



Memorandum

February 23, 2022

To: Mayor & Nome Common Council

From: Bryant Hammond, Clerk

Re: Taxi Cab Licenses in Nome

Nome Code of Ordinances (NCO) 3.10.090 states that the Council shall determine from time to time the maximum number of taxicabs to be licensed for commercial purposes in the City. In 2005, the Council determined that 13 licenses shall be issued. In 2017, after hearing public testimony from Nome Checker Cab and Peters LLC (then owner of Mr. Kab), the Council determined there was not enough demand to run 13 cabs concurrently and rescinded one license from each of the two holders through R-17-03-01. Since, there have been 11 taxicab licenses in Nome.

In January 2020, the Council approved the transfer of five licenses from Peters LLC to Kateel Enterprises LLC through R-20-01-10. In November of 2020, the City Clerk revoked the five licenses issued to Kateel Enterprises dba Mr. Kab A2B per NCO 3.10.105 for abandonment of the proper use and administration of taxicab licenses in Nome. The abandonment was evidenced by the lack of physical operation of cabs, the disconnected Mr. Kab phone number, the failure to maintain and carry insurance, and the failure to submit sales tax returns, as well as return any correspondence or phone calls to the City of Nome.

Mr. and Ms. Luce of Mr. Kab requested an appeal via email on December 14, 2020. The appeal hearing, though one reason or another, was scheduled in June of 2021. Mrs. Luce passed away very shortly before the appeal hearing. The hearing was canceled and has not been rescheduled. The Clerk's Office never received a taxicab license or a sales tax license application for 2021. Mr. Kab's state business license expired on 12/31/2020.

In the meantime, the Clerk's Office and the Manager's Office have had several inquiries from an individual asking about opening a cab business in Nome.

According to City Attorney Cacciola, since Mr. Kab did not apply for or hold a City-issued taxicab license in 2021, that Mr. Kab is not entitled to a taxicab license for 2022 (NCO 3.10.095). Mr. Luce has been notified of this code interpretation through the same email he used to appeal the revocation of taxicab licenses.

Pursuant to NCO 3.10.108, Council approval is required for the transfer of any taxicab licenses.

Shall the City Clerk determine by lot (NCO 3.10.090(c)) the five abandoned licenses?