

CHAPTER 8.

MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC.

For state law as to motor vehicles generally, see W.S., 1977, tit. 31. As to authority of town to regulate motor vehicles and traffic, see W.S., 1977, §§ 31-5-109, 31-5-110. As to Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways, see W.S., 1977, § 31-5-101 et seq. As to uniform applicability of Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways throughout state, see W.S., § 31-5-108. As to adoption of Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways, or portions thereof, by reference, see W.S., 1977, §15-1-119. As to authority of town to alter state speed limits, see W.S., 1977, §31-5-303. As to authority of town relative to minimum speeds, see W.S., 1977, § 31-5-304. As to using street right-of-way for service of motor vehicles, see § 5-27 of this code. As to noise generally, see §§ 11-19, 11-20. As to streets and sidewalks generally, see chapter 15. As to maintenance of normal traffic conditions during excavations, see §15-20. As to trailers and trailer courts generally, see chapter 16.

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Article I. In General.

Sec. 8-1. Certain provisions of Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways adopted; where copies filed.

The following sections of the Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways are hereby adopted by reference and incorporated herein as a part of this chapter as fully as if set out in full herein: Wyoming Statutes, 1977, sections 24-1-110 (a) and (b), 31-2-201, 31-2-212, 31-2-205, 31-4-101 through 31-4-104, 31-5-101 through 31-5-122, 31-5-122, 31-5-201 through 31-5-233, 31-5-301 through 31-5-306, 31-5-401 through 31-5-406, 31-5-201 through 31-5-512, 31-5-601 through 31-5-612, 31-5-701 through 31-5-706, 31-5-901 through 31-5-940, 31-5-950 through 31-5-961, 31-5-970, 31-5-1101 through 31-5-1111, 31-5-1201 through 31-5-1214, 31-7-106, 31-7-116, 31-7-135, 31-7-136 and 31-9-105. a copy of such section is on file in the office of the town clerk-treasurer. (Ord. no. 27, § 1; Ord. No. 84-15; Ord. no. 86-1.)

Sec. 8-2. Driving on sidewalks.

1. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride or drive any motor driven vehicle on any sidewalk within the limits of the town of Meeteetse, except at such places where a properly constructed driveway is maintained across such sidewalk. This provision shall not apply to motor driven wheelchairs, other handicap devices or any type of snow removal equipment. (Ord. No. 14, §; Ord. No. 86-2.)

2. It shall be unlawful for any person to ride any bicycle, skateboard, roller blades, roller skates, scooter, or other recreational wheeled vehicles, or horse, or horse-drawn vehicle on any sidewalk within the Town of Meeteetse from the intersection of Warren Street to State Street on State Highway 290, or from the intersection of Park Street to Water Street on State Highway 120, except at such places where a properly constructed driveway is maintained across such sidewalk.

3. Bicycles, skateboards, roller skates and scooters, or other recreational wheeled vehicles, when operated or ridden upon the sidewalks where not prohibited, shall be in single file only. Under all circumstances, the rider shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians using the sidewalk, and due and proper care shall be exercised by the rider approaching a pedestrian. The rider of a bicycle, skateboard, roller skates, scooter, or other recreational wheeled vehicle, shall yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian using the sidewalk. When approaching a pedestrian on the sidewalk, the speed of the bicycle, skateboard, roller skates, scooter, or other recreational wheeled vehicle, shall be reduced to a speed which is not greater than necessary to continue operation of the bicycle, skateboard, roller skates, scooter, or other recreational wheeled vehicle without the rider dismounting, and such speed shall not be increased until the pedestrian has passed.

Sec. 8-3. Careless driving.

Any person who drives any vehicle upon any street, alley, public or private way, public or private parking lot or area or elsewhere in the town in a careless manner or without having the vehicle under proper control or without due regard for the safety and convenience of pedestrians or other vehicles shall be guilty of careless driving.

Any person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than thirty nor more than seven hundred fifty dollars.

As to general penalty for violations of Code, see § 1-6 of this Code. As to actions for penalties or fines, see § 1-7.

Article II. Stopping, Standing and Parking.

For state law as to stopping, standing and parking generally see W.S., 1977, §§ 31-5-501 to 31-5-512.

