

## **May 2020 Law of the Month**

Sec. 6-9. - Animals running at large.

(a) No person having in his possession or ownership any animal or fowl shall allow the same to run at large within the village. The owner of any animal, whether licensed or unlicensed, shall keep his animal tied or enclosed in a proper enclosure so as not to allow said animal to interfere with the passing public or neighbors. Any animal running at large shall be seized and impounded by an animal control or law enforcement officer.

(b) A dog or cat shall not be considered to be running at large if it is on a leash and under control of a person physically able to control it or is trained and in the immediate company of a person to which it immediately responds and obeys (e.g., a dog playing a game of fetch in a field, or walking alongside its owner or a member of the owner's immediate family) if such person is over the age of 12 years.

(c) Owner's liability for damage caused by dogs; penalties. The provisions of Wis. Stats. § 174.02, relating to the owner's liability for damage caused by dog or cats together with the penalties therein set forth are hereby adopted and incorporated herein.

Brooklyn Police Department

## **April 2020 Law of the Month**

**Sec. 32-48. – Zoned and Posted Speed Limits**

What Are School Zones?

School zones are areas around schools where the posted speed limit is lowered in order to protect children. Areas for school zones typically include:

- Streets directly adjacent to a school
- Intersections near a school
- Crosswalks in the vicinity of a school

In most states, the speed limit in a school zone will only be lower during hours when students are going to and from school. However, some states require motorists to reduce speeds when passing schools, no matter what time of day.

SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT signs are used to establish speed zones near schools which may not be directly adjacent to the school property, or which may have a different speed limit than the standard 15 mph set by state statute. Unless posted otherwise, the speed limit on a street adjacent to a school is set by state statute at 15 mph. This limit applies when children are going to or from school or are playing within the sidewalk area, or at an intersection marked with a SCHOOL CROSSING sign. The SCHOOL ADVANCE WARNING sign also identifies an area where the school zone speed limit is in effect provided children are present.

### **Wisconsin State Statute 346.57(4)**

**(4) FIXED LIMITS.** In addition to complying with the speed restrictions imposed by subs. (2) and (3), no person shall drive a vehicle at a speed in excess of the following limits unless different limits are indicated by official traffic signs:

**(a)** Fifteen miles per hour when passing a schoolhouse at those times when children are going to or from school or are playing within the sidewalk area at or about the school.

**(b)** Fifteen miles per hour when passing an intersection or other location properly marked with a "school crossing" sign of a type approved by the department when any of the following conditions exists:

1. Any child is present.

2. A school crossing guard is within a crosswalk at the intersection or the other location or, if no crosswalk exists, is in the roadway at the intersection or the other location.

3. A school crossing guard is placing in or removing from the roadway at or near the intersection or the other location a temporary sign or device that guides, warns, or regulates traffic.

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### **March 2020 Law of the Month**

#### **Sec. 32-51. - Operating of snow removal vehicles on public streets.**

A person may operate an ATV or "skid steer" with a snow removal device attached for snow removal purposes and under the following conditions:

(1) On a public sidewalk, speed may not exceed 5 mph.

(2) On or adjacent to a roadway which is not a freeway, speed may not exceed 15 mph.

(3) Only on roadways where the motor vehicle speed limit is 45 mph or less.

(4) Only on the far right side of the road.

(5) On roads that are posted ATV routes and currently open to ATV use.

(6) The operator must be 16 years or older and if born after December 31, 1987, a valid ATV safety certificate is required.

(7) Only between October 1 and April 30 for the purpose of removing snow.

(8) For a distance not to exceed two miles from the original starting or unloading point.

(9) Displaying one or more illuminated, yellow lights that are flashing or rotating and visible for 360 degrees.

(10) Operator shall wear an ANSI Class 2 Hi-Visibility vest/coat.

(11) Headlights are required to be on at all times while operating on the road. Operators must be certain the snow removal equipment does not interfere with the legal lighting requirements.

(12) This section pertains to village controlled streets only.

Brooklyn Police Department

## **February 2020 Law of the Month**

### **TRAFFIC RULES AND VEHICLE OPERATION**

Sec. 32-48. - Zoned and posted speed limits.

Fixed limits; limits on specific streets, roads, and highways. No person shall drive a vehicle within the village boundary at a speed in excess of 25 miles per hour unless different limits are indicated by official traffic signs. The speed limit on the following streets, roads, or highways, within the village, shall be as follows:

- (1) State Highway 92:
  - a. Twenty-five miles per hour from its intersection with Union Road (West Main Street) through Commercial Street;
  - b. Twenty-five miles per hour beginning at Church Street to the village eastern boundary;
  - c. The speed limit on all other portions of State Highway 92 within the corporate limits of the village (west of the intersection with Union Road) shall be 55 miles per hour.
- (2) State Highway 104 (South Rutland Avenue): 25 miles per hour.
- (3) County Highway MM (North Rutland Avenue): 25 miles per hour.
- (4) S First St. (South of St. Hwy. 92) to Legion Park: 15 miles per hour.
- (5) All Village Park roadways: 15 miles per hour.

(Ord. of 2-9-1998, § 32.03; Ord. of 7-13-2015(1), § 32.03; Ord. of 9-11-2017(1))

**State Law reference**— Speed restrictions, reasonable and prudent limit, Wis. Stats. § 346.57.

Brooklyn Police Department

## **January 2020 Law of the Month**

### **Are drivers on highways required to make room for merging vehicles?**

While merging from a ramp onto a multiple-lane highway, it certainly helps when drivers on the main freeway move over a lane so you can get into the flow of traffic more easily. But, are drivers on the main freeway required by law to change lanes and provide a clear path for merging vehicles?

“As a matter of courtesy and safety, we encourage drivers on multiple lane highways to change lanes if possible or adjust their speed so that merging vehicles can get into the

traffic flow quickly. However, drivers merging from a ramp onto a highway should be aware that vehicles on the main freeway are not legally required to move over for merging vehicles.”

Here are a few suggestions for merging onto highways smoothly:

- Enter the freeway from the ramp at or near the speed of freeway traffic.
- Use your turn signals.
- Do not stop while merging unless absolutely necessary.
- Don't try to squeeze into a gap in traffic that won't provide room to react.
- If you have to cross several lanes of traffic, cross them one at a time.

Merging onto a highway can be stressful when traffic is heavy and moving rapidly. Drivers trying to merge should pay strict attention to the traffic flow and be prepared to adjust their speed. But don't expect that the drivers on the main freeway will necessarily move over for a merging vehicle.

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