

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 22 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, by adding thereto a new article numbered XI; which Chapter 22 relates to MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, and which Article XI relates to LICENSE TAXES ON MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAILERS AND SEMI-TRAILERS.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Chapter 22 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended by adding thereto a new article numbered XI to read as follows:

Article XI. License Taxes on Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-trailers.

Sec. 22-234. License for tax levy.

A license tax is hereby imposed for the period from the fifteenth day of April to the following fourteenth day of April for each year upon every person (1) who operates on the streets of the city a motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer, registered and licensed by the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles, the registration for which shows an address in the city, or (2) who operates on the streets of the city a motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer, registered and licensed by the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles, the registration for which shows an address elsewhere in Virginia, and which vehicle has been in the city for a period of at least thirty days, or (3) who operates on the streets of the city a motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer, registered and licensed by another state, which vehicle has been in the city for a period of at least thirty days, or (4) who operates on the streets of the city a motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer from a place of business within the city, which vehicle is used in the conduct of any business or occupation within the city. Such license tax shall be at the rate set forth in Sections 22-238 through 22-242, and shall be for the purpose of providing revenue for the general fund of the city. Nothing in this section shall be construed as imposing a license tax on any vehicle not required to be licensed by Section 46.1-45 et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, any vehicle exempted by Section 46.1-66, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, or any vehicle exempted by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C.A., Appendix § 574.

Sec. 22-235. When payable, application for and issuance generally of license.

The license tax covered by Section 22-234 of this Code shall be due and payable not later than April fifteenth of each license tax year and not earlier than March fifteenth, and shall be good until April fifteenth the following year. Application for the license prescribed by this article shall be made to the City Collector on forms providing for the name and address of the

applicant and a description of the vehicle for which the license is to be issued, and the license tax herein provided for shall be paid to the City Collector. At the time of such application, the applicant shall present his state registration or other proof of ownership, and upon payment of the license tax, the City Collector shall issue to the applicant an appropriate license plate or license windshield tag for such vehicle. Application and payment shall be made (1) upon registering and licensing any motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer with the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles when the registration for such vehicle shows an address in the city, or (2) upon commencement of operation upon the streets of the city of any motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer, which vehicle has been in the city for a period of at least thirty days, and which vehicle is either registered and licensed by another state or by the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles, the address for which is elsewhere in Virginia, or (3) upon commencement of operation upon the streets of the city of a motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer from a place of business within the city, which vehicle is used in the conduct of any business or occupation within the city.

Sec. 22-236. Payment of personal property taxes prior to license.

No license plate or windshield tag shall be issued under this article unless and until the applicant for such license shall have produced satisfactory evidence that all personal property taxes upon the motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer to be licensed have been paid which have been properly assessed or are assessable against the applicant.

Sec. 22-237. Display of license plate or license windshield tag.

Each license plate issued under this article shall be attached to the front or rear state license tag and kept in full view at all times. Each license windshield tag issued under this article shall be affixed on the inside of the windshield of the vehicle. It shall be placed adjacent to the state inspection sticker and not more than three inches from the bottom of the windshield.

Sec. 22-238. Tax on vehicles designated and used for transportation of passengers - Schedule.

The annual license tax on motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers designed and used for the transportation of passengers shall be as follows:

(1) Ten dollars for a private motor vehicle other than a motorcycle with a normal seating capacity of not more than ten persons, including the driver, if such private motor vehicle is not used for the transportation of passengers for compensation and is not kept or used for rent or for hire or is not operated under a lease without a chauffeur.

(2) Thirty cents per one hundred pounds of weight or major fraction thereof for a private motor vehicle other than a motorcycle with a normal seating capacity of more than ten adult persons, including the driver, if such private motor vehicle is not used for the transportation of passengers for compensation and is not kept or used for rent or for hire or is not operated under a lease without chauffeur; provided that in no case shall the fee be less than ten dollars.

(3) Thirty cents per hundred pounds of weight or major fraction thereof for a school bus, public or private, provided that in no case shall the fee be less than ten dollars.

(4) Seven dollars and fifty cents for a trailer or semi-trailer designed for use as living quarters for human beings.

(5) Eighty cents per hundred pounds of weight or major fraction thereof for each motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer kept or used for rent or for hire or operated under a lease without chauffeur for the transportation of passengers. This subsection does not apply to vehicles used as common carriers.

