

TAXI COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
Minutes of the January 25, 2013 meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bresciano called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

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

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 22, 2013

Lieutenant Newport moved to approve and accept the minutes of the January 22, 2013, Taxi Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Lawson and voted.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Letter of Medallion Transfer – Blue Star Taxi

Chair Bresciano stated he has a letter of Medallion Transfer from Harrison Global. He stated Harrison Global has purchased Blue Star Taxi from Paul Ford and is requesting to transfer the Medallions. He stated Mr. Cipullo; General Manager is present for any questions.

Councilor Lown asked Mr. Cipullo if he was employed by Harrison Global. Mr. Cipullo stated he worked for Blue Star and was hired by Harrison Global as their General Manager. Councilor Lown asked if all operations are legal. Mr. Cipullo stated they were. Councilor Lown asked if Harrison Global is a solvent company. Mr. Cipullo stated they are.

Councilor Lown moved to approve the transfer of the medallions held by Paul Ford in the name of Blue Star to Harrison Global. Seconded by Lieutenant Newport and voted.

2. Request for a Medallion – Robert Gaskill

Chair Bresciano stated we have a request for a medallion from Robert Gaskill. He said Mr. Gaskill has formed a company named BobKat Transportation LLC, and requests one medallion for a 6 passenger 2007 Dodge Caravan.

Councilor Lown moved to approve the request for a medallion from Mr. Gaskill subject to ordinance requirements. Seconded by Commissioner Lawson and voted.

3. Election of Officers

Councilor Lown requested if Peter Bresciano would accept the nomination of Chair for another term. Commissioner Bresciano stated he would.

Councilor Lown moved to nominate Commissioner Bresciano as Chair for the Taxi Commission. Seconded by Lieutenant Newport and voted.

4. Taxi Inspection and Inspection

Deputy City Clerk Kirby reminded everyone that the annual vehicle inspections are in April and everyone should start now to insure their vehicles are up to guidelines prior to the inspection. She stated an inspection date has not yet been scheduled, but will be sometime in April. Lieutenant Newport stated he would schedule the inspection and notify Deputy City Clerk Kirby who will, in turn, notify the taxi companies. Lieutenant Newport stated the inspection last year went very well with only minor discrepancies which were repaired and reinspected the same day. Chair Bresciano stated the annual inspection is done by police officers who are certified by the State. Mr. Gerrato requested the inspection not be held on a Friday. Lieutenant Newport stated he can't guarantee that won't happen. He stated the inspection has to be coordinated with the Public Works Department and the police officers involved and when all is available, that is when the inspection will be held. He stated it was on a Friday last year and there weren't any problems. He said as long as the companies keep their vehicle in good working order, minor repairs can be fixed and reinspected the same day and all vehicles will be on the road for the weekend.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Taxi Commission Position – Daniel Bigda

Chair Bresciano stated Daniel Bigda has submitted an application to serve on the Taxi Commission. Chair Bresciano summarized Mr. Bigda resume stating he has been a driver for Blue Star as well as other taxi companies within the City and is a retired Portsmouth Police Officer.

Chair Bresciano stated if Mr. Bigda was approved, he would be added as a member at large and should the taxi companies desire they can appoint him as their liaison at a future date.

Councilor Lown moved to accept the application for Mr. Daniel Bigda to serve as a member of the Taxi Commission. Seconded by Lieutenant Newport and voted.

Chair Bresciano explained that the application will go before the City Council for consideration at the first meeting in February and be voted on at the second meeting in February.

2. Taxi Commission Position – Robert Gaskill (not on the agenda)

Councilor Lown moved to accept the application for Mr. Gaskill to serve as a member of the Taxi Commission. Seconded by Lieutenant Newport.

Commissioner Lawson stated Mr. Gaskill's resume shows he has moved from company to company and asked Mr. Gaskill why this was so. Mr. Gaskill stated he is uncomfortable when things are done incorrectly. He said when things are done incorrectly he has to move on. He stated the best company he has worked for was Rockingham Livery. He said he wants to work for himself where he can best serve the City by working the hours the other taxis are not available. Commissioner Lawson asked if he would be able to balance a new company and serve on the Taxi Commission and give both his best. Mr. Gaskill stated he can.

Motion passed.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Police Liaison Report

Lieutenant Newport stated there were no incidents involving taxis this month. Chair Bresciano asked about New Year's Eve. Lieutenant Newport stated New Year's Eve went smoothly and there were no issues.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dianne M. Kirby

Dianne M. Kirby, Deputy City Clerk