



MINUTES

TOWING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2015 - 10:02 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE

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

www.mississauga.ca

Members Present

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

Councillor Matt Mahoney, Ward 8 (**Vice-Chair**)

Mark Bell, Citizen Member

Robert Fluney, Citizen Member

Daniel Ghanime, Citizen Member

John C. Lyons, Citizen Member

Tullio (Tony) Pento, Citizen Member

Armando Tallarico, Citizen Member

Non Members Present

Councillor Carolyn Parrish, Ward 5

Staff Present:

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement

Sacha Smith, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk

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CALL TO ORDER – 10:02 AM

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST - Nil

PRESENTATIONS – Nil

DEPUTATIONS

A. Rhonda Carson, R & G Scrap Removal with respect to the two tier licensing system.

Ms. Carson appeared before Committee and explained that her flatbed truck is not for hire as it tows vehicles to the scrap yard. Due to the new two tier licensing system she would be required to have a salvage plate to operate in Mississauga, however there are no salvage plates available. She requested that Committee consider an extension on the implementation date for the two tier licensing system until a salvage plate becomes available or provide an exemption to the By-law.

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement explained that no salvage plates are available due to the moratorium and further spoke to the two tier licensing system.

Councillor Starr spoke to the two tier licensing system and noted that Ms. Carson's concerns could be reviewed. He further noted that he could meet with Councillor Mahoney and staff to review possible solutions.

Ms. Carson further spoke to notification of the new licensing system. Councillor Starr noted that the City website includes information and Mobile Licensing staff could also be contacted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation by Rhonda Carson, R & G Scrap Removal with respect to the Two Tier Tow Truck Licensing System, be received.

(Received) Councillor Mahoney
Recommendation TIAC-0009-2015

B. Troy Edwards, Impact Auto Auctions with respect to the two tier licensing system.

Mr. Edwards appeared before Committee and explained that the company he represents sells vehicles to auctions on behalf of insurance companies. Mr. Edwards expressed concern that the new two tier licensing system would affect their towing partners and rates. He requested that Committee consider an exemption to the By-law or delay the implementation date.

Mr. Bell spoke further to the two tier licensing system and explained that some of the changes were due to safety reasons. Daniel Ghanime commented that there are trucks operating in Mississauga that should not be considered as tier 1. Mr. Bell spoke to vehicles not being towed to pounds outside of the City limits.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation by Troy Edwards, Impact Auto Auctions with respect to the Two Tier Tow Truck Licensing System, be received.

Received (A. Tallarico)

Recommendation TIAC-0010-2015

- C. Pete Karageorgos, Insurance Bureau of Canada, Ontario Region with respect to the two tier licensing system.

Mr. Karageorgos appeared before Committee and expressed concern with respect to the implementation of the two tier licensing system. He further noted that the Province is currently reviewing regulations for the towing industry due to Bill 15. Mr. Karageorgos spoke to Item 2 on the agenda with respect to the centralized vehicle pound facility feasibility study and noted that he was supportive that Mississauga would be reviewing the matter.

RECOMMENDATION

That Pete Karageorgos, Insurance Bureau of Canada, Ontario Region with respect to the Two Tier Tow Truck Licensing System, be received.

Received (J. Lyons)

Recommendation TIAC-0011-2015

Councillor Starr noted that Council enacted the By-law to implement the two-tier licensing system for July 1, 2015. Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement advised that the Committee could consider a motion with respect to delaying the implementation of the two tier licensing system. Mr. Lyons and Councillor Starr spoke to the matter and noted that implementation of the system should be delayed for further discussion.

RECOMMENDATION

That a by-law be enacted to delay the implementation of the Two Tier Tow Truck Licensing System and that the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee and Enforcement Staff review the matter further.

Approved (J. Lyons)

Recommendation TIAC-0012-2015

MATTERS CONSIDERED1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting minutes from May 4, 2015.

Approved (D. Ghanime)

2. Centralized Vehicle Pound Facility Feasibility Study

Members of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee (TIAC) discuss the Corporate Report June 10, 2015 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect amendments to the a Centralized Vehicle Pound Feasibility Study.

Chris Rouse, Project Manager – Centralized Vehicle Pound Facility Review explained the three (3) phases of the project which includes: research and initial consultation, consultation and recommendation and implementation.

Members of Committee and Councillor Parrish spoke to the matter and made the following comments:

- The importance of protection for consumers.
- Would the purpose of a centralized vehicle pound bring revenue to the City or bring order in the industry?
- The cost of land, operating and staffing costs will need to be reviewed.
- The possibility of having licensed vehicle pounds that can bid to the City.
- The importance of contacting other centralized pounds in the GTA

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement advised that the research for the project is in the preliminary stage. Generally, a centralized vehicle pound would bring order and more confidence in the industry. Staff are undertaking the review because most cities of a similar size have a centralized model and he can't say for sure at this point if it is

profitable. Mr. Frost further noted that multiple options would be looked at and all members of Council would be consulted. Mr. Rouse confirmed that centralized pounds in the GTA would be contacted.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, dated June 10, 2015 entitled “Centralized Vehicle Pound Facility Feasibility Study” be received for information.
2. That staff consider comments received from the Towing Industry Advisory Committee regarding the components and timing of the Centralized Vehicle Pound Facility Feasibility Study.

Received (R. Fluney)

Recommendation TIAC-0013-2015

3. Amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, Vehicle Tow Digital Photographs

Members of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee (TIAC) discuss the Corporate Report June 10, 2015 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to amendments to Amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, Vehicle Tow Digital Photographs.

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement spoke to the subject report and explained that there are claims of extensive damage to a vehicle while being towed. The proposed amendments would provide protection for the public and tow truck drivers.

In response to questions from Committee with respect to feedback, who would be responsible, possible fines for non-compliance and the number of complaints received, Mr. Bell advised that no feedback was received and Mississauga would be the first to implement this. The tow truck operator would be responsible for taking the digital photographs and should keep them for 90 days and there is a possibility of a fine for non-compliance. In the last 5 years there have been over 200 complaints, but the City cannot do anything about it because it is a civil matter. The Province is also looking at implementing something similar.

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement noted that the rationale of this recommendation is to protect the driver. If the shop wishes to get involved and get the pictures that is between the shop and the driver. Discussion ensued with respect to amending the tow form to include authorization to take a photo of the vehicle and the cost involved for the drivers to take digital photographs.

Councillor Starr suggested that this matter be discussed further with staff and Councillor Mahoney.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works dated June 10, 2015, entitled "Amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04, as amended, Vehicle Tow Digital Photographs" be referred back to staff to discuss the matter further with Councillor Starr, Chair, and Councillor Mahoney, Vice-Chair.

Referred (A. Tallarico)

Recommendation TIAC-0014-2015

4. Towing Industry Advisory Committee Action List

Members of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee (TIAC) to discuss the Action List for 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

That the action list of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting held on June 22, 2015 provided to the Committee to update on the status of initiatives raised at prior meetings be received.

Received (A. Tallarico)

Recommendation TIAC-0015-2015

OTHER BUSINESS

Mark Bell spoke to the current tow rates. Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement advised that the by-law would be going to Council for approval and that the new approved rates would be mailed out.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday, September 14, 2015

ADJOURNMENT (T. Pento) – 10:47 AM