(6) Ninety cents per hundred pounds of weight or major fraction thereof for a taxicab and other vehicles kept for rent or hire operated with a chauffeur for the transportation of passengers, which operates or should operate under permits issued by the State Corporation Commission as required by law. This subsection does not apply to vehicles used as common carriers.

(7) Three dollars for a motorcycle.

(8) Two dollars for a sidecar.

(9) Ten dollars for a bus used exclusively for transportation to and from Sunday school or church for the purpose of divine worship.

(10) Seventy cents per hundred pounds of weight or major fraction thereof for other passenger-carrying vehicles.

Sec. 22-239. Same--Small rented vehicles jointly operated.

The license taxes required by paragraphs (5) and (6) of Section 22-238 to be paid for the operation of motor vehicles used for rent or hire shall not be required for the operation of any motor vehicle with a normal seating capacity of not more than six adult persons, including the driver, while used not for profit in transporting persons who, as a common undertaking, bear or agree to bear all or a part of the actual costs of such operation and for the purpose of Section 22-238, every such motor vehicle shall be treated as a private motor vehicle for which the annual license tax shall be ten dollars.

Sec. 22-240. Tax on vehicles not designed or used for transportation of passengers.

Except as hereinafter otherwise provided, the license tax to be paid by owners of all motor vehicles, trailers or semi-trailers not

designed and used for the transportation of passengers shall be determined by the gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles of which it is a part, when loaded to the maximum capacity for which it is registered and licensed, according to the schedule herein set forth.

For each thousand pounds of gross weight or major fraction thereof for which any such vehicle is registered and licensed there shall be paid to the City Collector the tax indicated in the following schedule immediately opposite the weight group and under the classification established by the provisions of Section 46.1-99(b) of the Code of Virginia, into which such vehicle or any combination of vehicles of which it is a part falls when loaded to the maximum capacity for which it is registered and licensed; provided, that in no case shall the tax be less than twelve dollars.

Gross Weight Groups (pounds)	Tax Per Thousand Pounds of Gross Weight	
	Private Carriers	For-Rent or For-Hire Carriers
10,000 and less	\$1.20	\$ 1.20
10,001 - 11,000	1.30	1.30
11,001 - 12,000	1.40	1.40
12,001 - 13,000	1.50	1.50
13,001 - 14,000	1.60	1.60
14,001 - 15,000	1.70	1.70
15,001 - 16,000	1.80	1.80
16,001 - 17,000	2.00	2.00
17,001 - 18,000	2.20	2.20
18,001 - 19,000	2.40	3.85
19,001 - 20,000	2.60	4.15
20,001 - 21,000	2.80	4.50
21,001 - 22,000	3.00	4.70
22,001 - 23,000	3.20	5.10
23,001 - 24,000	3.40	5.40
24,001 - 25,000	3.60	5.75
25,001 - 26,000	3.80	6.10
26,001 - 27,000	4.00	6.40
27,001 - 28,000	4.20	6.70
28,001 - 29,000	4.40	7.05
29,001 - 40,000	4.50	7.20
40,001 - 45,000	5.00	8.00
45,001 - 50,000	6.00	9.60
50,001 - 70,000	7.50	10.65

Sec. 22-241. Tax on certain trailers.

The fee for the certificate of registration and license plates to be paid to the City Collector by the owner of a one or two wheel trailer of a cradle, flat bed or open pickup type, with a body length of not more than nine feet and a width not greater than the width of the motor vehicle to which it is attached at any time of operation, to be attached to the owner's

own motor vehicle and used only for carrying property belonging to the owner of such trailer, which is pulled or towed by a passenger car or station wagon, or a pickup or panel truck having an actual gross vehicle weight not exceeding five thousand pounds, and which is used for carrying property not exceeding one thousand pounds at any one time, or any trailer having a body length of not more than sixteen feet which is designed and used exclusively for carrying boats, shall be three dollars and fifty cents. Nothing herein shall be construed as applying to the fees for trailers or semi-trailers designed for use as living quarters for human beings, or to those trailers or semi-trailers operated under lease or rental agreement, or operated for compensation.

Sec. 22-242. Combinations of tractor-trucks and semi-trailers.

