



MINUTES

TOWING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2013 – 9:06 AM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SECOND FLOOR, MISSISSAUGA CIVIC CENTRE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO
www.mississauga.ca

Members Present: Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6 (**Chair**)
John C. Lyons (Citizen Member) (**Vice Chair**)
Councillor Nando Iannicca, Ward 7
Daniel Ghanime (Citizen Member) (Arrived at 9:10am)
Tullio (Tony) Pento (Citizen Member)
Daniel R. Wallace (Citizen Member)

Staff Present: Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement
Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement
Stephanie Smith, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk

Stephanie Smith, Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk 905-615-3200 ext. 3795 Fax 905-615-4181
Stephanie.Smith@mississauga.ca

CALL TO ORDER – 9:06 a.m.

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST –nil

Elliott Silverstein, Manager, Government Relations, CAA South Central Ontario spoke to existing tow truck by-laws related to auto clubs, such as CAA. Mr. Silverstein outlined the number of current CAA members, how CAA advocates for protecting the consumer and how CAA differs from regular tow truck companies. He noted that Section 28 in the Towing By-law does not outline how companies such as CAA can operate in Mississauga without owning a pound facility. Mr. Silverstien requested an exemption for CAA to ensure business can continue with residents of Mississauga.

Councillor Starr inquired if the tow truck are owned by CAA or contracted out and what percentage of CAA drivers respond to accident scenes. Mr. Silverstien responded that CAA has a branded network and are contracted out to a preferred network as they are not owned exclusive by CAA and that 99% of calls received are non-collision calls.

Direction was given to staff to report back to the Committee on this matter.

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

That the minutes of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting held on February 19, 2013 be approved as presented.

Approved (Councillor Iannicca)

2. Amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, Identification Markings on Tow Trucks

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement spoke to the matter of identification markings on tow trucks and noted that staff have encountered a number of concerns with drivers not complying with the amended by-law. He noted that the amended by-law is seeking a distance requirement to which the letters on the truck can be visible.

Daniel R. Wallace, Citizen Member noted that the provision of not allowing outlining colours of lettering is a major concern of drivers, as many vehicles are branded by the look of their trucks. Mr. Bell noted that clear direction is needed for consistency and that drivers have one year to comply with the amendments.

Councillor Starr noted that staff are trying to be fair with all drivers with contrasting colours on trucks and that the City has an obligation to protect the public.

George Clarke, JP Towing, noted that JP operates in multiple municipalities and that each City has slightly different rules to comply to. He outlined the financial concerns with converting the decals to comply with the By-law.

Lisa Goncalves, Abram Towing, raised concerns with the financial costs associated with re-branding trucks. Councillor Starr asked staff to bring forward information to TIAC outlining why some trucks had failed the inspection.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Section 33(8) of the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, be deleted and replaced with the following:

“have attached to or painted on both sides of the body of the Tow Truck in a location close to the middle of the body panels or as near as possible and as approved by the Licence Manager, in letters and figures of solid contrasting colour to the colour of the vehicle and not less than eight centimetres (approximately three inches) in height and a minimum two centimeters (approximately .78 inch) in thickness the name and telephone number of the business as shown on the Owner's Business Licence and must be a material which will be visible in low light conditions from a distance of 15 metres (approximately 50 feet).”

2. That Section 33(10) of the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, be deleted and replaced with the following:

“have affixed to the Tow Truck rear window, on the driver’s side, the Owner's Plate issued for that Tow Truck and have the municipal licence number painted or attached to both front fenders in letters and figures of solid contrasting colour to the colour of the vehicle and not less than eight centimetres (approximately three inches) in height and a minimum two centimeters (approximately .78 inch) in thickness and must be a material which will be visible in low light conditions from a distance of 15 metres (approximately 50 feet). The number shall include a designation of ML as a precursor to the number.”

Approved (Councillor Iannicca)

TIAC-0005-2013

3. Amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-Law 521-04, as amended, to Include a Grandfathering Clause For Existing Tow Truck Driver for Driving Experience

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement noted that the report outlines the 7 year driving experience and that a grandfathering clause be included for existing tow truck drivers.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That a by-law be enacted to amend Section 4(1) of the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, to include driver experience and a grandfathering clause for existing Tow Truck Drivers.
2. That Section 4(1) of the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, shall be repealed and replaced as follows:

No Person shall be licensed under this by-law unless:

3. That Section 4(1)(a) of the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, be added and shall state the following:

“he/she has at least seven years driving experience after completing the requirements of a full Ontario “G” driver’s licence; is a citizen of Canada or a landed immigrant, or has a valid employment authorization issued by the Government of Canada to work as a Driver and has a working knowledge of English. Any applicant applying as a licensed driver shall supply at their expense a Driver’s History from the Ministry of Transportation.”

4. That Section 4(1)(b) of the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, be added and shall state the following:

“Any existing Driver who does not meet the requirements as stated in Section 4(1)(a) on the date of passing of the amendment shall be grandfathered provided that they maintain a clear driver abstract until they have fulfilled the requirements of Section 4(1)(a).”

Received (Councillor Iannicca)

TIAC-0006-2013

5. Action List – Towing Industry Advisory Committee Meeting Held on February 19, 2013

Members of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee (TIAC) reviewed the action list.

RECOMMENDATION

That the action list of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting held on February 19, 2013 provided to the Committee to update on the status of initiatives raised at prior meetings be received.

Received (Councillor Iannicca)

TIAC-0007-2013

OTHER BUSINESS

John C. Lyons, Citizen Member inquired if staff would be looking into WSIB as being a requirement for tow truck drivers. Mr. Bell noted that staff are looking into it.

Councillor Starr asked staff to bring a report forward outlining the various enforcement infractions that tow truck drivers have faced and if they are coming from Peel Regional Police or City Enforcement officers.

ADJOURNMENT - 9:31 A.M