Sec. 8-4. Parking where curb painted yellow.

There shall be no parking of any motor and/or other vehicle where the curb is painted yellow. (Ord. No. 87, § 3.)

Sec. 8-4a. Handicapped parking, obedience of signs and imposition of penalty

1. The Town of Meeteetse may place signs reserving handicapped parking spaces for any public land under its supervision and control when in the opinion of the Town

Council such reservations are warranted and are identified in the Minutes of the Town Council.

2. All signs reserving parking space for the handicapped in public spaces under the jurisdiction of the Town of Meeteetse as authorized by Town Council or for those places authorized by the real property owner pursuant to W. S. 31-5-111 shall be constructed of durable material, containing the international symbol of accessibility for handicapped individuals and be no less than twelve inches (12”) by eighteen inches (18”) in size and shall be placed above ground level so as to be visible at all times and not be obscured by a vehicle parked in that space.

3. Signs specified under his ordinance and consistent with the provisions of W. S. 31-5-111(b) shall be and are hereby designated as official signs and it shall be unlawful for any person to park a vehicle in violation of the restrictions, regulations, or prohibitions stated on the signs. This ordinance shall not prohibit use of handicapped parking spaces provided under this statute by a person issued a distinctive handicapped license plate or transferable identification card by another state and displaying the plate or card on a vehicle used by the person legally using the identification card or plate.

4. Any person found in violation of the terms or provisions of this ordinance is subject to a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) plus costs.

Sec. 8-5. Parking in alley.

There shall be no parking of any motor and/or other vehicle in any alley at any time. (Ord. No. 87, § 4.)

Sec. 8-6. Parking near fire hydrant.

No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle within fifteen feet of a fire hydrant. (Ord. No. 87, § 4.)

Sec. 8-7. Parking time limits generally; loading zones.

Sec. 8-7a. Parking prohibited—Designated places.

- a) A. No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or traffic-control device, in any of the following places:
1. On a sidewalk;
 2. In front of a public or private driveway;
 3. Within an intersection;
 4. Within fifteen feet of a fire hydrant;
 5. On a crosswalk;
 6. Within twenty feet of a crosswalk at an intersection;
 7. Within thirty feet upon the approach to any flashing beacon, stop sign or traffic-control signal located at the side of a roadway;

8. Within twenty feet of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing;
 9. Within twenty feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station;
 10. Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic;
 11. On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge of the curb of a street;
 12. In any underpass within the city;
 13. At any place where official regulatory signs prohibit stopping, standing or parking, except as set forth on and in compliance with said regulatory sign;
 14. Adjacent to any portion of an officially painted yellow curb line, except where regulated by a regulatory sign.
- B. No person shall move a vehicle not lawfully under his control into any such prohibited area or away from a curb such a distance is unlawful.

Sec. 8-7b. No parking zones—Streets adjacent to schools.

The town council is authorized to erect signs indicating no parking upon that side of any street adjacent to any school property when such parking would, in their opinion, interfere with traffic or create a hazardous situation.

Sec. 8-7c. No parking zones—Narrow streets.

The town council is authorized to erect signs indicating no parking upon any street or roadway, or upon one side of a street or roadway as indicated by such signs.

Sec. 8-7d. Large trucks and semitrailers in residential areas unlawful when.

- (a) The following definitions shall apply to this section:
 1. “Semitrailer” means every vehicle with or without motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying persons or property, and for being drawn by a motor vehicle, and so constructed that some part of its weight and that of its load rests upon, or is carried by, another vehicle;
 2. “Truck tractor” means every motor vehicle designed and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight of the vehicle and load so drawn, and does specifically include, but is not limited to, tractors used to pull mobile homes and road tractors;
 3. “Vehicle” means any device in, upon or by which any person or property is, or may be, transported or drawn upon a highway or street, except devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.
- (b) No person shall park any commercial vehicle which is longer than twenty feet in length, or wider than eight feet in width, or any truck tractor, or any semitrailer, upon any street or alley in the city, excepting in those areas designated as business and in the industrial areas on the District Map of the city, which shows the various zones or districts of the city, except when such commercial vehicles, truck tractors or semitrailers are in the process of loading or unloading at the

site of origin or delivery of shipments. No person shall park any commercial vehicle, truck tractor or semitrailer of any dimensions, loaded with liquefied petroleum gas, explosives, live animals, gasoline or inflammable liquids on any street or alley in the city, except when in the process of loading or unloading.

