

Introduced by: Public Safety and
Transportation Commission
Introduction Date: June 26, 2007
Public Hearing: July 10, 2007
Action: Passed
Vote: 4-0

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Ordinance #07-15

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BETHEL MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 5.30.070 REGARDING THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES OPERATING PER PERMIT

WHEREAS; there are no provisions for a permit owner to permanently take a car out of service for cumulative or acute mechanical problems;

WHEREAS; a permit owner may put a substitute vehicle on the road four (4) times a year, for fourteen (14) days at a time, then the original vehicle must be put back into service;

WHEREAS; vehicles used as cabs experience many more road hours than private vehicles, some are on the road literally 24 hours a day, seven days a week;

WHEREAS; mechanical failures are inevitable with this amount of use;

WHEREAS; as the cars age, the failures become more frequent, and more severe;

WHEREAS; yet the inability of the permit owner to permanently replace a worn out vehicle forces that owner to choose to continue to spend time and money in maintaining that vehicle, or operating it while it is unsafe to do so;

WHEREAS; keeping older cars in running order means more time in repairs, and fewer cars on the road to service the community

WHEREAS; some permit holders lease their permit to another individual, should that individual then elect to work for another cab company, the permit is vacated;

Be It Enacted By The City Council Of The City Of Bethel Alaska, Amendments To Chapter 5.30.070 Number Of Vehicles Operated Per Permit

SECTION 1. Classification. The ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall become a part of the Bethel Municipal Code.

SECTION 2. Amendment. Chapter 5.30.070 of the Bethel Municipal Code is amended as follows: (new language is underlined and old language is stricken out):

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- A. Except as otherwise provided in this section, only one vehicle, which shall be designated on the taxicab permit application, may be operated pursuant to that permit.
- B. Upon application to the transportation inspector, payment of the appropriate fee, and a demonstration of need, the transportation inspector may authorize operation of a substitute vehicle for a period of time not to exceed ~~fourteen~~ thirty consecutive days. The transportation inspector shall be notified prior to substitution of the date, time, and substitution vehicle being placed in service, the permit number utilizing the substitute vehicle, the reason for the use of the substitution vehicle and the signature of the person authorizing the use of the substitution vehicle. If substitution is authorized, the transportation inspector shall subsequently be immediately notified of the date and time the substitution vehicle is removed from service and the regular original permitted vehicle is placed back in service. The transportation inspector shall require an inspection of the original vehicle before it is returned into service. No person may operate a substitution vehicle under this section unless the substitution has been authorized by the transportation inspector in accordance with this section, and a copy of the authorization is carried in the substitution vehicle at all times.
- C. If the use of the substitution vehicle was occasioned by a mechanical problem or vehicle accident affecting the safe operation of the regular original vehicle, the transportation inspector ~~shall require an inspection of the regular vehicle before it is returned to service~~ may allow a permanent vehicle transfer.
- D. ~~The transportation inspector shall not authorize the use of a substitute vehicle under a permit more than four times in any calendar year, unless a vehicular accident or emergency requires more frequent substitutions of vehicles. The transportation inspector is solely responsible for determining whether more frequent substitution of vehicles is required under this section. The transportation inspector may permit a permanent vehicle transfer not more than four (4) times before the expiration of the original permit for reasons other than mechanical problems.~~

SECTION 3. Effective date. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage by the City Council.

ENACTED THIS 10th DAY OF JULY 2007 BY A VOTE OF 4 IN FAVOR AND 0 OPPOSED.



Daniel C. Leinberger, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sandra Modigh, City Clerk