



MINUTES

TOWING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014 - 9:03 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBER

SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE

300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, L5B 3C1

www.mississauga.ca

Members

Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6 (**Chair**)

John C. Lyons, Citizen Member (**Vice Chair**)

Councillor Nando Iannicca, Ward 7

Mark Bell, Citizen Member

Daniel Ghanime, Citizen Member

Tullio (Tony) Pento, Citizen Member

Armando Tallarico, Citizen Member

Daniel R. Wallace, Citizen Member

Contact: Stephanie Smith, Legislative Coordinator

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CALL TO ORDER - 9:03 A.M.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST - Nil

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS - Nil

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

1.1 Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting minutes from December 16, 2013.

1.2 Vehicle Pound Facility Subcommittee minutes from January 24, 2014

Approved (J. Lyons)

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

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement spoke to the Corporate Report dated January 29, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, truck equipment identification markings. He noted the challenges staff are facing due to equipment being shared between tow truck drivers and that a solution to solve the problem is for all required equipment to be marked with the drivers municipal license (ML) number.

Mark Bell, Citizen Member spoke to the difficulties of marking equipment and for staff to create an equipment list outlining required equipment to have the ML number. Daryl Bell noted that the required equipment is currently listed in the By-law.

John C. Lyons, Citizen Member spoke to the amount of time involved with marking equipment and that staff should charge the individual tow truck drivers who are switching equipment.

Daniel Ghanime, Citizen Member spoke to the responsibilities of tow trucks drivers and the difficulties of marking equipment.

Councillor Iannicca enquired how many tickets had been issued to drivers and the set fine amount. Daryl Bell, Manager, Manager Mobile Licensing Enforcement noted that 539 charges were laid in 2013 and that the fine is \$70.00. Councillor Iannicca spoke to the amount of administrative work to comply with the proposed requirements.

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement spoke to increasing the set fine amount and as per the committee's request, staff have stopped issuing non-compliance notices.

Councillor Starr requested staff to run a report on the types of missing equipment that tickets are being issued for.

Daniel Ghanime, Citizen Member spoke to staff being able to ticket drivers who have passengers in the tow truck. Daryl Bell noted that staff have been given direction to charge the driver when they have a passenger in the tow truck while working. Councillor Starr requested staff to report back on this matter.

RECOMMENDATION

Corporate report dated January 29, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, truck equipment identification markings be referred to the June 10, 2014 Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting.

Received (Councillor Iannicca)
Recommendation TIAC-0001-2014)

3. Two Tier Tow Truck Licensing System

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement spoke to the Corporate Report that was brought forward at the December 16, 2013 Towing Industry Advisory Committee (TIAC) meeting that outlined a two tier tow truck licensing system to include "General Towing for Hire" and "Contract Towing Not for Hire".

Mark Bell, Citizen Member expressed support for tow truck drivers to only have one license to be able to operate in the City of Mississauga and that all tow truck companies need to be registered to a vehicle pound facility (VPF). Daryl Bell provided clarification regarding the Contract Towing Not for Hire classification and noted that it does not affect the chasing side of the industry as it would regulate the chase and contract tow trucks.

Mark Bell further spoke to CAA not being included in the Contract Towing Not for Hire as they do attend accident scene and that no other municipality has a two tier license system.

Armando Tallarico, Citizen Member enquired how this system would be controlled and expressed support for tow truck drivers to only have one license to be able to operate in the City of Mississauga. Daryl Bell noted that when a tow truck driver shows up at an accident scene any officer would have the ability to ask the driver for proof that they have been dispatched.

Councillor Starr enquired if currently a scrap tow truck would be allowed to attend an accident scene if they do not have the proper equipment. Daryl Bell noted that once the two tier system is in place the scrap tow truck would have to be inspected and have the proper equipment.

Daniel Ghanime, Citizen Member spoke to insurance companies' dispatching their own trucks who are not licensed in the City of Mississauga and the licensing system in the City of Brampton.

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement spoke to the committees concerns with CAA chasing accident scenes and noted that the two tier system would not allow this to occur unless they have a vehicle pound facility (VPF). Mark Bell, Citizen Member enquired how many CAA tow truck drivers have a City of Mississauga license. Daryl Bell noted he would report back to the Committee.

Councillor Iannicca requested staff to bring a draft by-law back to the next meeting.

Elliott Silverstein, Manager Government Relations, CAA expressed support of the two tier licensing system and spoke to the business model of CAA, rights of the consumers and that majority of the services provided by CAA are service related breakdowns. Mark Bell, Citizen Member enquired if CAA has a contract with Bell Canada. Mr. Silverstein noted that he was not familiar with the contract. Daniel Ghanime, Citizen Member spoke to CAA drivers showing up at accident scenes on a regular basis.

Armando Tallarico, Citizen Member noted that the model provided by CAA is currently not being followed by CAA tow truck drivers. Mr. Silverstein noted that if there is an issue they would address it.

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement spoke to the ramifications of the committee's request to amend the By-law to include tow trucks drivers can only tow a vehicle with a City of Mississauga license, a VPF in the City of Mississauga and requested clarification from members.

Councillor Iannicca spoke to the services provided by CAA and that the By-law should allow them to operate.

Councillor Starr requested staff to bring back a question and answer section providing clarity.

Michael Saati, Black Ice Towing spoke to issues surrounding CAA chasing accidents, expressed support of tow companies needing to have a VPF and the issuance of tow truck licenses. Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement noted that currently no plates are being issued from the City of Mississauga.

RECOMMENDATION

That the matter of a two tier tow truck licensing system, more specifically "General Towing for Hire" and "Contract Towing Not for Hire" be referred to a future Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting.

Referred (Councillor Iannicca)
Recommendation TIAC-0002-2014

4. Towing Industry Advisory Committee Action List

Action list of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting held on December 16, 2013 provided to the Committee to provide an update on the status of initiatives raised at prior meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

That the action list of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting held on December 16, 2013 provided to the Committee to update on the status of initiatives raised at prior meetings be received.

Received (Councillor Iannicca)
Recommendation TIAC-0003-2014

5. Information Items

- 5.1 Corporate report dated December 4, 2013 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, to include a two tier tow truck licensing system. (Please note that this report was considered at the December 16, 2013 TIAC meeting and deferred to a future meeting for consideration.)

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT : 10:15 A.M.