

CHAPTER 114: TAXICABS

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§ 114.01 LICENSE REQUIRED.

No person shall hereafter operate or drive upon the streets in the city for hire any taxicab without first having obtained a license therefore from the City Council. A **TAXICAB** is any motor vehicle engaged in the carrying of persons for hire having a capacity of seven passengers or less.

§ 114.02 APPLICATIONS.

All applications for such licenses shall be made to the City Council and shall be accompanied by the hereinafter designated license fee for each taxicab and shall indicate the ownership thereof.

§ 114.03 ISSUANCE.

After an application for a license required by this Chapter has been presented to the City Council, the City Council may in its reasonable discretion issue such license in the name of the City. In exercising its reasonable discretion, the City Council must consider the number of taxicabs already in operation in the City, whether existing operations and facilities are adequate to meet the public need, the probable effect of increased service on local traffic conditions, and the character, experience and responsibility of the applicant. All licenses issued in accordance with this Chapter shall expire on the thirty-first day of December following the date of issuance.

§ 114.04 LICENSE FEES; DISPLAY OF LICENSE.

The fee for every such license shall be as stated in § 110.34. Every such license shall be conspicuously displayed in and about the vehicle covered by the same. A separate license certificate shall be issued for each vehicle sought to be covered by the license. Each taxicab license must contain the name, signature and address of the owner and a description of the vehicle, including the serial number, state license number, the make and model of the vehicle and the license number assigned by the City.

§ 114.05 TRANSFER OF LICENSE.

The license is not transferable from one person to another without the consent of the City Council.

§ 114.06 OPERATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW REQUIRED.

All automobiles or other vehicles used in the City in connection with a taxicab service shall be operated in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations of the state.

§ 114.07 RATES OF FARE

Vehicles for hire licensed under this Chapter may establish rates of fare, provided the established rate is applied uniformly to each rider the vehicle transports. All rates charged by taxicabs licensed under this Chapter must be posted in each licensed taxicab in full view of occupants or made available electronically to a potential passenger prior to pick-up.

§ 114.08 RESTRICTIONS ON NUMBER OF PASSENGERS.

No more than two persons in addition to the driver shall be carried in the front seat of any taxicab. No more than seven passengers exclusive of the driver shall be carried in any taxicab.

§ 114.09 VEHICLE SAFETY AND INSPECTIONS.

Each licensee has a duty to ensure periodic safety and maintenance inspections by qualified personnel of the automobiles or other vehicles used in the City for the licensee's taxicab services.

§ 114.10 LOST ARTICLES.

Whenever any property is left in or on any taxicab or is left in the custody of the driver of any taxicab, the driver shall upon the discovery thereof deliver the property to the City Police Department by the following day unless the property is sooner returned to its owner.

§ 114.11 INSURANCE.

No such license shall be issued to anyone unless and until the applicant therefore has insured against public liability each vehicle sought to be licensed hereunder in such amounts as may be required by the City Council. The insurance shall be with some insurance carrier authorized to insure such liability in the State of Minnesota, which insurance shall provide for the payment on behalf of the insured of all such sums which the insured shall become obligated to pay by reason of the liability imposed upon him or her by law for damages or bodily injury to anyone, including death at any time resulting there from, sustained by any person or persons, caused by accident or arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of the vehicle or vehicles, which coverage shall be at least \$100,000 for each person and at least \$300,000 for each accident. The insurance shall also cover property damage liability arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of the vehicle or vehicles and shall be at least for the sum of \$50,000 for each accident. No person shall operate or drive a taxicab upon the streets unless such taxicab is covered by public liability insurance as aforesaid. Such policies must be endorsed to show the City as an additional insured, and the City shall receive advance notice of not less than 30 days of the cancellation of coverage. Insurance policies representing such public liability insurance must be filed with the City Clerk and must be approved by the City Attorney as to form and compliance before issuance of licenses herein.

§ 114.12 TAXI STANDS.

Standing places or taxicab stands upon the streets of the city may be designated by the City Council in the license granted to such taxicab operators. The standing places or taxicab stands shall be subject to change at any time by the City Council. The taxicab stands shall be suitably marked by signs, the cost of which shall be borne by the licensee and shall be of such type and character as may be designated by the Chief of Police. Places on the streets designated and marked as taxicab stands shall not be used by any vehicles other than those of the licensee to whom such taxicab stand or stands have been assigned.

§ 114.13 DRIVERS.

(A) Each licensee has a duty to maintain the following information about each of its drivers:

- (1) full name, residence, places of residence for five years prior to moving to the present address, age, height, eye color, and year and place of birth, and place of previous employment;
- (2) whether ever convicted of a felony or misdemeanor;
- (3) whether previously licensed as a driver or chauffeur and if so, when and where; and
- (4) whether the driver's license has ever been revoked and for what cause.

(B) Each licensee has a duty to only employ a driver that is:

- (1) at least 18 years of age;
- (2) of sound physique and good eyesight and not subject to an infirmity of the body or mind which might render the driver unfit for the operation of a taxicab;
- (3) clean in dress and person; and
- (4) not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors or drugs.

(C) Each licensee has a duty to ensure that its drivers are clean and courteous at all times.

(D) Each licensee has a duty to ensure that its drivers do not solicit patronage in a loud, noisy or boisterous tone of voice or manner or to lay hands upon the person or baggage of any person without the consent of such person or to obstruct the movement of any person or to follow any person for the purpose of soliciting patronage.

(E) Each licensee has a duty to ensure that its drivers do not refuse or neglect to convey an orderly person or persons upon request unless previously engaged or unable or forbidden by the provisions of this Chapter from doing so.

(F) Each licensee has a duty to designate its taxicabs with a uniform mark on the exterior of each motor vehicle and to provide information regarding such designation to the City.

§ 114.14 DRIVERS LICENSED IN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES.

A taxicab driver who is licensed to operate in another municipality in this state may carry passengers from such municipality to any place within the City and may freely use the streets and thoroughfares for that purpose, and such driver is not required to obtain a permit under this Chapter. However, such driver may not solicit business on the streets of the City or otherwise operate within the City unless licensed to do so by the City. While within the City the driver of a taxicab from another municipality shall have the license certificate for the vehicle and display the same to any authorized person upon demand. While in the City, such driver must observe all the regulations and conditions of this Chapter.

§ 114.15 REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION.

(A) A license may be revoked or suspended by the City Council if the licensee has:

- (1) Violated any provision of this Chapter;
- (2) Discontinued operations for more than 60 days; or
- (3) Violated any City ordinance or state or federal law, rule, or regulation, the violation of which relate to the fitness of the licensee to offer taxicab services.

(B) Prior to suspension or revocation, the licensee must be given notice of the proposed action to be taken and must have an opportunity to be heard by the City Council.

§ 114.16 VIOLATIONS.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this Chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor; and any licensee violating any provision of this article shall also be subject to revocation of its license by the City Council. have been assigned. (1981 Code, § 930.11)

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