

Ordinance # 2002-4-1 Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles

2002-4-1

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATV'S) UPON ALL PUBLIC STREETS, ALLEYS, SIDEWALKS, PARKING LOTS, AND ANY AND ALL OTHER GOVERNMENTALLY OWNED, LEASED OR OTHERWISE CONTROLLED PROPERTY WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ROMNEY; AND MAKING SUCH PROHIBITED OPERATION OF ATV'S A CRIMINAL OFFENSE AND PROVIDING SPECIFIC PENALTIES THEREFOR

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 8, Article 12, Paragraph (1) of the West Virginia Code, as amended, municipal corporations have plenary power and authority to keep and maintain public streets, avenues, roads, alleys, and sidewalks free from obstructions, and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 8, Article 12, Section 5, Paragraph (4) of the West Virginia Code, as amended, municipal corporations have plenary power and authority to regulate the use of streets, avenues, roads, alleys, ways, sidewalks, crosswalks, and public places belonging to the municipality, and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 8, Article 12, Section 5, Paragraph (13) of the West Virginia Code, as amended, municipal corporations have plenary power and authority to prevent injury or annoyance to the public or individuals from anything dangerous, offensive or unwholesome, and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 8, Article 12, Section 5, Paragraph (57) of the West Virginia code, as amended, municipal corporations have plenary power and authority to provide penalties for the offenses and violations of law set forth in Chapter 8, Article 12, Section 5 of the West Virginia Code, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, numerous incidents have been observed by, or otherwise reported to municipal authorities, and particularly the City of Romney Police Department, involving the operation of all-terrain vehicles (ATV's) upon the public streets, alleys, sidewalks, parking lots, and other public owned; leased or controlled property; and,

WHEREAS, these incidents frequently have posed concerns for the safety and well-being of (1) individuals operating ATV's, (2) individuals operating other permitted and license vehicles, and/or (3) pedestrians; and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Romney has determined that in order to best protect the safety, health and general-well-being of all those individuals described within (1), (2) and (3) of the immediately foregoing paragraph, i.e., individuals operating ATV's, individuals operating other permitted and licensed vehicles, and pedestrians; that the operation of all ATV's upon the streets, alleys, sidewalks, parking lots and other governmentally owned, leased or otherwise controlled property situated within the corporate limits of Romney should be banned and prohibited altogether, and further that such activity should be criminalized with the imposition of progressive fines against those individuals operating ATV's in prohibited areas.

Ordinance # 2002-4-1 Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles

THIS ORDINANCE IS ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROMNEY TO CONTROL THE OPERATION OF ATV'S IN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ROMNEY

As pursuant to Chapter 8, Article 12 Sections 5, Para 1, 4, 13, 57 of the West Virginia Code.

Now, therefore, be it ordained and enacted by the Council of the City of Romney, as follows:

FIRST (A) The riding, operation or other use of ATV's within or upon the streets, alleys, sidewalks, parking lots and other governmentally owned, leased or controlled property situated within the corporate limits of Romney is prohibited, except as authorized pursuant to Article "Second" hereof.

(B) Any violation of Article "First", Paragraph "A" hereof, constitutes the commission of a misdemeanor criminal offense, and the Council hereby specifically authorizes, empowers and directs all officers of the City of Romney's Police Department, or any other officer of any other police agency exercising proper jurisdiction within the corporate limits of the City of Romney, to issue a citation and charge any person whom-so-ever violates the ATV ban and prohibition thereof, with jurisdiction of the matter belonging to the Municipal Court of the City of Romney.

(C) Any person adjudged guilty and convicted of any first offense established hereunder by the Municipal Court, shall be subject to a fine of not less than Twenty-five (\$25.00) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), plus all Court costs.

(D) Any person adjudged guilty and convicted of any second or future offenses established hereunder by the Municipal Court, shall be subject of a fine of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), plus all court costs.

SECOND: (A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Ordinance, it shall not be an offense for any person licensed to operate a motor vehicle within the State of West Virginia, to ride, operate or otherwise use an ATV upon any private property located within the corporate limits of the City of Romney.

(B) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Ordinance, it shall not be an offense for any person licensed to operate a motor vehicle within the State of West Virginia, to ride, operate or otherwise use an ATV upon the designated parade route, when such person is duly registered and recognized participant of such activities sponsoring parades recognized and approved by the Council of the City of Romney, provided that such ATV riding, operation or other such use occurs in conjunction with the recognized and approved activity.

Ordinance # 2002-4-1 Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles

(C) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Ordinance, it shall not be an offense for any person licensed to operate a motor vehicle within the State of West Virginia, to ride, operate or otherwise use an ATV upon property otherwise restricted from such use, when such person is a participant in a duly organized exhibition or competition, authorized by the Council of the City of Romney through the issuance of a permit by the City Council. Application for any permit to conduct any such duly organized exhibition or competition must be made with the Council of the City of Romney not less than thirty (30) days prior to the proposed date for conducting the exhibition or competition.

THIRD: Nothing contained within this Ordinance is intended, nor shall be construed so as to create or form the basis for any civil or administrative liability whosoever on the part of the City of Romney, or any of its officers, official, employees or agents, for any injury or damage resulting to any person whomsoever as a consequence of any action or inaction of the part of the City of Romney as related in any manner to the enforcement or non-enforcement of this Ordinance by the City's officers, official, employees or agents.

FOURTH; The parent or other guardian of any person not having attained the age of eighteen (18) years shall not authorize or knowingly permit any such minor to violate any provision hereof. Any such authorization or knowingly permitting any such minor to violate the provisions of this Ordinance shall constitute a criminal violation hereof, and shall subject such parent or other guardian, along with any minor violating the provisions hereof, to those same criminal sanctions set forth in Article "SECOND" hereof.

FIFTH; The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and in the event that any provision or part hereof shall be held invalid for any reason by any Court exercising competent jurisdiction, then such invalidity shall not be deemed to affect or impair any of the other provisions or parts of this Ordinance not specifically held to be invalid. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the City Council that this Ordinance would have been adopted if any such invalid provision or part hereof had not been included herein.

SIXTH; This Ordinance shall be deemed effective upon Third reading, passage and adoption by the council of the City of Romney.

FIRST READING April 1, 2002

SECOND READING April 16, 2002

THIRD READING May 6, 2002

APPROVED BY COUNCIL April 6, 2002

APPROVED Ray S. Shugart 5-7-02
Mayor (date)

Jeff Napier 5/7/2
Recorder (date)