Tuesday, March 29, 2016

Members Present: Broker Representatives:
Milton Bhangoo
Makhan Dhother
Joe Farrugia
Avtar Grewal

Plate Owner Representatives:
Louis Gotzamanis
Amarjit Grewal
Jaswant Uppal

Driver Representatives:
Daljit Gill
Rajinder Rai
Lynn Slade

Citizen Representatives:
Ravinder Chahal
Sushil Ninawat

Accessibility Advisory Committee
Representative:
Raymond Shaver

Council Member Representatives:
City Councillor P. Fortini – Wards 7 and 8
City Councillor G. Dhillon – Wards 9 and 10

Members Absent: Zafar Tariq (Plate Owner Representative)

Staff Present: Corporate Services:
John Avbar, Director, Enforcement and By-law Services
James Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement
Earl Evans, Deputy City Clerk
Sonya Pacheco, Legislative Coordinator
The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m., recessed at 3:10 p.m., reconvened at 3:19 p.m. and adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

The following motion was considered.

TC001-2016 That the agenda for the Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting of March 29, 2016 be approved as amended to add the following items:

6.4. Discussion at the request of Makhan Dhotheer, Committee Member, re: **Deferring Training for New Taxicab Drivers.**

7.1. Correspondence from Baljit Pandori, on behalf of the Board of Directors, Peel Taxi Association, dated September 18, 2015, re: **Municipal Rideshare and Unlicensed for Hire Operations.**

Carried

2. **Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act** – nil

3. **Previous Minutes** – nil

4. **Delegations/Presentations**

4.1. Presentation by Earl Evans, Deputy Clerk, Corporate Services, re: **Committee Orientation and Meeting Procedures.**

Following an introduction of Committee Members and staff, Earl Evans, Deputy City Clerk, Corporate Services, provided a presentation, which included information on the following:

- Orientation Binders
- Merits of Re-Establishing TAC (CS165-2015)
- TAC Member Appointments
- TAC Terms of Reference
- Advisory and Consultative Role of Committee
- City By-laws
- Provincial Legislation
- Quorum and Meeting Attendance
- Agendas and Minutes
Meeting Procedures
City of Brampton Departments
Role of Legislative Coordinator
Role of Committee Members

James Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Corporate Services, presented statistical information regarding Brampton’s taxi industry (as of January 1, 2016).

Committee discussion took place with respect to the following:
- Clarification regarding declaration of conflicts of interest
- Advertisements for brokerages that are not licensed in Brampton and related enforcement challenges
- Concerns regarding the lack of taxi stands at Bramalea City Centre and Shopper’s World and information from staff that private properties are not required to designate space for taxis
- Concerns regarding the lack of taxi stands at bus terminals

The following motion was considered.

TC002-2016 That the presentation by the following staff, to the Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting of March 29, 2016, re: Committee Orientation and Meeting Procedures / Taxicab Industry be received:
1. Earl Evans, Deputy Clerk, Corporate Services
2. James Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Corporate Services.

Carried

5. Reports – nil

6. Other/New Business

6.1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair / Co-Chairs – Taxicab Advisory Committee

Earl Evans, Deputy City Clerk, Corporate Services, explained the election process for nominations of Chair and Vice-Chair or Co-Chairs.

There was Committee consensus to elect a Chair and Vice Chair for this Committee.

Mr. Evans called for nominations for the position of Chair.
City Councillor Dhillon was nominated for the position of Chair.

City Councillor Dhillon asked if any other Committee members were interested in this position, and stated his preference that a citizen member be appointed as Chair. No members expressed an interest in this position and City Councillor Dhillon accepted the nomination.

No further nominations were put forward and Mr. Evans called for a motion to close the nominations.

Mr. Evans then called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

City Councillor Fortini and Daljit Gill were nominated for the position of Vice-Chair.

Both candidates accepted the nomination.

No further nominations were put forward and Mr. Evans called for a motion to close the nominations.

Mr. Evans outlined the process for voting where there is more than one candidate nominated for a position. A vote was taken by a show of hands and City Councillor Fortini was the successful candidate.

The following motion was considered:

**TC003-2015**

1. That City Councillor G. Dhillon be appointed Chair of the Taxicab Advisory Committee for the term ending November 30, 2018, or until a successor is appointed; and,

   2. That City Councillor P. Fortini be appointed Vice-Chair of the Taxicab Advisory Committee for the term ending November 30, 2018, or until a successor is appointed.