- (c) Overnight Semi trailer and Truck tractor parking is permitted in non-residential areas for no more than 72 hours. Allowable parking is acceptable in those areas on the District Map of the Town, which shows the various zone or districts of the town. This use is recognized as an important role in the Town's economy.

**Sec. 8-7e. Large trucks and semitrailers in residential areas—
Violation—Penalty.**

Any vehicle parked on the streets designated in Section 8-7d. in violation thereof during the hours prohibited, shall be impounded by the city and the owner shall pay the impound, storage and towing charges as specified pursuant to Section 1-6, plus any fine, penalty and court costs, before such vehicle shall be returned to the possession of the owner.

Sec. 8-7f. Obstructing intersections and crosswalks.

No driver or operator of a motor vehicle shall enter an intersection or a marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space at the other side of the intersection or crosswalk to accommodate the entire vehicle he is driving or operating, without it obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrians, notwithstanding any traffic-control signal indicating to proceed.

Sec. 8-7g. Obstruction of roadway by parked vehicle prohibited.

No person shall park any vehicle upon a street in such manner or under such conditions as to leave available less than ten feet of the width of the roadway in each lane for free movement of vehicular traffic.

Sec. 8-7h. Courtesy parking tickets.

The Town Marshal may, in enforcing the provisions of this chapter, courtesy tickets on any motor vehicle parked in violation of Sections 8-7a through 8-7i; said ticket shall specify the violation thereof and state that no fine or penalty will be incurred.

Sec. 8-7i. Establishment of critical traffic and parking areas authorized.

The city council may, after a public bearing thereon, and after receiving a written application, designate critical traffic and parking area(s) consisting of certain streets or parts thereof. The city council shall also specify special traffic and parking restrictions within each critical traffic and parking area thus established.

(Ord. No. 87, § 5.)

Sec. 8-8. Animals and animal drawn vehicles.

No animal shall be left standing without a weight or without being hitched to a post. Animal drawn vehicles shall observe the same parking rules as those herein designated for motor vehicles. (Ord. No. 87, § 6.)

As to animals and fowl generally, see Ch. 4 of this Code.

Article III. Over-Snow Vehicles.

For state law as to registration of snowmobiles, see current W. S., 1977, §§ 31-2-401 to 31-2-408. As to operation of snowmobiles on highways, see W. S., 1977, § 31-5-801.

Sec. 8-9. Definitions.

For the purposes of this article, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this section:

Operate. To ride in or on and control the operations of an over-snow vehicle.

Operator. Every person who operates or is in actual physical control of an over-snow vehicle.

Owner. A person other than the lien holder having the property in or title to an over-snow vehicle and entitled to the use or possession thereof.

Over-snow vehicle. A mechanically driven vehicle in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a roadway as defined in Wyoming Statutes, 1977, section 31-5-102 (that portion of a highway improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, exclusive of the berm or shoulder), the motive force of which is applied through a revolving track, guided by skis or differential track operation. No over-snow vehicle shall be operated within the incorporated limits of the town except in compliance with this article.

Sec. 8-10. Permitted operations.

(a) Over-snow vehicles shall operate over designated roadways when the same shall be snow covered or snow packed only, and such vehicles shall not be permitted to operate on the sidewalks, except where necessary to enter or emerge from an alley within the town, or within the town park or other recreation areas controlled by the town, except when posted as "open" to over-snow vehicles and within the hours permitted, or upon private property other than that of the over-snow vehicle owner or operator without express permission of the owner.

(b) "Designated roadways" are public streets within the town which are the most direct routes from where the over-snow vehicle is located to the outskirts of the town

limits. Over-snow vehicles may be operated on State Street (Highway 120) and Park and Hays Avenue (Secondary Highway 290) within the right-of-way but not on the main-traveled roadway; except, that any crossings of the main-traveled roadway shall be made at right angles to the roadway or as nearly so as practicable. Over-snow vehicles shall make a complete stop before crossing a highway and shall yield the right-of-way to all on-coming traffic before crossing such highway.

