



MINUTES

TOWING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday February 28, 2012 – 9:00 AM

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

Members Present: Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6 (**Chair**)
Councillor Nando Iannicca, Ward 7
Mark Bell (Citizen Member)
Daniel Ghanime (Citizen Member)
Todd Keely (Citizen Member)
John C. Lyons (Citizen Member) (**Vice Chair**)
Tullio (Tony) Pento (Citizen Member)
Daniel R. Wallace (Citizen Member) (arrived: 9:05am)

Staff Present: Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement
Brad Parliament, Acting Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement
Ed Spence, Mobile Licensing Enforcement Officer
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

**NOTE: The Committee changed the order of the Agenda during the meeting.
These Minutes reflect the order of the meeting.**

CALL TO ORDER – 9:09 a.m.

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS – Nil

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting held July 19, 2011.

The chair requested that the second paragraph under Presentations/Deputations, be amended to “storage rate” instead of “towing rate”.

Approved (N. Iannicca)

2. Amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-Law 521-04 Mobile Licensing

Corporate Report dated October 5, 2011 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04 Mobile Licensing.

Committee members discussed the recommendation to amend By-Law 521-04 by deleting the words “six thousand (6000) pounds (2721 kg) in towing weight” and inserting “nine thousand five hundred (9,500) pounds or (4318 kg) of GVWR” [Gross Vehicle Weight Rating], the accuracy of towing weights, and heavy tow weights.

Dara Carpenter, Manager, Towing and Storage Unit, Intact Insurance, discussed the GVWR and suggested that Mr. Spence reevaluate the numbers in the Corporate Report due to the different types of weights involved.

Recommendation

TIAC-0001-2012

That the Corporate Report dated October 5, 2011 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to amendments to the Tow Truck Licensing By-law 521-04 Mobile Licensing be received and referred to Licensing and Enforcement staff for further review on Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) with a matrix

comparing data, implementation data, other background information about this issue and returned to the Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting on April 17, 2012 for consideration.

Referred (N. Iannicca)

3. Atlantic Towing – Tow Truck Licensing By-Law Amendments

Correspondence dated July 18, 2011 from Evangelista Tolfa, President, Atlantic Towing, to the Mayor and Members of Council and correspondence dated August 31, 2011, from Mayor Hazel McCallion.

Recommendation

TIAC-0002-2011

That the correspondence dated July 18, 2011 from Evangelista Tolfa, President, Atlantic Towing, to the Mayor and Members of Council and the correspondence dated August 31, 2011, from Mayor Hazel McCallion be received.

Received (N. Iannicca)

4. Tow Truck Licensing By-Law Amendments

Correspondence dated July 18, 2011 from Mark Bell, Daniel Ghanime, Todd Keely, Tullio (Tony) Pento and Daniel R. Wallace, Towing Industry Advisory Committee Citizen Members, and correspondence dated August 25, 2011 from Jack Lyons, President, Lyons Auto Body, and Evangelista (Ivan) Tolfa, President, Tolfa Auto Work Ltd. & Atlantic Towing, with respect to tow truck licensing by-law amendments.

Committee members expressed support for the towing rate to be set at \$350.00 as this rate has not increased in 10 years, apart from CPI.

The Chair, requested that staff relook review this matter and report back to a future Committee meeting with more information.

Mr. Frost responded that staff would prepare a corporate report on this matter.

Recommendation

TIAC-0003-2012

That the correspondence dated July 18, 2011 from Mark Bell, Daniel Ghanime, Todd Keely, Tullio (Tony) Pento and Daniel R. Wallace, Towing Industry Advisory Committee Citizen Members, and the correspondence dated August 25, 2011 from Jack Lyons, President, Lyons Auto Body, and Evangelista (Ivan) Tolfa, President, Tolfa Auto Work Ltd. & Atlantic Towing, with respect to tow truck licensing by-law amendments be

received and referred to Licensing and Enforcement staff for a Corporate Report and returned to a future Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting for consideration.

Referred (N. Iannicca)

5. Vehicle Pound Facility Licensing and Enforcement

Correspondence dated January 3, 2012 from Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement, to licensed vehicle pound facility owners, tow truck owners and drivers regarding vehicle pound facility licensing and enforcement.

Mark Lockwood, Unit Manager, Claims Road Operations, RBC Insurance applauded the corresponded and thanked staff for recognizing the disconnect and for making it easy for the citizens and everyone involved.

Recommendation

TIAC-0004-2012

That the correspondence dated January 3, 2012 from Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement, to licensed vehicle pound facility owners, tow truck owners and drivers regarding vehicle pound facility licensing and enforcement be received.

