

City of Salem, Massachusetts



**"Know Your Rights Under the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 39 §23B, and City Ordinance Sections 2-2028 through 2-2033."**

The City Council Committee on Ordinances, Licenses & legal Affairs coposted with Committee of the Whole

met in the Council Chamber on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 6:30 P.M.

for the purpose of discussing the matter(s) listed below. Notice of this meeting was posted on

November 10, 2011 at 11:35 A.M.

(This meeting is being recorded.)

**ATTENDANCE**

**ABSENT WERE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT(S)**

#276 of 2010 - Increase Taxi Fares (coposted matter)

#646 - Officer Page's Letter re: Taxi and Limo issues at train station and conducting of businesses on public ways (OLLA only)

#647 - Jean Joseph's letter regarding taxis/limos at train station (OLLA only)

*See appendix A of  
Committee letter*

**APPENDIX A**

**To be attached to Committee on Ordinances, Licenses and  
Legal Affairs Committee Report dated 11/15/11**

**Committee Members Present: Lovely, Sargent, Sosnowski, Pelletier**

**Committee Members Absent: O'Keefe (excused absence)**

**The committee discussed the following posted agenda items:**

**RE: Taxi Fare Increase, Taxi Cab and Limousine issues at the Salem Train Station and conducting business on public ways**

**INVITED: Taxi Cab and Limousine Owners, Officer Mike Page, Lt. Preczewski**

**Order # 276**

**Increase Taxi Fares**

C. Lovely

Explained that to comply with the Open Meeting Law, the draft tax ordinance amendment cannot be deliberated tonight and will have to be recommended to the full council to be referred back to the committee with a new order number.

We can discuss the taxi cab and limousine issues at the Salem Train Station and conducting business on public ways.

**C. Sosnowski**

**Motion to recommend draft tax ordinance amendment to full council with further recommendation that it be referred back to committee with a new order number for further review and deliberation.**

**Committee to meet on Tuesday November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm.**

**C. Pelletier**

**Second**

**All in Favor None Opposed Approved**

**Order #646**

**Officer Page's Letter re: Taxi and Limo issues at train station and conducting of business on public ways AND**

**Order #647**

**Jean Joseph's letter regarding taxis/limos at train station (Salem Community Transportation Taxi Services)**

Officer Page

Sent letter dated 9/26/11 to all licensed Tax and Car Service companies

SPD received complaints from taxi operators complaining about where taxis should park

Transit police want companies to park south side of island for taxi companies

Six spots there now for pick up of fares

Taxis for drop offs were blocking the HC access lot

Officer Page contacted all companies not to do that

Elderly and HC can be dropped off there

MBTA put signs up

Operators conducting business on public ways

Operators trying to take business away from other businesses

	Physical altercations between companies
	Plenty of business to go around
	SPD cannot babysit the companies
	Officer Page is suggesting an ordinance prohibiting this activity
Jean Joseph	Spoke about his letter and problems with other companies
	Livery companies taking fares from taxis
Officer Page	Stated that he has received most complaints about Mr. Joseph
C. Sargent	Can liveries take blind fares?
Officer Page	Liveries are pre-arranged contractual pick-up delivery service
	Need to know who they are picking up
	No blind fares
C. Sosnowski	Are transit police getting the same complaints?
Officer Page	Yes about operators bad mouthing other companies
Sean Mackinnon	General Manager North Shore Taxi
	49 Darbin Road, Peabody
	Heard complaints from his drivers recently
	Instructed his drivers to drive away
	His Salem drivers don't want to come to Salem due to these problems
	First in the que doesn't mean that the customer has to go to that cab
	Customer's right to choose which company to take
Joseph Mahan	General Manager Tri City
	12 Larchmont, Salem
	Has received no personal complaints
Bob Carrick	North Shore Taxi
	Mans the phones M-F
	Customers called for their service even with Mr. Joseph cab sitting at the station
	Certain customers like certain cab companies
C. Sosnowski	
Officer Page	Getting complaints about the surcharge
Lt. Preczewski	Council should revoke licenses if/when Officer Page recommends
	No one owns a customer
	MBTA can bar certain drivers from the lot which is arrestable
C. Sosnowski	Motion matter to remain in committee
C. Sargent	Second
	All in favor none opposed voted

**ASK COMMITTEE ABOUT THEIR RESPECTIVE SCHEDULES FOR WEEKS OF:**

**Tuesday November 22      Taxi Ordinance 6:30pm**

**Monday November 28**

Tuesday November 29  
Wednesday November 30  
Thursday December 1

Monday December 5  
Tuesday December 6        Salem Partnership Holiday event  
Wednesday December 7  
Thursday December 8        Last council meeting of the year

Order #101A        Taxi Ordinance Amendment  
SCHEDULE MEETING FOR TUESDAY NOVEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> AT 6:30PM

Order #319        Ordinance to vote on 2.5% tax increase/budget  
SCHEDULE MEETING FOR TUESDAY NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30PM

Order #592        Letter from John Femino Re: Lifebridge  
SCHEDULE MEETING

Order #622        Rooming Houses (10 Howard St. Issue)  
HOLD

Order #468        HRP Liquor License Criteria  
SCHEDULE MEETING FOR TUESDAY NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30PM

Meeting date(s) and subject matter(s) and invitees may change due to unforeseen circumstances. Please refer to the City's meeting calendar for official meeting postings.

Motion C. Sosnowski to adjourn.  
All in favor None opposed Approved  
Meeting was adjourned at 7:37PM