   Carried

Note: City Councillor Dhillon assumed the position of Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

**6.2. Discussion at the request Avtar Grewal, Committee Member, re: Taxicab Cameras.**

James Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Corporate Services, provided the following information regarding the new in-car surveillance cameras:

- Details on the specifications of the new in-car surveillance cameras
• Council decision to extend the deadline for compliance of in-car surveillance cameras from November 30, 2015 to March 1, 2016
• Number of vehicles without the new cameras installed and confirmation that staff is working with the industry to achieve compliance
• Requests from the industry to extend the deadline for compliance for the following reasons:
  o All 2007 vehicles must be replaced by May 31, 2016
  o Taxi owner licenses are due for renewal on May 31, 2016 and it is anticipated that some licenses will not be renewed.

Committee discussion took place with respect to the requirement for new in-car surveillance cameras and included the following:
• Status of Council’s direction to staff to work with the taxicab industry to explore affordable alternative models of in-car cameras to the ones currently approved
• Concerns regarding the affordability of the new cameras
• Indication that the majority of vehicles have the new cameras and are in compliance
• Justification for replacing the old cameras and the enhanced reliability and quality of the new cameras
• Suggestion that a further extension for compliance with the new standards for in-car surveillance cameras be granted until June 15, 2016

The following motion was considered.

TC004-2016  Whereas on December 9, 2015 City Council approved a recommendation which extended the deadline for compliance with in-car surveillance cameras from November 30, 2015 to March 1, 2016; and,

Whereas registered taxicabs with a 2007 model year must be replaced by May 31, 2016 with a vehicle that meets the model year requirements of the Mobile Licensing By-law, including requirements for new in-car surveillance cameras; and,

Whereas another model of camera may be available to fulfill the City’s by-law requirements; and,

Whereas all taxi owner licences must be renewed by May 31, 2016;
Therefore Be It Resolved that it is the position of the Taxicab Advisory Committee that the remaining taxicabs which have not complied with the new standard for in-car surveillance cameras be granted a final extension of time for compliance by June 15, 2016.

Carried


Committee discussion took place with respect to the frequency of meetings for this Committee and included:

- a suggestion to meet on a monthly basis
  - Staff cautioned that due to report approval timelines, staff may not be able to report on issues on a monthly basis
- request that a discussion item regarding UBER be listed as an item on the next meeting agenda
- consideration of various dates for the next meeting
- Committee consensus that future meetings be scheduled to commence at 2:30 p.m.

The following motion was considered.

TC005-2016 That the next Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting be scheduled to take place on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 2:30 p.m.

Carried

6.4. Discussion at the request of Makhan Dhothe, Committee Member, re: Deferring Training for New Taxicab Drivers.

Committee discussion took place with respect to the training program for new taxicab drivers, as follows:

- Concerns were raised regarding the length of time to complete the training program and obtain a taxicab driver license
  - It was noted that the process to join UBER is quicker
- Requirements in the Mobile Licensing By-law relating to the driver training program
- Possibility of issuing a conditional taxicab driver license, subject to completion of the driver training program within a prescribed period of time
- Issues relating to the frequency of driver training classes and the minimum class size requirement
• Importance of the training program to the taxi industry, as it demonstrates the drivers’ qualifications and experience in serving the public
• Request that consideration be given to a graduated licensing system which requires “on the job” training
• Challenges in hiring new taxicab drivers due to the lengthy licensing process and high cost

James Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Corporate Services, advised that he would provide an update regarding this matter at the next meeting.

7. **Correspondence**

7.1. Correspondence from Baljit Pandori, on behalf of the Board of Directors, Peel Taxi Association, dated September 18, 2015, re: **Municipal Rideshare and Unlicensed for Hire Operations**.

The following motion was considered.

TC006-2016 That the correspondence from Baljit Pandori, on behalf of the Board of Directors, Peel Taxi Association, dated September 18, 2016, to the Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting of March 29, 2016, re: **Municipal Rideshare and Unlicensed for Hire Operations** be received.

Carried

8. **Information Items**

8.1. **Council Resolution C035-2016 re: Transportation Network Companies (“TNC”), such as UBER**.

Note: Resolution C035-2016 was passed by Council on February 24, 2016 and was provided for information only.

James Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Corporate Services, advised that staff will proceed with the review of the Mobile Licensing By-law in light of TNC Apps and operations such as UBER, as directed by Council Resolution C035-2016 (passed on February 24, 2016). Mr. Bisson added that staff will seek input from this Committee and the industry regarding this matter.
City Councillor Dhillon, Chair, requested that Committee members provide suggestions/ideas at the next meeting with respect to this matter.

9. **Question Period** – nil

10. **Public Question Period** – nil

11. **Adjournment**

   The following motion was considered.

TC007-2016 That the Taxicab Advisory Committee do now adjourn to meet again on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 or at the call of the Chair.

   Carried