

TAXI COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes of the April 18, 2011 meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frank Daggett called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Present: Members: Chair Frank Daggett; Commissioners James Feehley, Peter Bresciano and Paul Ford, Captain Michael Schwartz, and Deputy City Clerk Dianne M. Kirby

Absent: Councilor Lister (excused) and Lieutenant Newport (excused)

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 21, 2011

Commissioner Feehley moved to approve and accept the minutes of the March 21, 2011, Taxi Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Ford and voted.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appeal of Suspension of Taxi Operators License – Donald Robinson

Chair Daggett called Mr. Donald Robinson to the table. Mr. Robinson was not in attendance.

2. Appeal of Suspension of Taxi Operators License – James S. Downs

Chair Daggett called Mr. James Downs to the table. Mr. Downs was not in attendance.

3. Appeal of Suspension of Taxi Operators License – Brian Schneider

Chair Daggett called Mr. Brian Schneider to the table. Mr. Schneider stated he attended a class from the NH Traffic Safety Institute and was told this would remove the conviction from his records. Captain Schwartz stated it removes the points on his license, but not the conviction itself. Mr. Schneider stated that is not what he was told. Chair Daggett told Mr. Schneider to get a letter from the individual stating the class would remove the conviction as well as the points and the Commission will review it. Mr. Schneider further stated one of the other convictions to his license was for wrong plates on a vehicle he was driving that was not his car. He stated his girlfriend had bought a car and he was driving it. He said the vehicle had dealer's plates and he was pulled over and sited. Captain Schwartz stated misuse of plates is one of the gray areas of the ordinance in that it can be seen as both a moving violation or not. Commissioner Bresciano suggested Mr. Schneider come back at the next meeting with

documentation on both citations and the Commission will make their decision at that time. Mr. Schneider stated he would like to come back on May 16, 2011 with his appeal.

Commissioner Bresciano moved to table Item 3 until the May 16, 2011 Taxi Commission meeting to allow Mr. Schneider to prepare his case. Seconded by Commissioner Ford and voted.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Taxi Inspections

Chair Daggett stated with three weeks notice of this inspection, there should be not violations.

Stephen Gerrato, Rockingham Livery asked if a plug in a tire would pass inspection. Captain Schwartz stated it would as long as it was within the normal maintenance and safety standards.

2. Taxi Renewal Licenses and Medallions

Chair Daggett asked how the renewal of licenses and medallions was going. Deputy City Clerk Kirby stated she had all the taxi medallions issued. She stated she had not received the renewal licenses from NH Checker Cab, but everyone else is completed. She stated she has sent him e-mails and told him he needs to get them in. Commissioner Ford stated he thought all license renewals were supposed to be completed by April 1, 2011. Deputy City Clerk Kirby stated because of the ordinance change, their present licenses are paid through June and therefore, are still valid. She stated this will not happen next year because everyone will be on the same 12 month schedule. Chair Daggett stated he will contact Mr. Nunez, NH Checker Cab and get him to renew their licenses.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Police Liaison Report

Captain Schwartz stated there were no incidents or complaints to report for this period.

Commissioner Bresciano stated prior to the meeting there was discussion about split metering and he would like to know how that worked. Merle White, Anchor Taxi stated that was when a taxi owner splits the meter with the driver. He stated if the fare is \$25.00, the driver puts \$12.50 into the box for the owner and pockets \$12.50 for himself. Stephen Gerrato, Rockingham Livery stated this is sub-contracting and the driver is not covered under the company's insurance or is considered an employee of the company. Chair Daggett stated he has discussed this with City Attorney Sullivan and he is researching the issue and will bring it back to the Commission when he has an answer. Commissioner Bresciano asked Commissioner Ford if he would do this. Commissioner Ford stated he would not want the risks this would cause.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:35 a.m. Commissioner Feehley moved to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Ford and voted.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dianne M. Kirby, Deputy City Clerk