



Vehicle for Hire Licensing Board 8/17/2017

Vehicle for Hire Licensing Board Minutes

Thursday August 17, 2017

Conference Room 12, City Hall

Members present:

Jeffrey Munger, JM

Bill Keogh, BK

Charles Herrick, CH

Adam Roof, AR

Also Present:

Ashley Bryce, AB

Christine Dunbar, CD

Anthea Dexter-Cooper, AD

Donald Corbett, DC

Elizabeth Sessler, ES

Robert Burnor, RB

Jason West, JW

Meeting called to order at 9:06 AM

1. Agenda

1.01 Adopt/Amend Agenda

Adopt/Amend Agenda as is

Motion by Adam Roof, second by Charles Herrick.



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Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Aye: Bill Keogh, Charles Herrick, Adam Roof

Not Present at Vote: Jeff Munger

2. Public Forum

2.01 Public Forum

DC asked BK permission to record this meeting. BK said he could record.

3. Denials

3.01 Joseph Fuller - Blazer Transportation

Joseph Fuller was not present. He received the notice via certified mail in regards to the hearing date but he did not respond to the notice. The agenda item was tabled until the next meeting.

3.02 Robert Burnor, RB - Blazer Transportation

AD asked CD to explain the basis for the denial of RB's Vehicle for Hire driver's license. CD explained that per yearly renewal process, her office ran a background check on RB which resulted in 5 moving violations in the past 3 years. Four of these violations were "operating motor vehicle on highway using a portable electronic device" and the other was "local speeding". The license could not be renewed due to the number of violations on RB's record and a notice was sent in the mail informing RB of this information. RB told the Board that he was still adjusting to using cell phones and admitted that he was talking on the cell phone while he was driving. RB requested a relief of judgment from the court in White River to get these violations removed from his driving record. CH asked RB if he had been told or advised by anyone at Blazer that talking on a cell phone while driving was prohibited or if anyone had provided him with alternatives or solutions to this problem and RB responded no. RB said that he just recently got ear buds and when he got his last ticket he was advised to get blue tooth by the officer that pulled him over. AR asked if RB had any dependents and RB responded no and that he was a disabled veteran and driving taxi was his main source of income. RB said he drove taxi 5 to 6 days per week and has worked for Blazer Transportation for the past 15 years. BK stated that he found it difficult that RB did not know the law when it came to cell phones with all the warnings and billboards posted right on the interstate. DC asked CH if he provides blue tooth for his drivers and CH responded that he provides hands free mounts for his drivers. DC asked why RB was being punished because Blazer won't supply their drivers with hands free devices and CH does. AR stated that the city is not responsible for providing hands free devices for taxi drivers but rather it is up to the company owner to provide this. AR asked RB to explain why there were 4 of the same violation and why RB didn't learn from the first one and RB stated he had to answer his phone in order to work. AR stated that the Board has a responsibility to keep the public safe and to enforce the rules that all taxi drivers must follow.



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3.03 Robert Gratton - Quik Cab

Robert Gratton was not present. He received the notice via certified mail in regards to the hearing date but he did not respond to the notice. The agenda item was tabled until the next meeting.

3.04 Jason West, JW - Dunwright Taxi

*****this hearing occurred after agenda item 4.01**

CD stated that it was time to renew JW's Vehicle for Hire license and when her office ran his background check it came back with a violation of "operating after suspension/revocation/refusal..." and per the City Ordinance CD could not issue JW a VfH license. JW received all of this information via certified mail. JW called CD to confirm over the phone that he would be appearing before the Board. JW admitted to having his license suspended last year but he was unaware of it at the time and did not find out until later through an unrelated ticket that his license had been suspended. Once JW was made aware of his suspension, he stopped driving immediately. JW went down to Montpelier the next day and took care of his license and then requested to be heard by the VfH Board to let them know what had happened and that it was not intentional. CH asked JW why his license was suspended to begin with and JW said it was due to failure to pay a ticket on time. JW asked the Board if this was a new rule in the City Ordinance and BK replied no, it was not a new rule. JW was not denied last year for a VfH license and asked the Board to make an exception. AD pointed out to the Board that the VfH office did receive a letter from JW in June alerting the Board of JW's moving violation. CD was advised by the Board to call JW with the Board's decision after the meeting.

4. Discussion

4.01 VfH Ordinance 30-35(d)

AD asked the Board what they would like to do if they received a request to reconsider a decision issued by the VfH board. CH stated that they should have some guidelines the Board should always follow if considering this. CH said a written request is needed and he would be open to giving any individual a second chance to appear at a hearing. The Board agreed. AD stated that it is the Board's decision to reconsider any previous case at its discretion.

5. Updates

5.01 Monthly fees

5.02 Commissioner items





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JM asked about the status of the signage DPW was going to supply for the designated VfH taxi zones. BK said he would follow up with DPW to get some answers and would report back to the Board at their next meeting. CH asked about the status of the enforcement officer and CD replied that she received an email stating that this new position would be starting shortly and would be working nights and weekends. Dennis Duffy was out of town for the week so CD did not receive any other updates from him regarding the enforcement officer.

6. Minutes

6.01 July 27, 2017

Approve minutes

Motion by Adam Roof, second by Jeff Munger.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Aye: Bill Keogh, Jeff Munger, Charles Herrick, Adam Roof

*****Motion to enter executive session at 9:46 am by Adam Roof, second by Jeff Munger**

*****Motion to exit executive session at 9:53 am by Jeff Munger**

7. Adjournment

7.01 Adjourn

Adjourn meeting at 9:54 am

Motion by Bill Keogh.

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Aye: Bill Keogh, Jeff Munger, Charles Herrick, Adam Roof





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