# Chapter 15 TAXICABS

# Section 15.1 LICENSES FOR TAXICABS

No person, firm or corporation shall operate or cause to operate a taxicab within the Town of Newport unless licensed as herein provided. No license shall be issued unless and until the Chief of Police determines that public convenience and necessity require the operation thereof.

# Section 15.2 APPLICATION

Applications for taxicab license shall be made on forms provided by the Town, and shall set forth the name and address of the applicant, the trade names under which the applicant does or proposes to do business, where proposed stands and garages are to be located, the number of vehicles the applicant desires to operate, a description of each vehicle, rates to be charged, and such other facts as the Chief of Police may require.

# Section 15.3 FEES

The fee for each taxicab licensed hereunder shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and shall be paid to the Chief of Police at the time such license is issued. The monies to be collected under this section shall be remitted to the Town Treasurer.

# Section 15.4 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

It shall be unlawful to operate a taxicab for hire or permit the same to be operated, nor shall any license be issued hereunder until and unless the applicant for license deposits with the Chief of Police policy or certificate of liability insurance for each taxicab for which a license is sought, said policy or certificate of liability insurance to be acceptable and approved by Town Counsel and issued by a company authorized to do business in the State of New Hampshire, indemnifying the applicant in the sum of at least \$10,000 for injury to one person, \$50.,000.00 for injury to more than one person and \$10,000.00 property damage in any one accident, through or by the operation of the taxicab by the applicant. The policy of insurance shall contain a clause obligating the company insuring the same to give 10 days written notice before cancellation to said Chief of Police and the license of the operation of such taxicab shall expire upon the lapse or termination of said policy.

#### Section 15.5 EXPIRATION OF LICENSE

Expiration of taxicab licenses issued hereunder shall be at midnight on the last day of May, unless previously revoked.

# Section 15.6 LICENSE NOT TRANSFERABLE

No license for the operation of a taxicab shall be sold, transferred or assigned. No license granted as aforesaid shall apply to any taxicab except the particular one designed therein.

#### Section 15.7 TAXICAB MARKINGS

Every taxicab licensed as aforesaid shall be conspicuously marked as such, marking shall include a taxicab roof light which shall be marked with the word "taxi" or similar type markings. Also, the name of the owner, and the rates of fare duly established, shall be conspicuously posted on a

printed card in every taxicab.

# Section 15.8 RATES OF FARE

No owner, driver or other person having charge of any taxicab, licensed as aforesaid, shall demand or receive a higher rate of fare than so posted in said vehicle. The rates of fare shall be placed on file with the Chief of Police. At all times the schedule of fares posted in the taxicab shall agree with the fares on file in the office of the Chief of Police.

# Section 15.9 PARKING, STOPPING OR SOLICITING PASSENGERS

No taxicab shall be allowed to stand or wait for passengers on any streets, square or public place or such portions thereof, unless otherwise designated by the Board of Selectmen. No taxicabs shall be stopped to take on or to discharge passengers at any place or on any street, square or public place except at the curb or as near thereto as possible. No passengers shall be permitted to enter or leave the vehicle except from the side nearest the curb. No taxicab shall cruise or be driven upon the streets of the Town for solicitation of business, and public streets shall not be used for servicing, repairing or washing taxicabs nor shall taxicabs in any way interfere with the full passage of pedestrian or vehicular traffic while standing for the purpose of discharging or taking on passengers.

# Section 15.10 EXCLUSIVE USE

No driver of a taxicab shall, during business hours, carry any other person than persons employing said cab and no other passenger may be carried in an engaged taxicab without consent of the first passenger. Any taxicab agent or driver before directing a second passenger to a taxicab employed shall ask the first person employing the taxicab if he consents to another passenger or passengers.

# Section 15.11 SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF LICENSE

The violation of any of the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Laws of the State of New Hampshire or of ordinances governing the regulation of Motor Vehicle Laws within the Town of Newport or of this ordinance shall be grounds for the revocation of any license issued hereunder. Revocations of the licenses for taxicabs shall be within the discretion of the Chief of Police.

# Section 15.12 TAXICABS OPERATORS' LICENSE

Taxicab operators shall be licensed as hereinafter provided. The Chief of Police, may, at his discretion, issue to such persons, as he deems expedient, licenses to operate taxicabs. Application for such operator's licenses shall be on forms provided by the Town who shall keep a record of all applications and licenses granted. Each application shall contain the name, address, age and personal description of the applicant and such other information as the Chief of Police may require.

#### Section 15.13 TAXICAB OPERATOR'S LICENSE FEES

The fee for such operator's license shall be Five Dollars (\$5.00) which shall be paid to the Chief of Police at the time the license is issued.

#### Section 15.14 TAXICAB OPERATOR'S LICENSE APPLICATION DENIED

No license shall be granted hereunder to any person under the age of 18 years, or any person who cannot read or speak the English language intelligently, nor unless the applicant shall present a valid license as chauffeur as issued by the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles for the State of New Hampshire . Also the Chief of Police shall have the right to refuse an operator's license to any applicant who has a criminal record or an excessive motor vehicle record.

# Section 15.15 TAXICAB LICENSE EXPIRATION

All licenses to drivers shall expire at midnight on the last day of May unless previously revoked.

# Section 15.16 TAXICAB OPERATOR'S LICENSE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION

The license of any driver issued hereunder may be suspended or revoked by the Chief of Police for any violation of the Motor Vehicle Laws of the State of New Hampshire, or of any ordinances of the Town of Newport relating to regulations of the highways or of this ordinance or for violations of any criminal laws.

# Section 15.17 APPEAL BOARD

The Board of Selectmen is hereby designated and constituted an appeal board to which an aggrieved applicant for an operator's license may appeal any decision of the Chief of Police rendered under this ordinance. Such notice of appeal shall be filed by such applicant or operator with the Town Clerk. Said Board shall fix a reasonable time for the hearing of the appeal, giving due notice thereof to the interested parties and shall decide the appeal within a reasonable time. Due notice of any hearing shall be deemed to be at least seven (7) days. All decisions of said Board of Appeal shall be final.

# Section 15.18 RESTRICTED AREAS FOR TAXICAB STAND

No taxicab stand shall be located on the Main Street in the Town of Newport; said street extending from the south end of the common, to the corners of Elm Street and Maple Street.

# Section 15.19 DESIGNATION OF STANDS

The Board of Selectmen shall designate and assign suitable parking places within the confines of the Town of Newport wherein taxicab stands may be situated. Taxi stands on the public streets or ways shall not be used by more than two taxicabs at one time. If applicant wishes to license more than two cabs per stand and operate from a public street, he must have available for his use adequate off the street parking space for the extra taxicab.

#### Section 15.20 TELEPHONE LOCATIONS

Owners of taxicabs operating from such stands may have individual telephones located on nearby public property, such locations and types of apparatus, however, to be approved by the Chief of Police and said operators shall remain near their respective vehicles while said vehicle is parked.

#### Section 15.21 PENALTIES

Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), or by suspension or revocation of license or both.