

**Taxicab Board Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2010**

Members Present: Sarah Singleton Tom Crawford
 Barbara Krick Tom Oldakowski
 Stephen Kunselman

Members Absent: Douglas Chapman

Guests:

Officer Bill Clock, AADP
William Kelsay, Blue Cab
Nasar Khan, A One Cab
Mihnea Olteanu, Yellow Cab
Tim Tobias, Michigan Green Cabs
Rick Clark, Amazing Blue
Merlyn Wade, Ann Arbor Taxi Transport
Betty Saleh, Select Ride
Crystal Lewis

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m. by Barbara Krick.

Sarah Singleton added an additional item to the agenda under New Business – Approval of a new cab from Select Ride.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Taxicab Board meeting minutes, April 22, 2010 with correction to Public Commentary section, 1st paragraph 1st sentence, the word cab should be cabs; 2nd paragraph last sentence, the word cab should be cabs; and the 3rd paragraph 2nd sentence, the word city should be cities.

Stephen Kunselman moved to approve the minutes of April 22, 2010 with corrections, Tom Oldakowski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Approval of A One Cab Company Application – A One Cab Company Application was tabled at the April 22, 2010 meeting to allow the company owner to change the color lettering on his vehicle. Originally, A One Cab had the same blue lettering as Metro Taxi. The color has been changed to black lettering and has changed the style of the logo as well.

Stephen Kunselman moved to approve A One Cab company application, Tom Oldakowski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Taxicab Company Application

- a. A-1 Airport Car's Company Application (MI Taxi) – The name on the cab will be MI Taxi as they will be operating under this name. Officer Clock reported that the company location will be 1717 South State which is the same address as Metro Airport Taxi is using to satisfy the 5 mile within the city limits rule.

Stephen Kunselman moved to approve A-1 Airport Car's company application, Tom Oldakowski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

1. Appeals

- a. William Kelsay – Officer Clock received Mr. Kelsay's application with his driving record that shows a violation of Section No. 257.625 which is the drunk driving ordinance. He was found guilty of operating with the present of drugs which is under the drunk driving statute on October 28, 2009 in Novi, Michigan which is within the two year period that violates the City Ordinance. The restriction will be lifted October 2011. Officer Clock said he received a few requests from colleagues to approve Mr. Kelsay's appeal because of their involvement with him in the past.

Stephen Kunselman moved to approve William Kelsay's appeal pending attorney's verification of authorization of the Board to override the Ordinance, Tom Oldakowski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- b. Mihnea Olteanu – Officer Clock received Mr. Olteanu application and driving record that showed he was convicted on January 25, 2010 of operating while impaired by liquor in Chelsea, Michigan. The incident occurred in July 2009. The conviction was within the two year Ordinance violation period and the application was denied. Several notations were noted on his driving record but nothing related to alcohol. Mr. Olteanu said that this was an isolated incident. He said that he has stopped drinking since the offense and has had counseling. Prior to this offense, he did not have any points on his license and have not received any tickets.

Stephen Kunselman moved to approve Mihnea Olteanu's appeal pending attorney's review, Tom Oldakowski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. Approval of New Application for New Cab for Select Ride – Select Ride would like to add a new cab into their fleet to operate under “Checker Blue Top Cab”.

Stephen Kunselman moved to approve Select Ride’s application for a new cab to be added and operated as Checker Blue Top Cab. Tom Oldakowski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. Other Business

Tom Crawford followed up from our last meeting regarding the legality hailing cabs. In research, there was no basis for this urban legend.

Discussion was also held on double parking in front of downtown bars. DDA had recently expressed desire to change the way we handle taxicab stands. Mr. Crawford followed up with the DDA and expressed the comments from the Board meeting and asked if they would address the issue. The DDA has a number of committees that indicated they would be happy to look into this issue as they work with other issues concerning downtown transportation.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Merlyn Wade asked if limos and taxis can be dual stickered. Officer Clock said that the City Ordinance states that they cannot be dual stickered. City Taxi Ordinance, Section 7:172 Prohibited conduct, states in addition to other prohibited conduct specified in this chapter, no person shall (1) Operate or permit the operation of a taxicab that is held out to the public as a limousine and (2) Operate or permit the operation of a vehicle as a taxicab if a certificate of authority has been issued under the Limousine Transportation Act, MCL 257.1901, et seq. for the vehicle.

Mr. Wade also asked if the Ordinance as stated apply to vehicles being tagged in multiple cities. Officer Clock said the ordinance does not state anything about being tagged in multiple cities. It does, however, state that it is prohibited to operate a taxicab and charge a fare more than the amount calculated by the taximeter installed in the taxicab. Tom Crawford said that there are requirements for how fares are advertised if the vehicle is tagged in multiple cities. The city of Ann Arbor rates should be advertised inside the vehicle.

Mr. Wade asked about the three inch lettering standard. Officer Clock referred to City Ordinance Section 7:173 that describe the business identification standards for taxicabs that operate within the city.

Additional comments were made by Mr. Wade and a driver from Select Ride saying that there is an increase in vehicles in Ann Arbor that have the word “taxi” on the vehicle and are operating as a limousine. Mr. Wade said that the limousine statute says that you cannot have “taxi” written on the vehicle if you

have a limousine sticker. Mr. Wade questioned the enforcement of these vehicles. Officer Clock said that city can enforce depending on the number of officers available.

Other Business

ADJOURNMENT

Stephen Kunselman moved to adjourn the meeting, supported by Tom Oldakowski. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.