Vehicle for Hire Licensing Board

Vehicle for Hire Licensing Board Minutes
Conference Room 12, City Hall
Wednesday, May 10, 2017
9:00 AM

Present: Jeffrey Munger, JM
Bill Keogh, BK
Adam Roof, AR
Charlie Herrick, CH
Dennis Duffy, DD
Gregg Meyer, GM
Ashley Bryce, AB
Lori Olberg, LO
Christine Dunbar, CD
Jordan Handy, JH
Leo Gamache, LG
Lillian Gamache, LG
Anthony Gamache, AG
Isaac Trombley, IT
Kenneth Woodcook, KW
Adnan Pasic, AP

1. AGENDA

On motion by commissioners Roof and Duffy the agenda was adopted as is.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

3. UPDATES

3.01. Introduction of the Vehicle for Hire Administrator

AB introduced Christine Dunbar and had the Board introduce themselves.
3.02. Monthly Fee Collection Update

AB stated all fees are current and up to date.

3.03. Miscellaneous Update

CH asked for an update on the enforcement officer. DD replied they are in the process of background check and will let us know of any more information.

4. COMPLAINTS:

4.01. Alpine Transportation – Leo Gamache

GM explained the procedure to be followed and introduced the Vehicle for Hire Board and swore Leo Gamache, Jordan Handy and Isaac Trombley in for testimony.

JH stated he believed this was a big misunderstanding. His client is currently at the Stern Center working on his communication skills. His client is socially awkward and doesn’t communicate as effectively as most. Believed the comments the complainant made were misunderstood. When this occurred the complainant asked his client to pull over and he did so immediately, then she paid and tipped Mr. Gamache.

IT read the report from Officer Leclerc of the incident from the complainant. It stated Mr. Gamache made inappropriate comments, one asking if she was single and another if she was interested in dating him. Also when he went down an unfamiliar road she asked why he was not taking the most direct route she claimed he said “I’m taking my special route so we can get to know each other better.” When IT talked to the complainant the week prior he explained the social issues Mr. Gamache has and she sounded as if she did not want to go further. IT tried to reach out again Monday to see if she would like to pursue but did not hear back.

AR asked if the evidence could be handed in for examination. Proceeded to ask about the “tics” that is referred to in responses, if it is safe for someone to be looking back constantly and not watching the road safe.

JH responded this was not relevant to this case and that he could not answer if Mr. Gamache is unsafe. He stated that Mr. Gamache does have his Vermont Driver’s License and was granted a license from the Board after a background check.

AR stated he wanted to make sure the safety of the public is happening. What occurred with the indirect route? Asked if JH’s client uses a GPS?

JH stated sometimes but doesn’t use it if he knows where he is going. In this case Handy’s client was going from the Airport to the New North End. He was driving on Prospect Street and turned onto Brookes Avenue. Which the complainant thought was
indirect but as everyone knows Brookes Avenue, Pearl Street, North Street connect to Willard Street to get on the belt line. She never asked him to take another route and as soon as she asked to get out he stopped the car immediately.

JH stated they would like to write an apology to the complainant and that they already issued a refund. JH stated when Mr. Gamache was suspended for the past two weeks that he had lost $800-$1,000 and he believed was a significant lesson.

GM closed the hearing.

4.02. Blazer Transportation – Christopher Handy

GM stated 9:25 second hearing was opened and Mr. Handy was not present. Mr. Handy received proper notice to be at the meeting via certified mail. Witnesses are present and Board would like to hear their testimony.

GM explained the procedure to be followed and introduced the Vehicle for Hire Board and swore Kenneth Woodcook and Adnan Pasic in for testimony.

KW began by explaining that the day in question about 2 pm of who was in charge, KW asked where. Mr. Handy asked where Isaac was, KW responded gone for the day. Mr. Handy asked for Sheila, KW responded gone as well. Mr. Handy began to swear at KW, KW asked for him to not swear at him or he would hang up. Mr. Handy proceeded to swear and ask who from City Hall came to the queue line and saw the car not having identification. KW listened to the point as to where he hung up. About half hour to forty five minutes later Cameron from Blazer called and apologized. About an hour later Mr. Handy became present at the airport. Started to apologize and stated he was not yelling. As he was stating that he began to yell and swear at KW again with customers around. KW walked away.

CH asked how many drivers he had yell at him.

KW replied he has heard drivers but not swear at him.

GM asked if there were customers around.

KW stated two planes had just landed so yes they were actually busy.

AP started to explain how he saw the incident. He explained what had happened with KW on the curb. When KW walked away AP tried calming Mr. Handy down. Mr. Handy was yelling about other vehicles don’t have signage, AP replied he hasn’t seen any that don’t. AP said many passengers were around maybe about 10 groups that could clearly hear what was going on.

GM stated testimony is closed for KW and AP.
AB stated there was a second incident and she could call the other complainant. AB tried calling Andrew Fournier but no answer. The board believed the written complaint was enough evidence.

GM closed the hearing on Christopher Handy.

On a motion by Commissioners Herrick and Keogh the Board went into executive session at 9:40.

On a motion by Commissioners Keogh and Munger the Board came out of executive session at 10:06.

5. MINUTES:

6.01. April 13, 2017

On a motion by Commissioners Keogh and Roof the minutes were adopted with amendment to remove Bill Keogh from being present.

6. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioners Keogh and Roof meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.