Received (N. Iannicca)

6. Lyons Auto Body Ltd. – Tow Truck Licensing By-Law Amendments and Other Recommendations

Correspondence dated January 30, 2012 from John Lyons, General Manager, Lyons Auto Body Ltd., with respect to Lyons Auto Body Ltd. – tow truck licensing by-law amendments and other recommendations.

John Lyons, General Manager Lyons Auto Body Ltd., spoke to the matter of Licensed Vehicle Impound Facilities (VPF) who are not complying with the City of Mississauga Storage By-Law. City of Mississauga Enforcement Officers need to be monitoring this situation. The Chair mentioned that staff should look into the amount of VPF we have operating in Mississauga and if have too many.

Recommendation

TIAC-0005-2012

That the correspondence dated January 30, 2012 from John Lyons, General Manager, Lyons Auto Body Ltd., with respect to Lyons Auto Body Ltd. – tow truck licensing by-law amendments and other recommendations be referred to Licensing and Enforcement

staff for further review and returned to a future Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting for consideration.

Referred (N. Iannicca)

7. Proposal for Towing/Storage Industry in Mississauga

Email message dated February 22, 2012 from Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6, with respect to a proposal for towing/storage in Mississauga.

The Chair discussed the number of licensed tow truck drivers in the City and the approximate number of accidents in the City per year and the approximate earnings/income of tow truck drivers.

Mr. Lockwood discussed the email message and agreed with the Chair's concerns as he would like to know where the numbers came from. Mr. Lockwood expressed concern that there seems to be a need for this service and there is a disconnect if there is a request for more licenses and the industry seems to be starving. He also addressed the issue that other jurisdictions are asking owners to provide criminal record searches, driver abstracts and facilities to be bonded. He would request that the City look into these issues.

Mr. Lyons, agreed with Atlantic Towing comments addressed and noted that he would like to see the towing industry cleaned up.

Recommendation

TIAC-0006-2012

That the email message dated February 22, 2012 from Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6, with respect to a proposal for towing/storage in Mississauga be received and referred to Licensing and Enforcement staff for further review and returned to a future Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting for consideration.

Referred (J. Lyons)

OTHER BUSINESS

Dual-Wheel Trucks

The issue was raised that dual-wheel trucks are coming back to the industry versus single wheel trucks. The views of the Ontario Provincial Police and the Peel Regional Police differ and clarification is needed.

Mr. Spence discussed the matter of the number of trucks involved and indicated that the by-law may need to be reviewed.

Recommendation

TIAC-0007-2012

That Licensing and Enforcement staff prepare a Corporate Report with respect to dual-wheel trucks and the possibility of including such trucks in the Tow Truck Licensing By-Law 521-04 for consideration at a future Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting.

Referred (N. Iannicca)

Towing Practices and Policies for the Peel Regional Police

The Chair discussed citizen rights and the role of Peel Regional Police at collision scenes. Clarification is needed on this issue.

Recommendation

TIAC-0008-2012

That Licensing and Enforcement staff obtain information with respect to towing practices and policies for the Peel Regional Police and return this matter to a future Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting for consideration.

Referred (N. Iannicca)

Capping the Number of Tow Truck Licenses

The Chair asked staff if vehicles are still being towed out of the City's boundaries.

Ms. Carpenter expressed concern that some tow truck drivers continue to tow vehicles out of the City's boundaries. She suggested that more enforcement is needed to ensure that the rules are enforced and noted that she could share data on this topic with staff.

Mr. Spence discussed capping the number of tow truck licenses and enforcement matters.

Recommendation

TIAC-0009-2012

That Licensing and Enforcement staff prepare a Corporate Report with respect to the possibility of capping the number of tow truck licenses issued by the City of Mississauga and return this matter to a future Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting for consideration.

Referred (N. Iannicca)

INFORMATION ITEMS8. Resignation of James Bisson, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement

Mr. Frost, gave a verbal update on the resignation of Mr. James Bisson who accepted a position with the City of Brampton as the Manager of Licensing.

Councillor Ron Starr stated that he would send a letter to Mr. Bisson on behalf of the Committee wishing him well in his new position.

9. 2012 Towing Industry Advisory Committee Meetings DatesRecommendation

TIAC-0010-2012

That the Memorandum dated February 22, 2012 from Stephanie Smith, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the City Clerk, outlining 2012 Towing Industry Advisory Committee meeting dates be received.

Received (N. Iannicca)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING –Tuesday, April 17, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. Council Chamber

ADJOURNMENT – 10:08 a.m.