



Ordinance No. 2026-01

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND RECREATING ARTICLE VI OF CHAPTER 78 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF MOSINEE, WISCONSIN RELATING TO BICYCLES, ELECTRIC BICYCLES, ELECTRIC SCOOTERS, AND SIMILAR DEVICES

WHEREAS, the increased use of electric bicycles, electric scooters, electric skateboards, and other electric-powered mobility devices has created a need to establish clear and consistent regulations governing their operation within the City of Mosinee; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council desires to promote the safe and responsible operation of bicycles and electric-powered mobility devices while protecting pedestrians, motorists, recreational users, and City property; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council finds it appropriate to update the City's existing bicycle regulations to address emerging micromobility technologies and establish reasonable regulations governing their operation on City streets, sidewalks, multi-use paths, trails, parks, and other public property.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Common Council of the City of Mosinee, Wisconsin does hereby ordain as follows:

1. Article VI, Bicycles, of Chapter 78, Traffic and Vehicles, of the City of Mosinee Code of Ordinances is hereby repealed and recreated to read as follows:

ARTICLE VI. BICYCLES, ELECTRIC BICYCLES, ELECTRIC SCOOTERS AND SIMILAR DEVICES

Sec. 78-351. - Purpose and intent.

The purpose of this Article is to establish clear and enforceable regulations governing the operation of bicycles, electric bicycles, electric scooters, electric skateboards, and other similar electric-powered transportation devices within the City in order to promote the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and other users of public streets, sidewalks, multi-use paths, trails, parks, and other public areas and to provide for the responsible use of emerging micromobility technologies.

Sec. 78-352. - Definitions.

For purposes of this Article, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

Bicycle means a vehicle propelled solely by human power through pedals and having one or more wheels.

Electric bicycle or E-Bicycle means a bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor having a maximum continuous rated power output of 750 watts and meeting the requirements of Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ph), as amended from time to time.

Class 1 electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of 20 miles per hour.

Class 2 electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of 20 miles per hour.

Class 3 electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of 28 miles per hour.

Electric scooter means a device weighing less than 100 pounds that has handlebars and an electric motor, is powered by the electric motor and human power, and has a maximum speed of not more than 20 miles per hour on a paved level surface when powered solely by the electric motor. An electric scooter does not include an electric personal assistive mobility device, motor bicycle, electric bicycle, moped, motorcycle, or E-Moto.

Electric skateboard means a wheeled device designed to be stood upon by the operator and powered in whole or in part by an electric motor, including self-balancing boards and similar devices, but excluding an electric personal assistive mobility device used by an individual with a disability.

Electric Motorized Device or E-Moto means an electric-powered device designed for transportation that does not have fully operable pedals and that is not otherwise defined and regulated as an electric scooter, electric skateboard, electric personal assistive mobility device, motorcycle, moped, or other motor vehicle under Wisconsin law. The term includes electric dirt bikes, electric motorcycles, and other similar electric-powered devices that are not lawfully classified as electric bicycles.

Multi-use path or trail means any paved or unpaved off-street path intended for shared use by pedestrians, bicyclists, and other authorized users.

Personal mobility device means a wheelchair or other power-driven mobility device designed or used by an individual with a mobility disability for purposes of locomotion. A personal mobility device shall not be considered an E-Moto or other prohibited electric motorized device under this Article.

Sec. 78-353. - State law adopted.

- (a) All applicable provisions of the Wisconsin Statutes regulating bicycles, electric bicycles, electric scooters, electric personal assistive mobility devices, and other devices regulated by this Article are hereby adopted by reference, as amended from time to time.
- (b) Nothing in this Article shall authorize the operation of any device in a manner prohibited by Wisconsin law.
- (c) Where authorized by state law, the more restrictive provisions of this Article shall apply.

Sec. 78-354. - Rules of operation.

- (a) Every person operating a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, electric skateboard, or other device authorized under this Article shall operate the device in a careful and prudent manner and with due regard for the safety of the operator and other persons.
- (b) An operator shall obey all applicable traffic-control devices, signs, signals, and rules of the road.
- (c) No person shall operate any device regulated under this Article:
 - 1. In a careless, reckless, or negligent manner that endangers or is likely to endanger any person or property.
 - 2. While carrying more persons than the device is designed and equipped to carry.
 - 3. While clinging to or attaching the device or operator to another moving vehicle.
 - 4. While towing or dragging another person or device unless specifically designed by the manufacturer for such purpose.
 - 5. In a manner that unreasonably interferes with pedestrians or other lawful users of a street, sidewalk, multi-use path, trail, or other public area.
 - 6. While intentionally performing wheelies, stunts, skids, or other maneuvers under circumstances that unreasonably endanger any person or property.

Sec. 78-355. - Operation on roadways.

- (a) Bicycles, Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3 electric bicycles, and electric scooters and electric skateboards may be operated upon City roadways wherever such operation is permitted by Wisconsin law.
- (b) An operator shall comply with all applicable Wisconsin rules of the road and City traffic regulations.
- (c) No device regulated by this Article shall be operated at a speed greater than the posted roadway speed limit or at a speed that is unreasonable or imprudent under existing traffic, weather, surface, pedestrian, or other conditions.\
- (d) E-Motos and other electric motorized devices that are not lawfully authorized for operation upon public roadways under Wisconsin law shall not be operated upon a public roadway within the City.

Sec. 78-356. - Operation on sidewalks.

