



**BURLINGTON VEHICLE FOR HIRE LICENSING BOARD
SHARON BUSHOR CONF. ROOM, CITY HALL, 149 CHURCH ST.
MINUTES OF MEETING
August 14, 2024**

DRAFT

Members present: Paul Hines
Youness Jamil
Stephen Hamlin

Also present: Tenzin Chokden

Meeting start time: 5:35 PM

1. Agenda

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1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda

Stephen Hamlin made a motion to approve. Youness Jamil seconded. Passed unanimously.

2. Previous Minutes

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2.1. Approval of previous minutes

Stephen Hamlin made a motion to approve. Youness Jamil seconded. Passed unanimously.

3. Public Forum

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No members of the public spoke.

4. Annual Board Report to City Council

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Paul Hines reviewed the annual board report to city council with the board.

Paul Hines proposed including in the report that inconsistent driver behavior, such as not using taxi meters, has negatively affected taxi business.

Youness Jamil agreed, adding that this was because taxi meter rates had not been updated, the cost of living had risen, and drivers were using flat rate fees to make a living.

Youness Jamil inquired about the immediate implementation of credit card payments for taxi drivers following the ordinance's passage. Paul Hines clarified that the new requirement would take effect sixty days after the ordinance's approval, and notices would be issued accordingly.

Paul Hines sought the board's approval of the revised report for submission to the City Council.

Stephen Hamlin made a motion to approve the revised report, seconded by Youness Jamil. The report was unanimously approved.

5. New Business

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Paul Hines informed the board about an upcoming meeting with Scot Barker, the Chief Innovation Officer. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the potential integration of an online ride-sharing app, such as Curb, into the Burlington taxi system. Hines expressed optimism that such an app could significantly increase business for taxi drivers. He mentioned that there would be fees associated with using the app, which business owners would need to pay the company.

Youness Jamil expressed enthusiasm for the potential benefits of the app to the taxi industry, stating that drivers were willing to cover the fees in exchange for increased ride opportunities.

Tenzin Chokden shared that, based on the final city council ordinance regarding credit card acceptance, taxi drivers will be required to start accepting credit card payments beginning January 1, 2025.

Youness Jamil requested that Paul and Tenzin contact the airport director to inquire about installing additional taxi signs, particularly at Gate 3. He noted that currently, only Uber and Lyft signs are displayed at that location.

Paul Hines requested that Youness send him a memo detailing the specifics of the airport sign posting. He would then forward the information to Nic Longo.

The meeting is set for 09/12 at 5:30 PM.

6. Adjournment

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Stephen Hamlin motioned to adjourn. Youness Jamil seconded. Unanimously approved.