Taxicab Board Meeting Minutes January 27, 2010

Members Present: Sarah Singleton Barbara Krick Stephen Kunselman Tom Oldakowski Douglas Chapman Timothy Hull Tom Crawford

Members Absent: None

Guests:

Officer Bill Clock, AADP Leonard Cobbs, Wolverine Dispatch David Reid, Select Ride/Yellow Cab Dave Butler, Word of Mouth Taxi Marty Ehman, Word of Mouth Taxi Rick Clark, Amazing Blue Taxi

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Barbara Krick.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None

TAXICAB ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

Tom Crawford addressed issues brought by the Board from the December 2010 meeting. Mr. Crawford said that staff is still working with the attorney's office on all issues.

Issue No.1: Lack of clarity on how to implement unique color schemes for various cab companies.

Mr. Crawford discussed the distinctive color scheme for cabs that operate in the city of Ann Arbor. Overhead photos were provided showing the current cab companies colors. Staff is recommending using a combination of the base color and the logo as the unique color scheme and distinctive color. Mr. Crawford also suggested that this recommendation be included in the taxicab regulation.

Issue No. 2: Single vehicle taxicab companies may not be operating in compliance with city Ordinance.

Mr. Crawford recommended that staff initiate an audit which would include sending a letter to the single vehicle owners reminding them of the city's requirement to operate 24/7 unless they meet the criteria outlined in the taxicab

Ordinance. Officer Clock will periodically spot check advertisement and make phone calls during hours or non-operation.

Issue No. 3: Discontinued taxicab services for any length of time.

Mr. Crawford recommended adoption of a regulation which clarifies the language in R7:153 to state that the taxicab Board will suspend a company license if staff can determine that a company has not operated in the city for 90 consecutive days.

Ms. Krick suggested that the days of operation be changed to 45 consecutive days. Mr. Crawford said that the language would be cleaned up and brought back to the Board at its next meeting.

Issue No. 4: Taxicab driver unprofessional and/or offensive behavior:

Mr. Crawford recommended changing taxicab regulation R7:153 – company license by stating the expectation for drivers to operate in a professional manner at all times while working and that the Taxicab Administrator should consider suspending a company license if a company's driver do not comply, at the Administrator's discretion, with the regulation.

Issue No. 5: Limousines operating as taxicabs

Staff continues to receive complaints about limousine operating in the city as taxicab. Staff is still working with the attorney's office to determine what action can be taken.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Taxicab Board meeting minutes, December 16, 2010

Ms. Krick asked that a correction be made on page 3, item 4 that states "The Board asked that staff look at taxicab company license..., should read company licenses".

Doug Chapman moved to approve the minutes of December 16, 2010 with the above correction, Tom Oldakowski seconded the motion. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Taxicab Board Meeting Schedule for 2011

Doug Chapman made a motion to approve the Taxicab Board Meeting Schedule for 2011. Tom Oldakowski seconded and the motion passed.

2. Approval of Taxicab Company Application

<u>Wolverine Dispatch</u> – Officer Clock reported that Leonard Cobbs submitted an application for a taxicab company license. Mr. Cobbs has been a licensed driver since he has been he has been assigned to the Taxicab Board. Mr. Cobb's vehicle is white with a distinctive logos if Go Blue.

Stephen Kunselman moved to approve Wolverine Dispatch company application. Doug Chapman seconded. The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

David Reid from Select Ride commented on the professional conduct issue. He said he like the idea and hope we move forward to address the problem. Mr. Reid cautioned the Board on suspending company licenses based on the driver's conduct.

ADJOURNMENT

Stephen Kunselman moved to adjourn the meeting, Tom Oldakowski seconded. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.