating on an Under-speed vehicle, All persons shall wear lap belts while operating or riding in a moving Under-speed vehicle on a public roadway.
- (h) Shoulder belts shall be properly installed and available with respect to each passenger seating position located on an Under-speed vehicle, when a child restraint is in use as set forth under Ohio R.C. 4511.81. Rear-facing child restraint seats are NOT permitted on an Under-speed vehicle or low-speed vehicle.
- (i) The driver of any Under-speed vehicle, low-speed vehicle, shall be responsible for ensuring that all passengers are in compliance with any child restraint law in effect for motor vehicles.

(j) The person(s) operating an Under-speed vehicle, Low-speed vehicle must have a valid operator's license (ORC 4510.12) and show proof of insurance covering the Under-speed vehicle, or low speed vehicle (ORC 4509.101) while on the public streets of the Village.

(k) Any Under-speed vehicle approved for operation on the streets of the Village shall have no fewer than three (3) wheels as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4501.01 (XX); any Low-speed vehicle operating on the streets of the Village shall have no fewer than three (3) wheels as set forth in Ohio R.C. 4501.01(WW); .

(l) No Under-speed vehicle, Low-speed vehicle, shall be operated on any sidewalk, except to cross the sidewalk.

(m) No Under-speed vehicle or Low-speed vehicle shall be stored or kept for more than two (2) hours on the grass-covered portion of a residential property.

(n) Any Under-speed vehicle or low speed vehicle that has been modified for equipment or increased/decreased speed and no longer meets the criteria after inspection and approval will be immediately denied further operation and become subject to a citation.

(o) Under-speed vehicles or Low-speed vehicles are considered seasonal vehicles. Due to the possibility of an accident, the use of such vehicles will be strictly prohibited from operation when the roadways are snow or ice covered.

(p) Operators of Under-speed vehicles or Low-speed vehicles must follow all motor vehicle laws. Under-speed vehicles or Low-speed vehicles, and operators not complying with the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) subject themselves to citation and/or impoundment at their expense.

(q) The Village has implemented this chapter in conjunction with the ORC and OAC, specifically as they relate to Ohio R.C. 4511.214 and Ohio R.C. 4511.215.

(r) Notwithstanding anything in this Chapter to the contrary, nothing in the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Lewisburg shall make it a violation to use a Utility Vehicle or all purpose vehicle to clear snow from sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots in the Village, and for travel to and from those areas for the purpose of snow removal.

(s) No person shall operate an Under-speed vehicle in the Village without displaying a village-issued permit sticker, as referenced in Section 02 (g), in a visible and conspicuous location on the rear of the vehicle. Lewisburg Police and other law enforcement officers authorized to stop vehicles in the State of Ohio may stop any such vehicle being operated in the Village without displaying the necessary permit sticker.

342.04 USAGE AND RESTRICTION:

(a) Occupants of under-speed and low-speed vehicles shall be seated at all times on a seat of the vehicle, buckled by a seat belt when the vehicle is on and in motion. Standing on any portion of the vehicle while it is in motion is prohibited.

- (b) Any child who falls under the child restraint criteria set by O.R.C. 4511.81 is prohibited from being a passenger in an under-speed and/or low-speed vehicle operated on Village streets, right of way, or public area in the Village of Lewisburg.
- (c) No person shall operate under-speed, low-speed, or utility vehicle on sidewalks.
- (d) No person shall operate under-speed, low-speed, or utility vehicle on a bike or walking path.
- (e) Under-speed, low-speed, or utility vehicles must be operated in accordance with all State of Ohio traffic laws in addition to all applicable sections of the Village of Lewisburg Codified Ordinances.

342.99 PENALTY.

Whoever violates this chapter is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on a second offense within one (1) year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; for a third or subsequent offense within one (1) year after the first offense the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.