

Ordinance No. 1390

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 37-6, Division 1 and Section 37-77, Section 37-78, Division 6, all of Article I, Chapter 37 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended; which Chapter 37 relates to TAXICABS AND OTHER VEHICLES FOR HIRE, which Article I relates to TAXICABS AND FOR-HIRE VEHICLES, which Division 1 relates to GENERALLY, and which Division 6 relates to FARES.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Sec. 37-6, Division 1, Article I, Chapter 37 of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 37-6. Insurance or bond required.

It shall be unlawful for any taxicab or for-hire vehicle to operate on the streets of the city and no certificate of public convenience and necessity shall be issued therefore, unless and until there is in full force and effect and filed with the hack inspector for the city either:

(a) A public liability and property damage insurance policy in at least the amount of fifty thousand dollars for death or injury to any one person in any one accident, and one hundred thousand dollars for death or injury to more than one person in any one accident, and ten thousand dollars property damage in any accident, all with a company authorized to do business within the state, and every policy under this section shall contain a clause obligating the company issuing the same to give fifteen days' notice in writing to the hack inspector before any cancellation thereof.

(b) An indemnity bond of a surety company, authorized to do business within the state in the same amounts and for the same purposes as the insurance policy stated in subsection (a) of this section; provided, that the director of finance of the city, after investigation, shall be fully satisfied as to the financial responsibility of the surety company on such bond.

Section 2. That Sec. 37-77, Division 6, Article I, Chapter 37 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 37-77. Taximeters.

All taxicabs operated under the authority of this article shall, on and after March 15, 1955, be equipped with taxi-

meters fastened in front of the passengers, visible to them at all times day and night; and, after sundown, the face of the taximeter shall be illuminated. Such taximeter shall be operated mechanically by a mechanism of standard design and construction, driven either from the transmission or from one of the front wheels by a flexible and permanently attached driving mechanism. It shall be inspected and sealed by the hack inspector at an annual cost not to exceed one dollar for each meter, at all points and connections which, if manipulated, would affect its correct reading and recording. Each taximeter shall have thereon a flag to denote when the vehicle is employed, and when it is not employed; and it shall be the duty of the driver to throw the flag of such taximeter into a nonrecording position at the termination of each trip. The taximeters shall be subject to inspection from time to time by the hack inspector or the department of police. Any inspector or other officer of the department of police is hereby authorized either on complaint of any person or without such complaint, to inspect any meter and, upon discovery of any inaccuracy therein, to notify the person operating such taxicab to cease operation. Thereupon such taxicab shall be kept off the highways until the taximeter is repaired and in the required working condition, and inspected and approved by the hack inspector or any other officer designated by the superintendent of police, and it shall be unlawful for any owner or driver to operate or allow to be operated any taxicab without a taximeter installed and used in the manner set forth in this section.

Section 3. That Section 37-78, Division 6, Article I, Chapter 37 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 37-78. Amount of fare to be charged.

The rates to be charged passengers by owners or drivers of taxicabs shall be as follows, and it shall be unlawful for any owner to permit or a driver to make any greater or lesser charge:

- (a) For the first three-quarter mile or fraction thereof for one passenger, fifty cents.
- (b) For each additional passenger over six years of age, twenty cents.
- (c) For each additional one-fourth mile or fraction thereof for one or more passengers, ten cents.
- (d) For each two minutes of waiting time for one or

more passengers, ten cents. Waiting time shall include time consumed while taxicab is waiting and available to passenger beginning five minutes after the time of arrival at the place to which it has been called, time consumed while taxicab is stopped or slowed for traffic to a speed of less than seven miles per hour and time consumed for delays or stopovers en route at the direction of a passenger.

No time shall be allowed for a premature response to a call. There shall be no charge for mileage when time is being charged for a taxicab that is stopped or slowed for traffic to a speed of less than seven miles per hour. Waiting time shall not include time lost on account of inefficiency of a taxicab.

(e) No charge shall be made for the transportation of light or small packages.

(f) For each hand baggage, grip or paper bag holding twenty pounds or more in excess of two per passenger, ten cents each.

(g) For each trunk, paper bag holding fifty pounds or more, or other bulky or heavy package, not ordinarily considered hand baggage or small or light package, a rate as agreed upon between the passenger and the driver in advance of transportation.

(It is recognized that taximeters cannot be adjusted or replaced instantly to conform to the fare structure becoming effective July 1, 1966.) In order to provide for a gradual changeover it shall be lawful for drivers to charge either the fare currently established by this section or the fare established by this section which become effective July 1, 1966; provided that in no event shall the fare currently in use be charged after August 1, 1966.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City not later than five days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The Clerk of the Council shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective July 1, 1966.

FRANK E. MANN
Mayor

Final Passage: July 28, 1966