

**PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
WORK SESSION ON NEW VEHICLE FOR HIRE ORDINANCE**

January 17, 2001

7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioners present were John Hastie, Kevin Carter, John Dickens, Hugh Short, Jr., Tae Hwa Chung, and Guy Mercurief. Absent included Mike O'Brien (excused) and James Blake (excused). Ex-Officio members present were Chief Robert Petitt and Cyndee Simpson-Sugar, recording secretary.

ROLL CALL

People to be heard included about 10 members from the vehicle for hire industry. Their questions included concerns about the new ordinance and whether it was already law or not. Chair, John Hastie stated that the ordinance was proposed and the purpose of the meeting was to have a work session on the proposed ordinance. The Commission will give its recommendations to the City Council by March 13th. There will be additional work sessions and there will be public hearings on the ordinance.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Hugh Short, Sr. gave his opinion on central dispatch. He stated that it would not work because it would cost over \$100,000 a year and would put companies out of business. Mr. Hastie encouraged those present to submit their concerns in writing and to speak with Michelle Powers so that she might also be able to express concerns of the industry to the Commission and to Council.

Terryl Miller expressed that the new ordinance seemed to be simple and more clear in general, but was more complicated in that it added more rules to an already over regulated industry. He also felt that it did not totally address the transfer of permits.

There were quite a few concerns about the cost of fares staying the same yet there are increased costs for gas and insurance. The new ordinance also proposes raising the taxi permit fee to \$150.00.

Chief Petitt said that under the current ordinance rates could only be increased by council approval. The new ordinance would allow the Commission to set rates. Chief Petitt encouraged everyone to work together to come to a consensus on issues such as central dispatch. The City needs a paper trail of the number of calls. Tapes do not work. Trip sheets were suggested. Chief Petitt encouraged the Commission to set a time limit of 9:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Carter and seconded by Mr. Short to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

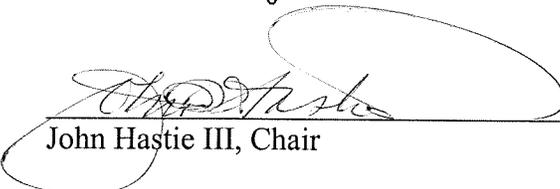
Work session on the new ordinance began at 7:45 p.m.

WORK SESSION

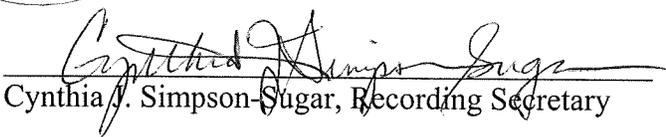
Work session adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

PASSED THIS 5th DAY OF February, 2001.



John Hastie III, Chair



Cynthia J. Simpson-Sugar, Recording Secretary