

City of Kenora
Minutes
Of a Committee of the Whole of Council
Taxi Licensing By-Law Review
Monday, December 14, 2009
9:30 a.m.

Present:

Mayor L. Compton, Councillor W. Cuthbert, Councillor R. McMillan, Councillor J. Parson, Councillor Van Wallegghem.

Regrets:

Councillor C. Drinkwater
Councillor D. McCann

Staff:

Bill Preisentanz, CAO, Mike Mostow, Solid Waste and Fleet Supervisor, and Heather Kasprick, Deputy Clerk.

Guests:

Ernesto Centena, Blue taxi, Kim Karst, Co-ot Taxi

A. Public Information Notices

N/A

B. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & the General Nature thereof

1) On Today's Agenda

2) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance

There were none declared.

Review of Taxi License By-Law

1. Moved by R. McMillan, Seconded by C. Van Wallegghem, and Carried:-

Recommendation:

That the following amendments be hereby approved to the Comprehensive Taxi By-law #88-2009:-

Schedule "A" – Licence Fees:

➤ ***Taxi or Limousine Driver's Licence:***

Reduce rate from: \$50 per annum to \$25 per annum, effective immediately

And further;

Schedule "B" – Licence Fees:

➤ **Rates and Fares - 2010**

Add: Rates/fares take effect and come into force on June 1, 2010; and further

That administration work with the taxi companies to review the by-law further to address the calibration of the meters; and further

That Council give three readings to a by-law to formalize these changes at Council's January 18, 2010 meeting.

Discussion:

Bill Preisentanz explained that the renewal date is January 1, 2010 to renew all taxi licenses and broker licenses. With this renewal process has brought some administrative issues forward with the existing by-law.

Currently, as the by-law stands, the rate increase reads – Rates and Fares-2010, rather than a specific date that the 2010 fares are effective. In the past, changes to rates and fares were always effective June 30th. It was agreed that Council would consider amending the by-law to define that the increase is effective June 30, 2010.

Mike Mostow addressed the issue of the calibration of the meters as this is also an annual process that must take place, and must take place when there is a fare increase in place. Mike has established a metered, staked, section on the Redditt Road to allow for accurate calibration. In his calibration tests last week there were many inaccuracies in the 24 taxi meters that were tested. There will need to be an established process put into place as according to section 10.5 of the current by-law, the City is the only party that can remove or alter a seal to a meter or make any adjustments to the meter. The current process in place with various companies from Winnipeg is not suitable and Mike will work with the Taxi Companies to establish a process for sealing and calibrating of the meters.

The issue regarding the renewal fees for drivers was addressed and discussed. Previously, through the KPS, the criminal record checks and drivers abstracts were included in the renewal cost and the drivers feel that they should not have to pay these two additional fees of \$25 and \$12 plus GST on top of the \$50 renewal fee. Bill advised Council that we do recoup all of the criminal record check revenue through the OPP and that we could reflect that on the renewal cost for the drivers.

Committee concurred the above recommendation proceed to today's Council meeting as a new item.

Adjournment

2. Moved by W. Cuthbert, Seconded by J. Parson, and Carried:-

The meeting was declared closed at 10:08 a.m.