

## CHAPTER 4

### TAXICABS

#### SECTION

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**5-401. License required.** It shall be unlawful to engage in the business of operating a taxicab in the City of Paris without first having secured a license therefore. Applications for such licenses shall be made in writing to the finance director, and shall state thereon the name of the applicant, the intended place of business, and the number of cabs to be operated. If the applicant is a corporation, the names and addresses of the president, secretary, and the agent for service of process thereof shall be given (Ord. #849, 05/05/94).

**5-402. Definitions.** The term "taxicab" as used in this ordinance shall mean and include any vehicle used to carry passengers for hire but not operating on a fixed route (Ord. #849, 05/05/94).

**5-403. Fee.** The annual fee, payable in advance, for such license shall be \$100.00 plus \$20.00 for each taxicab operated. Whenever the number of cabs so operated shall increase during the license year, the licensee shall notify the finance director of such change and shall pay the additional fee. Such fee shall be in lieu of any other vehicle fee required by the City of Paris and the finance director shall issue a suitable receipt for the number of cabs covered by each license. Such receipt shall be displayed in a prominent place on each taxicab while it is in use, and may be transferred to any taxicab put into service to replace one withdrawn from service. The licensee shall notify the finance director of the motor number and state license number of each cab operated and the corresponding receipt number (Ord. #849, 05/05/94).

**5-404. Mechanical Condition of Vehicles.** It shall be unlawful for any taxicab to operate in the municipality unless it is equipped with four-wheel brakes, front and rear lights, safe tires, horn, muffler, windshield wipers, and rear-view and side-view mirrors, all of which shall conform to the requirements of state law. Each taxicab shall be equipped with a handle or latch or other opening device attached to each door of the passenger compartment so that such doors may be operated by the passenger from the inside of the taxi cab without the intervention or assistance of the driver. The motor and all mechanical parts shall be kept in such condition or repair as may be reasonably necessary to provide for the safety of the public and the continuous satisfactory operation of the taxicab. Each taxicab, while operating, shall have on each side, in letters readable from a distance of fifty (50) feet, the name of the licensee. If more than one taxicab is operated by a licensee, each taxicab shall be designated by a different number, and such number also shall appear on each side of such taxicab (Ord. #849, 05/05/94).

**5-405. Drivers.** No person shall drive a taxicab or be hired or permitted to do so unless he is duly licensed by the state of Tennessee to carry passengers for hire (Ord. #849, 05/05/94).

**5-406. Insurance.** No taxicab shall be operated unless it is covered by a public liability policy as required by statute. The insurance policy required by this section shall contain a provision that it shall not be cancelled except after thirty (30) days written notice is given by the insurer to

both the insured and the finance director for the City of Paris. The insurance policy shall be filed with the finance director, who shall issue a receipt therefore. The receipt shall show the policy number, the name of the insurance company, the name of the insured, and the make, color, style and motor or manufacturer's serial number of each vehicle covered by the policy. A copy of such receipt shall be kept in each insured taxicab and shall be exhibited by the driver to any police officer or passenger upon request and to any person or such person's agent who is injured or damaged by such vehicle (Ord. #849, 05/05/94).

**5-407. Conduct required; Conduct prohibited.**

(a) Cleanliness of vehicles. All taxicabs operated in the city shall, at all times, be kept in reasonably clean and sanitary condition. They shall be thoroughly swept and dusted at least once each day. At least once every week, they shall be thoroughly washed and the interior cleaned with a suitable antiseptic solution.

(b) Parking restricted. It shall be unlawful to park any taxicab on any street except in such places as have been specifically designated and marked by the municipality for use of taxicabs. It is provided, however, that taxicabs may stop upon any street for the purpose of picking up or discharging passengers if such stops are made in such manner as not unreasonably to interfere with or obstruct other traffic and providing the passenger loading or discharging is promptly accomplished.

(c) Drivers to use direct routes. Taxicab drivers shall always deliver their passengers to their destinations by the most direct available route.

(d) Taxicabs not to be used for illegal purposes. No taxicab shall be used for or in the commission of any illegal act, business, or purpose.

(e) Miscellaneous prohibited conduct by drivers. It shall be unlawful for any taxicab driver, while on duty, to be under the influence of, or to drink any intoxicating beverage; to use profane or obscene language; to shout or call to prospective passengers; to unnecessarily blow the automobile horn; or to otherwise unreasonably disturb the peace, quiet, and tranquility of the municipality in any way.

(f) Passengers. It shall be the duty of the driver of any taxicab to accept as a passenger any person who seeks to so use the taxicab, providing such person is not intoxicated or under the influence of drugs and conducts themselves in an orderly manner.

(g) Transportation of more than one passenger. No person shall be admitted to a taxicab already occupied by a passenger without the consent of such other passenger.

(h) Drivers not to solicit business. All taxicab drivers are expressly prohibited from indiscriminately soliciting passengers or from cruising upon the streets of the municipality for the purpose of obtaining patronage for the cabs (Ord. #849, 05/05/94).

**5-408. Revocation or suspension of license.** The governing body, after a public hearing, may revoke or suspend any taxicab license for the violation of this chapter or for repeated violations of the traffic laws of the municipality (Ord. #849, 05/05/94).