(c) If unusual snow depths or weather conditions make it difficult or impossible to use automobiles on the town streets, the Mayor, by emergency proclamation, may allow the use of over-snow vehicles within the town limits upon such terms and conditions and in such places as he deems necessary and proper until the emergency is ended, provided such over-snow vehicles are properly registered.

Sec. 8-11. Driver's or chauffeur's license required.

(a) No over-snow vehicle shall be operated within the incorporated limits of the town until the driver thereof shall have in his possession a valid driver's or chauffeur's license.

Sec. 8-12. Safety equipment.

(a) Generally. It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to drive or mover, or for the owner to cause or knowingly permit to be driven or moved, on any roadway any over-snow vehicle or combination of vehicles which is in such unsafe condition as to endanger any persons or property, which does not contain those parts or is not at all times equipped with such equipment in proper condition and adjustment as required by this section or which is equipped in any manner in violation hereof.

(b) Muffler. Every over-snow vehicle shall be at all times equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operations to prevent excessive or unusual noise and annoying smoke.

(c) Brakes. Every over-snow vehicle shall be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle.

(d) Lights Every over-snow vehicle shall be equipped with and electric light on the front in good working order and electric light or reflector tail light in the rear, which lights shall be on at all times while such vehicle is in operation within the incorporated limits of the town.

Sec. 8-13. Observance of rules of road; duty to yield right-of-way to motor vehicles; applicability of traffic regulations.

Every operator of an over-snow vehicle shall observe all of the rules of the road pertaining to vehicles and shall yield the right-of-way to motor vehicles. All provisions of this Code and other ordinances of the town pertaining to the operation of vehicles, to

the extent that the same are not in conflict herewith, shall be applicable to the operation of over-snow vehicles and are adopted by reference and made a part hereof, the same as if set forth fully herein.

Sec. 8-14. Speed limit.

No person shall operate any over-snow vehicle within the incorporated limits of the town at a speed in excess of fifteen miles per hour.

Sec. 8-15. Operating abreast.

No person shall operate any over-snow vehicle within the incorporated limits of the town where two such vehicles are abreast of each other, except while passing where permitted.

Sec. 8-16. Hours of operation.

No over-snow vehicles shall be operated within the town after 10:00 P.M. or before one-half hour before sunrise; provided, that this section shall not prohibit the owner or operator thereof from going directly out of town or returning directly to the residence of such owner or operator after such hours.

Article IV. Junk and Unattended Vehicles.

For state law as to authority of town to impound, etc., abandoned or junk vehicles, see 1977, §15-1-103xliv). As to garbage, refuse and weeds generally, see chapter 6 of this Code. As to nuisances generally, see chapter 10.

Sec. 8-17. Junk and/or abandoned vehicles constituting nuisances prohibited and defined.

1. A vehicle shall constitute a nuisance as identified herein on any public street or alley within the town or property belonging to the Town of Meeteetse or upon any private property within the town and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Town of Meeteetse.

For the purposes of this section, any one (1) of the following circumstances existing at the time notice is delivered shall be considered prima facie evidence that a vehicle located on a public street or alley is a junk and/or an abandoned vehicle and shall be considered prima facie evidence that a vehicle located on a public street or alley is a junk and/or an abandoned vehicle and shall constitute a nuisance:

(a) Any vehicle upon any public street or alley within the town or property belonging to the Town of Meeteetse which is unable to move under its own power due to mechanical failure, missing tires or wheels or one or more flat tires and/or any vehicle which is totally or partially suspended above the ground by jacks, blocks or any other lifting devices and which has been in a stationary position for thirty (30) days or more.

(b) Any vehicle upon any public street or alley within the town or property belonging to the Town of Meeteetse which current license plates or a valid temporary permit is not displayed. This shall not apply to a vehicle in the possession of a licensed dealer for the purpose of sale at a place licensed for such sale.

2. A person who possesses four (4) or more abandoned vehicles on his property or property which is in his lawful possession or control which are visible for more than thirty (30) consecutive days at the time notice is delivered shall be considered prima facie evidence that a nuisance exists.

