General Committee (Afternoon Session)

Date
2017/03/22

Time
12:31 PM

Location
Civic Centre, Council Chamber,
300 City Centre Drive,
Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C1

Members Present
Mayor Bonnie Crombie
Councillor Jim Tovey  Ward 1 (Chair)
Councillor Karen Ras  Ward 2
Councillor Chris Fonseca  Ward 3
Councillor John Kovac  Ward 4
Councillor Carolyn Parrish  Ward 5
Councillor Ron Starr  Ward 6
Councillor Nando Iannicca  Ward 7
Councillor Matt Mahoney  Ward 8
Councillor Sue McFadden  Ward 10
Councillor George Carlson  Ward 11

Members Absent
Councillor Pat Saito  Ward 9 (Personal)

Staff Present
Geoff Wright, Commissioner of Transportation and Works
Gary Kent, Commissioner, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer
Mary Ellen Bench, City Solicitor
Doug Meehan, Acting Director, Enforcement
Mike Foley, Acting Manager, Parking Enforcement
Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing
Crystal Greer, Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk
Diana Rusnov, Manager of Legislative Services and Deputy Clerk
Sacha Smith, Legislative Coordinator

Find it online
http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/generalcommittee
1. CALL TO ORDER – 12:31 PM

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

   Approved (Councillor Iannicca)

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST – Nil

4. DEPUTATIONS

4.1. Item 6.1 Michael Foley, Acting Manager, Parking Enforcement

   Mr. Foley spoke to proposed pilot project regulations for Transportation Network Company (TNCs) to operate in Mississauga. He further spoke to the enforcement plan, licensing fees and the duration of the pilot project.

   Members of Committee spoke to the matter and raised questions with respect to the number of people charged and prosecuted since the ban, the requirement to produce a medical certificate, cost to the City to operate the pilot project, input from the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee (PVAC) into the report, the ability to monitor TNC drivers and accessible taxi plates. Mr. Foley addressed the questions from Committee with respect to the pilot project.

   Members of Committee raised the following concerns:
   - The requirement in the Public Vehicle By-law for taxi drivers to provide a medical certificate.
   - That PVAC has not reviewed the recommendations and has limited input with the regulations for the pilot project. The report should be referred to PVAC for review and further discussion.
   - The possible liability issues with owners of taxi plates due to the reduced value of taxi plates.
   - Uber has demonstrated that they evade City Enforcement staff by utilizing special software. Concerns that Uber will utilize software to make the pilot project appear to be working.
   - The report should not be referred to PVAC as a Public Vehicle Pilot Project Committee was created and the work was not completed due to disruptions.
   - TNC drivers need to have criminal record checks which would be included in the pilot project.
4.2. **Item 6.1 Chris Schafer, Public Policy Manager, Uber Canada**

Mr. Schafer spoke to the matter and explained that differences in the regulations affect the GTA. He noted that there were differences in criminal record check location, requirement for medical certificate and demerit points versus surrounding areas.

Members of Committee spoke to the matter and raised the following issues:

- Criminal record checks with the Coburg Police Department and how it would work for TNC drivers in Mississauga
- The per trip licence fee of $0.30.

Mr. Schafer and Mr. Foley responded to questions from Committee.

4.3. **Item 6.1 Al Moore, Taxi Industry**

Mr. Moore spoke to the background of the taxi industry and that other regions have removed TNCs from operating.

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD - 15 Minute Limit**

(People who wish to address the General Committee about a matter on the Agenda. Persons addressing the General Committee with a question should limit preamble to a maximum of two (2) statements sufficient to establish the context for the question. Leave must be granted by the Committee to deal with any matter not on the Agenda.)

a) Karam Punian, Brampton resident expressed concerns with the operation of TNCs in Mississauga and has caused financial hardship and devalued taxi plates.

b) Jaspal Singh Brarr, resident spoke to the good service that Mississauga taxi drivers provide and expressed concerns with the operation of TNCs in Mississauga.

c) Saleem Yehia, resident expressed concerns with the negative impact that the operations of TNCs have placed on the taxi industry and the stricter regulations for taxi drivers.

d) Naveen Batish, Brampton resident expressed concerns with the criminal record check system that does not detect a warrant/charges, that the pilot project is for data collection and those that have been paying fees to keep their names on a priority list should be considered.

e) Al Cormier, resident spoke in support of the staff report and noted there could be some minor changes based on discussion at the meeting. Requested that Council urge the Province to regulate TNCs province-wide.

f) Sami Khairalla, Airport Taxi driver expressed concerns with the operations of TNCs as they are not regulated and can charge cheaper rates. Taxi drivers are regulated and pay taxes on their earnings.

g) Swaran Singh Brar, Brampton resident noted the regulations for the taxi drivers, but with the operation of TNCs some of the safeguards for the public are taken away as well as the livelihood of taxi drivers.
h) Ramandeep Singh, Brampton resident expressed concern with the operation of TNCs and the negative impact on the taxi industry.

Received (Councillor Iannicca)

6. MATTERS CONSIDERED

Committee recessed the meeting at 3:08 pm.

Committee resumed its meeting at 3:26pm.

6.1. Transportation Network Company (TNC) Licensing Pilot Project

Councillor Parrish spoke to the matter and noted that she would bring forward a motion to Council for staff to review and remove the regulations for taxis that do not match up with the regulations for TNCs.

Councillor Ras requested further clarification from staff on: the criminal background checks, medical certificates and demerit points.

Mayor Crombie spoke to the matter and noted her support for a level playing field for taxi drivers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

GC-0186-2017

1. That a by-law be enacted to provide for an 18 month Pilot Project permitting the operation of Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) in Mississauga as outlined in the report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, dated March 8, 2017 entitled “Transportation Network Company (TNC) Licensing Pilot Project.”

2. That a by-law be enacted to amend the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended, to minimize impediments to taxi and limousine operators providing service in a manner competitive with TNCs as outlined in the report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, dated March 8, 2017 entitled “Transportation Network Company (TNC) Licensing Pilot Project.”

3. That staff report to General Committee at the completion of the Pilot Project with recommendations for future regulations for the public vehicle industry.

RECORDED VOTE

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6.2. Information Items with respect to Item 6.1

RECOMMENDATION
GC-0187-2017
That the following information items regarding the Transportation Network Company Licensing Pilot Project, be received:

a) Email dated March 19, 2017 from Peter Pellier
b) Letter dated March 21, 2017 from David Wojcik, President & CEO, Mississauga Board of Trade

Received (Mayor Crombie)

7. ADJOURNMENT – 3:39 PM