

TAXI COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes of the December 17, 2012 meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bresciano called the meeting to order at 9:09 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 NOVEMBER 19, 2012

Commissioner Ford moved to approve and accept the minutes of the November 19, 2012, Taxi Commission meeting. Seconded by Lieutenant Newport and voted.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. New Years Eve

Chair Bresciano requested how many cabs would be out on New Years Eve. Sunshine Taxi, Blue Star Taxi and Rockingham Livery stated they would be out in force. Chair Bresciano requested the taxi owners inform their drivers to report any problems or unauthorized taxies to the Police Department immediately and not wait until the next meeting. Stephen Gerrato, Rockingham Livery stated there are unauthorized taxies out all the time.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Report Back on Rockingham Livery Insurance

Chair Bresciano stated City Attorney Sullivan reviewed Mr. Gerrato's insurance and stated it was fine. Commissioner Ford stated the insurance underwriter has to be aware that Mr. Gerrato is operating a taxi business. Mr. Gerrato, Rockingham Livery said he never told his insurance company he was a livery business and he has always stated he was a taxi business.

Councilor Lown moved to place the letter on file. Seconded by Commissioner Lawson and voted.

2. Taxi Liaison Position

Chair Bresciano ask Deputy City Clerk Kirby if she received any nominations for the position. Deputy City Clerk Kirby stated she has not. Chair Bresciano stated the chair can be vacant, but it is to the benefit of the taxi community to have a representative on the board. He stated the position does not have to be filled by an owner. He said a driver is also qualified. Commissioner Ford stated the January 22, 2013 meeting would be his last meeting.

Councilor Lown moved to table this matter until the January 22, 2013 meeting. Seconded by Lieutenant Newport and voted.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Police Liaison Report

Lieutenant Newport stated he had one complaint about a Portsmouth Taxi that didn't have a license plate. He stated they have a plate on order and they are legal and one complaint of a car parked in a taxi space.

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

Stephen Gerrato, Rockingham Livery asked why the complaint regarding his insurance policy was investigated and his complaint was blown off. Commissioner Ford stated the City Attorney has ruled that the Commission does not have the manpower to pull everyone's records to see if they are following all the law. He stated if Mr. Gerrato feels there is a problem; it should be reported to the Department of Labor. Mr. Gerrato, Rockingham Livery stated he has reported it and they are not doing anything. Commissioner Ford stated if the Department of Labor has been informed, they will not let go of it. He stated, in fact they will check into others. Lieutenant Newport stated the Commission is not here to micro manage the taxi companies. He said the Commission is there to protect the safety of the residents and visitors.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 a.m. Councilor Lown moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Ford and voted.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dianne M. Kirby

Dianne M. Kirby, Deputy City Clerk