(a) For purposes of this section, a vehicle shall be presumed to be abandoned if it is in an inoperable condition and is not currently registered.

(b) This section shall not apply to:

(i) Antique or historic motor vehicles as defined by current Wyoming State Statutes;

(ii) Vehicles kept in an enclosed garage or storage building;

(iii) Vehicles used for riprap on rivers, streams or reservoirs, or for erosion control;

(iv) Persons licensed in accordance with current Wyoming State Statutes;

(v) Vehicles used for educational or instructional purposes.

(c) A police officer may remove, or cause to be removed, any vehicle which has been abandoned under this section, at the expense of the person possessing the vehicle, to a place of impoundment designated by the county commissioners of the county in which the vehicle is impounded. Vehicles impounded under this section shall be disposed of in the manner provided by this chapter.

Sec. 8-18. Removal of junk vehicles--Generally.

It shall be the duty of the owner of a junk vehicle to remove such vehicle when so informed by the Mayor, Town Council or town marshal, and if such person shall refuse or fail to remove such junk vehicle, he shall be served with a certified letter as notice requiring removal of such vehicle within twenty days from the date of such notice.

Sec. 8-19. Same--Purpose.

The purpose of removing junk vehicles is to primarily safeguard the health, welfare and safety of the community.

Sec. 8-20. Removal of unattended vehicles generally.

It shall be the duty of the owner of an unattended vehicle to immediately remove such vehicle when so informed by the Mayor, Town Council or town marshal, and if such person shall refuse or fail to remove such vehicle, he shall be served with a certified letter as notice requiring removal of such vehicle within thirty-six hours of such notice.

Sec. 8-21. Failure to comply with notices; removal by town; special bill for vehicle removal.

Upon failure to comply with notices as required by this article, the town may hire someone to remove such vehicles or otherwise see to it that such vehicles are removed, charging the cost thereof as a special bill for vehicle removal. Should such bill not be paid promptly, the same shall be marked overdue and turned over to the town attorney for whatever action becomes necessary for collection.

Sec. 8-22. Penalty.

Any person responsible for failure to comply with the provisions of this article shall, in addition to the expense provided in section 8-21, be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) for each offense, and each time the owner of any vehicle allows such vehicle to be classified as junk or unattended shall constitute a separate offense. Payment of the penalty as herein required shall not relieve such violator from paying the expenses hereinbefore stipulated.

Sec. 8-23. Removal of Junk Vehicle and Imposition of Associated Costs.

The Town of Meeteetse is authorized to take into custody abandoned or junk motor vehicles and parts or remains thereof which are nuisances and are on public streets or alleys and:

- (a) Remove and store the vehicles or parts at the expense of the owner; and
- (b) Permit redemption of the vehicles or parts; and
- (c) If not redeemed after giving public notice of ten (10) days to sell the vehicles or parts without warranty; and
- (d) To pay the expenses from the sale; and
- (e) After lapse of ninety days (90), to deposit unclaimed proceeds from the sale of vehicles or parts into the general fund of the Town of Meeteetse.

As to general penalty for violations of Code, see Section 1-6 of this Code. As to actions for penalties or fines, see Section 1-7.

Article V. Speed Limits Within Town.

Sec. 8-24. Speed limits.

(a) Every person operating a motor vehicle or other vehicle on the streets, alleys, or highways of the Town shall drive the same in a careful and prudent manner at a rate of speed not greater than is reasonable, proper and safe, having due regard to the width, grade, curve, corner, traffic, and intended use and condition of the street, and all other attendant circumstances so as not to endanger the life of limb or property of any person or animal.

(b) Where no special hazard exists that requires lower speed for compliance with regard to section (a) hereof, the following shall apply:

1. Any speed in excess of the limits specified in this section or established as hereinafter authorized shall be *prima facie* evidence that the speed is not reasonable or prudent and that is unlawful:

- i. 20 miles per hour in a residential district.
- ii. 15 miles per hour when passing a school building or the grounds thereof or at a school crossing if appropriate signs giving notice of the crossing are erected.

2. In driving upon, in, or through any alley or other access way dividing any block within the Town, no motor vehicle or other vehicle shall exceed the rate of speed of 15 miles per hour. (Ord. No. 2007-03)