

PORTSMOUTH TAXI COMMISSION
Minutes of the August 19, 2002 meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sanford called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Officials and Ex-Officio's Present: Chair Sanford, Members Daggett, Bresciano, Whitehouse Feehley, and Lt. Winsor.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 17, 2002

Frank Daggett moved to accept the minutes of the June 17, 2002 Taxi Commission Meeting. Councilor Whitehouse seconded the motion, voted all in favor.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Letter from Paul Poulin, Issue with Inspections

Chair Sanford requested Lt. Winsor to speak on this matter. Lt. Winsor explained the ordinance and that the dates are established based upon the availability at the city garage.

Peter Bresciano moved to place on file. Frank Daggett seconded the motion.

Frank Daggett said that we should not adjust the inspections because seven years ago we had a lot of taxi issues and now we are in fine shape.

Jim Feehley suggests that we give timeframes per taxi company.

Motion passes, voted all in favor.

B. Smoking in Taxis

Frank Daggett said that he is on the road frequently and sees many people smoking in taxicabs. He gave a few examples of what he sees. He stressed the owners to advise the drivers to follow state law.

C. Dress Code for Drivers

Frank Daggett feels that drivers should be appropriately dressed. He presented an example of a driver wearing a tank top, shorts, and sandals and feels that it is not appropriate dress for serving the public.

D. Meters Outside City Limits

Frank Daggett asked the company owners if they use the meters outside of city limits. The majority said that they do use the meter for fair charges.

Chair Sanford said that the meter is for use in the city only.

Peter Bresciano said that if the meter is not used then the public is not receiving a fare charge.

Jim Feehley agreed with Peter Bresciano.

Frank Daggett said it was an informational request and he has no concerns with using the meters.

E. Letter from Lisa Crowell, Medallion Request

Frank Daggett moved to accept the request of Lisa Crowell, Pioneer Taxi, for an additional medallion. Councilor Whitehouse seconded the motion, voted all in favor.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Taxicabs in Alley (not on agenda)

Frank Daggett said that he noted that there is limousine parking outside of the Sheraton Hotel. He feels that if they are able to park in public view then so should taxicabs. He requested Councilor Whitehouse to address this issue with the City Council and the Traffic and Safety Committee.

Councilor Whitehouse explained the new ordinance that will be finalized at this evenings meeting which addresses this matter.

B. Inspections

Lt. Winsor presented the June results of inspections. He explained that four cabs failed and three were very minor issues. He explained that three vehicles were fixed within the day. The fourth vehicle was fixed within the weekend.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Peter Bresciano moved to adjourn at 9:30 a.m. Frank Daggett seconded the motion, voted all in favor.

Minutes taken and typed by: B. Christopher Maxwell, Deputy City Clerk