- (a) Bicycles, electric bicycles, electric scooters, and electric skateboards shall be subject to the same restrictions applicable to the operation of bicycles on sidewalks under this Article. No such device may be operated upon a sidewalk at a location where the operation of bicycles is prohibited.
- (b) Where operation upon a sidewalk is permitted, every person operating a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, or electric skateboard shall:
 - 1. Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians;
 - 2. Exercise due care;
 - 3. Reduce speed to a safe, pedestrian-compatible speed when pedestrians are present;
 - 4. Provide an audible warning before overtaking or passing a pedestrian or slower-moving user when reasonably necessary for safety; and
 - 5. Operate in a manner that does not interfere with the normal movement or use of the sidewalk by pedestrians.
- (c) E-Motos and other electric motorized devices not specifically authorized by this Article are prohibited from operation upon sidewalks.
- (d) Nothing in this section shall prohibit or restrict the lawful use of a personal mobility device by an individual with a mobility disability.

Sec. 78-357. - Multi-use paths and trails.

- (a) Bicycles, Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3 electric bicycles, electric scooters, and electric skateboards may be operated upon City multi-use paths and trails unless otherwise prohibited by official signage.
- (b) Every operator shall:
 - 1. Operate on the right side of the path or trail except when safely passing.
 - 2. Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.
 - 3. Exercise due care when approaching or passing another user.
 - 4. Provide an audible warning before overtaking or passing a pedestrian or slower-moving user when reasonably necessary for safety.
 - 5. Operate at a reasonable and prudent speed considering pedestrian traffic, visibility, surface conditions, and other existing conditions.
- (c) No bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, or electric skateboard shall be operated at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour upon a multi-use path or trail unless a lower speed is posted.
- (d) E-Motos and other electric motorized devices not specifically authorized by this Article are prohibited upon City multi-use paths and trails.

Sec. 78-358. - Operation in City parks and other City property.

- (a) Bicycles, electric bicycles, electric scooters, and electric skateboards may be operated upon roadways, designated paths, trails, and other areas within City parks where such devices are otherwise permitted, unless prohibited by official signage.
- (b) No person shall operate a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, electric skateboard, or similar device upon playground equipment, athletic fields, landscaped areas, or other areas not intended for vehicular or bicycle travel when such operation may damage City property or interfere with the intended use of the area.
- (c) E-Motos and other electric motorized devices not specifically authorized under this Article are prohibited in City parks and upon other City-owned property unless expressly authorized by the City or official signage.

Sec. 78-359. - Age and equipment requirements for electric bicycles.

- (a) No person under 16 years of age may operate a Class 3 electric bicycle.
- (b) Electric bicycles shall be equipped with fully operable pedals.
- (c) An electric bicycle shall have the manufacturer's labeling required by Wisconsin law identifying the classification, top assisted speed, and motor wattage.
- (d) A Class 3 electric bicycle shall be equipped with a speedometer.
- (e) Bicycles and electric bicycles shall comply with applicable lighting and reflector requirements under Wis. Stat. § 347.489.

Sec. 78-360. - Electric scooters and electric skateboards.

- (a) Electric scooters and electric skateboards shall be operated in a careful and prudent manner and at a speed reasonable for existing conditions.
- (b) An operator shall yield to pedestrians and exercise due care when passing pedestrians, bicycles, or other users.
- (c) No person shall operate an electric scooter or electric skateboard at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour upon a multi-use path or trail.
- (d) No person shall leave an electric scooter or electric skateboard unattended upon a sidewalk, multi-use path, trail, roadway, or other public way in a manner that obstructs pedestrian or vehicular travel or creates a hazard.
- (e) Electric scooters operated during hours of darkness shall be equipped with lighting and reflective equipment as required by Wisconsin law.

Sec. 78-361. - E-Motos and other unauthorized electric motorized devices.

- (a) Nothing in this Article shall be construed to classify an E-Moto, electric dirt bike, electric motorcycle, or similar electric motorized device as an electric bicycle merely because the device resembles a bicycle.
- (b) For purposes of this Article, an electric skateboard meeting the definition established herein shall not be considered an E-Moto solely because it does not have fully operable pedals.

(c) Except when otherwise expressly authorized by Wisconsin law, E-Motos and other electric motorized devices that do not qualify as an electric bicycle, electric scooter, electric skateboard, personal mobility device, or other device lawfully authorized for such operation are prohibited upon:

1. Sidewalks.
2. Multi-use paths and trails.
3. Bicycle paths and bicycle lanes.
4. City parks and other City-owned recreational property.
5. Public roadways when the device is not legally authorized for roadway operation.

(d) Nothing in this section prohibits the lawful operation of a properly registered and licensed motor vehicle upon a public roadway.

Sec. 78-362. - Personal mobility devices; ADA.

Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted or enforced to prohibit or unreasonably restrict the lawful use of a wheelchair, electric personal assistive mobility device, or other power-driven mobility device by an individual with a mobility disability. Such devices shall be governed by applicable federal and state law.

Sec. 78-363. - Authority to prohibit operation in designated areas.

The Common Council may prohibit or further restrict the operation of bicycles, electric bicycles, electric scooters, electric skateboards, E-Motos, or other devices regulated by this Article upon any City street, sidewalk, multi-use path, trail, park, or other City property when determined necessary for public safety or protection of City property. Any such restriction shall be indicated by appropriate signage.

Sec. 78-364. - Penalties.

Any person violating any provision of this Article shall be subject to the applicable forfeiture provided by the City of Mosinee Code of Ordinances, together with applicable costs, fees, and assessments.

2. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect 30 days upon adoption and publication in accordance with applicable state statutes.
3. That all prior ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

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Adopted and approved by the Common Council of the City of Mosinee on this _____ day
of _____, 2026.

Tom Helbach, Mayor

Attest: _____
Bruce R. Jamroz, City Clerk/Treasurer