(a) In the case of a combination of a tractor-truck and a semi-trailer, each vehicle constituting a part of such combination shall be registered as a separate vehicle, and separate vehicle license plates shall be issued therefor, but, for the purpose of determining the gross weight group into which any such vehicle falls pursuant to Section 22-240, the combination of vehicles of which such vehicle constitutes a part shall be considered a unit, and the aggregate gross weight of the entire combination shall determine such gross weight group. The tax for license plates for a semi-trailer constituting a part of such combination shall be twelve dollars.

(b) In determining the tax to be paid for the license plates for a tractor-truck constituting a part of such combination the tax shall be assessed at the total weight and the tax per thousand pounds applicable to the gross weight of the combination when loaded to the maximum capacity for which it is registered and licensed. However, there shall be no deduction from this tax for the tax of the semi-trailer in the combination.

Sec. 22-243. Transfer of license plates or license windshield tag.

Any owner who has paid a license tax required under this article for any motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer may transfer the license plate or license windshield tag to another vehicle listed in such owner's name, such as a like vehicle and category as specified in this article and which requires an identical license tax, upon application on forms furnished by the City Collector and presentation of such registration card for the vehicle, accompanied by a fee of one dollar, provided that if such other vehicle requires a greater license tax than that for which the license plate or license windshield tag was issued, the amount of the difference in license taxes between the two vehicles shall also be paid.

Sec. 22-244. Replacement of lost license plate or license windshield tag.

Any person losing his original license plate or license windshield tag issued as provided in Section 22-236 may secure a new license plate or license windshield tag by making affidavit to

the City Collector that the original license plate or license windshield tag has been lost and the police department notified and by paying a fee of one dollar to the City Collector.

Sec. 22-245. Proration.

One half of the annual license taxes prescribed by Sections 22-238 through 22-242 shall be collected whenever any license plate or license windshield tag issued during the period beginning on the first day of October in any year, ending on the fifteenth day of January in the same license year, and one third of such license taxes shall be collected whenever any license plate or license windshield tag is issued after the fifteenth day of January in any license year; provided, however, that the license tax to be paid by the owner of any private motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, designed and used for the transportation of passengers not for compensation, when the same is issued after the fifteenth day of October in any license year, shall be three dollars.

Sec. 22-246. Refund.

(a) Any person holding a current license receipt and license plate or license windshield tag who disposes of the vehicle for which they were issued and does not purchase another vehicle may surrender the license plate or license windshield tag and license receipt to the City Collector with a statement that the vehicle for which the license plate or license windshield tag was issued has been sold and request a refund for the unused portion of the fee paid.

(b) The City Collector shall cause to be refunded to the applicant one half of the total cost of the license plate or license windshield tag if application for such refund is made on or before the first day of October of the current license year, but such refund shall only be one third of such total cost when the application therefor is made subsequent to the first day of October of the current license year, but on or before the first day of January of the current license year. No refund shall be made when the application therefor is made after the first day of January of the current license year.

Sec. 22-247. Offenses relating to city license plate or license windshield tag.

No person shall:

(a) Operate or permit a motor vehicle, trailer or semi-trailer, controlled by him to be operated upon the streets of the city without first procuring the license plate or license windshield tag required by this article.

(b) Display, cause or permit to be displayed or to have in his possession any license receipt, license plate or license windshield tag, knowing the same to be fictitious or to have been altered.

(c) Lend or knowingly to permit the use, by one not entitled thereto, of any license plate or license windshield tag.

(d) Use a false or fictitious name or address on any application for a license plate or license windshield tag or knowingly to make a false statement of a material fact or to conceal a material fact or otherwise commit a fraud in any such application.

(e) Use any license plate or license windshield tag issued under this article on any vehicle other than the vehicle for which such license plate or license windshield tag was issued or to which such license plate or license windshield tag was transferred by the City Collector.

(f) Fail to carry the license receipt for the vehicle which he operates. Upon a conviction of a violation of this subsection, he shall be punished by a fine of not less than one dollar nor more than ten dollars; provided, however, if any person, when summonsed to appear before a court for failure to display his license receipt, upon such demand being made of him, shall present to the officer making such demand before the return date of the summons a proper license receipt or shall appear pursuant to such summons and produce before the court a proper license receipt, he shall be deemed to have complied with the provisions of this subsection.

(g) Display any license plate or license windshield tag after the expiration date of such license plate or license windshield tag. Upon a conviction of a violation of this subsection, he shall be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty dollars.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published 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 March 15, 1972.

Charles E. Beatley, Jr.
Mayor

FINAL PASSAGE: JANUARY 25, 1972