

Chapter 6

TAXICABS

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3-6-1 License required.

No person, firm, copartnership or corporation shall operate any taxicab, or vehicle for hire for the transportation of passengers within the corporate limits of the City, without first procuring a license from the City Recorder for the operation of such cab or vehicle, which license shall be prominently displayed for the view of all passengers. (Amd. Ord. 2414, 9-8-98)

3-6-2 Annual application and fees.

(A) Business Application. Annually, during the month of July, each person, firm, copartnership or corporation operating any taxicab, or vehicle for hire within the corporate limits of the City, shall file an application for a license with the City Recorder for the City of Ontario. All applications for licenses to operate a vehicle for hire for the purpose of transportation of passengers shall state:

Company name.

Company owners.

Address of business.

Name of manager.

A) Names and drivers license numbers of drivers.

Past criminal records of owners, manager and drivers.

Name of insurance company and policy number.

Make, type and license plate number of each vehicle to be used for hire within Ontario.

Such applications shall be submitted to the City Council for approval or rejection, and shall be accompanied by a twenty dollar (\$20.00) nonrefundable application processing fee.

If said application shall be approved, a license to operate the business shall be issued by the City Recorder upon compliance to the vehicle inspection requirements of this Code and upon the payment to the City Recorder of the sum of sixty dollars (\$60.00) per vehicle per year. Said license shall continue in effect upon the submission of a renewal application and payment of sixty dollars (\$60.00) per vehicle per year for each ensuing year and upon compliance with all other sections of this Code, until said license be revoked by the City Council.

Between license renewals, Owner shall be responsible to notify City of any changes in: (1) ownership, (2) vehicles, (3) drivers, and (4) business location, prior to the change.

Taxicab licenses shall be issued to qualified applicants as the needs of the community direct.

(B) Driver Application. In addition to the requirements for the taxicab or vehicle for hire business license in paragraph (A) *supra*, each Driver, desiring to drive a taxicab or other

vehicle for hire shall, prior to driving said vehicles and annually each July thereafter, file an application for approval as a Driver for vehicle for hire with the City Recorder. The application shall state:

- Driver's full name
- Driver's address
- Driver's birth date
- Driver's license number
- Company for which Driver will be driving
- Driver's past criminal history, driving history and any history of physical or mental disease or disability.

The City shall, if the driver is found to qualify, issue a driver approval in writing.

Felony convictions for crimes against persons, as well as any controlled substance offenses shall be grounds for not approving a driver's application. A conviction for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) within the five years prior to the application will be grounds for not approving a driver's application. Any applicant who has been sent an advisory letter by the State Department of Motor Vehicles, notifying them of their potential to become suspended for being a habitual traffic offender under ORS 809.610 will not have their driver's application approved.

An applicant for driver approval that has a history of any physical or mental disease or disability that may impair the person's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle, or having any condition which the City reasonably believes may bring about momentary or prolonged lapses of consciousness or control that is or may become chronic, will not have their application approved unless said applicant submits a medical certification as is described in ORS 807.090. (amd. Ord. 2414, 9-8-98)

3-6-3 License and driver approval required.

All drivers of cars so licensed shall have a valid driver's license issued by the authorities of the State of Oregon or the State of Idaho, and it shall be unlawful for a driver of any vehicle for hire for the transportation of passengers to operate such vehicle within the City unless such driver has a valid driver's license and has written driver approval from the City of Ontario. (amd. Ord. 2414, 9-8-98)

3-6-4 Liability insurance required.

No business license for a vehicle for hire for the transportation of passengers shall be issued to any applicant until such applicant shall file evidence of the fact that the vehicles licensed are covered with public liability insurance of not less than three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for liability on a single passenger or party injured, and five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for liability for all passengers or parties injured in excess of one, and fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) property damage. Any insurance policy issued shall state the City as the certificate holder and that the insurance company shall notify the City of any change, cancellation, lapse, or termination of insurance coverage. (amd. Ord. 2414, 9-8-98)

3-6-5 Taxicab stands designated.

The City Council shall designate such places upon the streets where such licensed cars may stand or park and not more than one space shall be designated for each two (2) cars licensed to any one applicant.

3-6-6 Vehicle inspection.

It shall be unlawful for any person to operate and use, or permit or allow the operation and use of, any vehicle as a taxicab or other vehicle for hire for the transportation of passengers upon the streets of the City unless such vehicle shall have been inspected and approved. Said inspection shall be made with respect to:

(A) The brakes, lights, turn signals, steering, sound devices, glass, mirror, exhaust system, windshield wipers, tires and such other items of equipment as may be determined by the City, to make sure they are all in good operating condition.

(B) Easy identification of the vehicle to the public as a taxicab. To facilitate easy public identification, all taxicabs shall be equipped with a roof light, identifying the car as a taxi and should have a sign or insignia on the side of the vehicle identifying the name of the taxicab company.

(C) To insure adequate passenger safety, all taxicabs shall be equipped with approved safety belts or harnesses for use by the passengers.

All vehicles shall be kept in good and proper mechanical order, and of good appearance inside and outside. Inspection of the mechanical, safety and appearance condition shall be made by a garage approved by the City. The cost of vehicle inspection and repair will be borne by the taxicab owner. All taxicabs shall be so inspected within the first two (2) weeks of January. A second inspection is required within the first two (2) weeks of July and results submitted with the annual renewal application. If, in the opinion of the inspector, deficiencies exist that make the continued operation of the taxicab hazardous to the health and safety of the occupants, the license shall be suspended until the deficiencies are corrected. If, however, de-

iciencies are found which are not imminently hazardous, the inspector may issue a temporary permit stating the deficiencies and permitting continued operation for fifteen (15) days while the deficiencies are corrected. When deficiencies are corrected the taxicab shall be submitted for reinspection. Any decision of the inspector may be appealed in writing to the City who shall, within two (2) working days of receipt of the appeal, make or cause to be made a review of the facts concerning the inspection with the appellant or his representative of the vehicle in question and may confirm, amend or reverse the decision of the inspector. A failure to present a taxicab for inspection or to make payment for the inspection in the time specified, or to correct deficiencies within the fifteen (15) day temporary permit period, shall be cause for the revocation of the taxicab license. (Ord. 2506, 2003; amd. Ord. 2414, 9-8-98)

3-6-7 Rates required to be posted.

All taxicabs shall post a current rate schedule which is visible to all passengers in the car. (Ord. 2414, 9-8-98)

3-6-8 Revocation of license.

The City Council shall have the right to revoke any license issued under the provisions of this Chapter for such reason as it may deem sufficient and shall have the right to cancel the right of any driver to operate a taxi or other car for passenger hire, within the City, upon the conviction of such driver for a violation of any of the traffic laws of the State, the traffic ordinances of the City, or crime against another person as defined by the Oregon Revised Statutes. (amd. Ord. 2414, 9-8-98)

3-6-9 Penalty.

Any person violating any provision of this Chapter shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished as provided in Section 1-4-1 of this City Code. (Ord. 2106, 9-7-82; amd. Ord. 2414, 9-8-98)