

TAXI COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes of the November 19, 2012 meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bresciano called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Present: Members: Commissioners Peter Bresciano, Aaron Lawson and Paul Ford, Councilor Brad Lown, Lieutenant Mark Newport and Deputy City Clerk Dianne M. Kirby

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 17, 2012

Commissioner Ford moved to approve and accept the minutes of the September 17, 2012, Taxi Commission meeting. Seconded by Lieutenant Newport and voted.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2013 Schedule of Taxi Commission Meetings

Deputy City Clerk Kirby passed out the proposed meeting calendar for the 2013 Taxi Commission year. Chair Bresciano asked if there were any problems with the scheduled for the 2013 Taxi Commission meeting.

Councilor Lown moved to approve and accept the proposed 2013 Schedule of Taxi Commission meetings. Seconded by Commissioner Ford and voted.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Report Back on Rockingham Livery Insurance (City Attorney Sullivan)

Chair Bresciano stated City Attorney Sullivan was on vacation and Assistant City Attorney Woodland was unavailable to attend the meeting.

Councilor Lown moved to table the Report back on Rockingham Livery Insurance until the December meeting. Seconded by Lieutenant Newport and voted.

2. Annie's Taxi Address Update

Deputy City Clerk Kirby stated that after the last meeting in September, Ms. McGuire came into the office to say she had moved and that she did get her license changed to reflect the new address. Ms. McGuire's taxi information was corrected to match her current address as stated on her New Hampshire driver's license. Chair Bresciano stated this finalizes this issued.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Police Liaison Report

Lieutenant Newport stated on November 18, 2012 a taxi driver called to say there was a mini van that looked to be picking up fares. Police were dispatched, but could not find the vehicle. Chair Bresciano asked Lieutenant Newport to have his officer's keep a look out for this vehicle. Lieutenant Newport stated they would.

Councilor Lown moved to accept the police report and place it on file. Seconded by Commissioner Lawson and voted.

2. Taxi Liaison Position (not on the agenda)

Commissioner Ford stated he has been the Taxi Liaison to the Taxi Commission for three years and feels the Commission would benefit from the election of a new liaison. He stated he has enjoyed his time on the board, but stated with the last liaison, Jim Feehley and himself both from Blue Star Taxi, he feels another company should be given the chance to serve. He stated the job requires a balance between the Commission and the owners. Councilor Lown stated the ordinance states the position of Taxi Liaison is open to any individual who is actively engaged in the taxi business. He asked if this means the liaison could be a driver. Chair Bresciano stated the liaison can be anyone who is actively engaged in the taxi business; owner, driver, dispatcher or administrative support for the company. He said anyone who wishes to apply for the position should notify their company owner and submit their name. He stated a board of the taxi owners would then make their selection and present their candidate to the Taxi Commission at the January 22, 2013 meeting. He stated the Commission would then submit this candidate to the City Council for approval.

Chair Bresciano requested Deputy City Clerk Kirby send a letter to all taxi owners with this information and request they post the notice for a taxi liaison and place it on the agenda for the January 22, 2013 meeting. Deputy City Clerk Kirby stated she would.

3. Rockingham Taxi Complaint (not on the agenda)

Stephen Gerrato, Rockingham Taxi stated Portsmouth Taxi has six medallions, but he has never seen six vehicles being used. He requested the Commission review Portsmouth Taxi's insurance to insure all taxi medallions are insured. Deputy City Clerk Kirby stated all Portsmouth Taxi's are insured as required by the ordinance at the time the medallions were issued. She further stated she has not received any cancellation notices from the insurance company. She stated the City is listed on the policy as additionally insured and is notified whenever a change is made to the policy.

Mr Gerrato stated the rules state if a vehicle is not used within a 30 day period, they have to turn in the medallion. Commissioner Ford stated he could use a vehicle one night and not use it the rest of the month and he is fine. Chair Bresciano stated that rule largely pertains to if the

vehicle is off the road for maintenance for more than 30 days. He stated the Commission does not have the manpower to follow everyone taxis around to insure they are all on the road on a daily basis. Chair Bresciano explained to Mr. Gerrato that if he would like to check the insurance policy to insure Portsmouth Taxi's are insured, he can go to the City Clerk's office and review their insurance certificates.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:35 a.m. Councilor Lown moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Lawson and voted.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dianne M. Kirby

Dianne M. Kirby, Deputy City Clerk