

# Ordinance 2012-02

BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN  
COUNTY OF MERCER  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 4-21, ENTITLED "TAXICAB LICENSING," OF THE "REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN, NEW JERSEY."**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council wish to amend certain provisions contained within Section 4-21 of the Borough Code relating to Taxicab Licensing as set forth herein.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hightstown, in the County of Mercer and State of New Jersey, that Section 4-21 of the "Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Hightstown, New Jersey" is hereby amended and supplemented as follows (additions are shown with underline; deletions are shown with ~~strikeout~~):

### **Section 4-21**

#### **TAXICAB LICENSING**

##### **4-21.1 Definitions.**

As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Borough shall mean the Borough of Hightstown.

Cruising shall mean the driving of an empty taxicab along a public street at a slow rate of speed for the obvious purpose of soliciting passengers.

Driver shall mean any person who operates a taxicab within the Borough, whether or not such person is also the owner thereof.

*Operation of a taxicab* shall mean transporting in a taxicab one (1) or more persons for hire. Accepting a passenger to be transported for hire from a point of departure within the Borough to a destination within or without the Borough shall be considered "operation of a taxicab" within the Borough. The "operation of a taxicab" by one other than the owner shall be deemed operation by the owner as well as by the person actually driving the taxi. The transportation of any person other than the owner or driver in any motor vehicle bearing a sign using the words "taxi," "taxicab," "cab" or "hack" shall be prima facie evidence of operation.

*Owner* shall mean any person, business entity, association or other legal entity in whose name title to any taxicab is registered with the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles or who appears in the Division's records to be a conditional vendee or lessee or has any other proprietary interest in a taxicab.

*Police Commissioner* shall mean the member of the Borough Council designated as such on an annual basis by the Mayor, pursuant to Section 2-19.3 of the Borough Code.

*Police Director* shall mean the person appointed by the Governing Body to serve as the executive head of the Police Department, in accordance with Section 2-19.4 of the Borough Code.

*Taxicab* or *taxi* or cab shall mean a motor vehicle used to transport passengers for hire or compensation which does not operate over a fixed route and is not hired by the day or hour.

*Taxicab Stand* shall mean a section of a public street or of a public place set apart for the exclusive use of a taxicab or a limited number of taxicabs when such section is distinctly marked as such by an appropriate sign attached to a stanchion on the curb or other conspicuous place or by clearly visible marks upon the surface of a street or public place.

#### **4-21.2 Licenses Required.**

- a. No person shall operate a taxicab within the Borough unless both the owner and the driver of the taxicab are licensed under this section.
- b. The Borough will make available on an annual basis a maximum of five (5) taxicab owner's licenses, each of which shall permit the owner to operate a maximum of four (4) taxicab vehicles within the Borough at one time. Licenses shall be awarded on a first come, first served qualifying basis. Those licensees that have been previously licensed by the Borough during the prior year and who remain in good standing and who have submitted their renewal statement (per Subsection 4-21.4g below) to the Borough prior to January 1<sup>st</sup>, shall be afforded the first opportunity for re-licensing. All other applicants shall be afforded the opportunity to obtain a taxicab owner's license after January 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **4-21.3 Types of Licenses.**

- a. Taxicab Driver's License. The holder of a taxicab driver's license shall be entitled to operate within the Borough any taxicab whose owner has been licensed under this Section.
- b. Taxicab Owner's License. The holder of a taxicab owner's license shall be entitled to operate a taxicab owned or leased by the licensee within the Borough, provided that the person driving the cab holds a valid taxicab driver's license.

#### 4-21.4 Licensing of Taxicab Owners.

a. Application Information.

1. Application for a taxicab owner's license shall be made to the Borough Clerk on forms provided by her. –
2. Applications shall be signed and verified by oath or affirmation by the applicant. Applications by a partnership shall give the information required for each partner and shall be signed and verified by all partners. Applications by a corporation shall give the information required for and be signed and verified by all officers and directors and all persons holding more than ten (10%) percent of the corporation's common stock, as well as by a person duly authorized to act for the corporation itself.
3. Applications received after the effective date of this Ordinance for new licenses or for renewal of existing licenses must be accompanied by proof of automobile liability insurance issued by a company licensed and admitted to transact business in the State of New Jersey, and acceptable to the Borough, indicating limits of liability in amounts not less than the following: \$50,000 per person and \$100,000 per accident for bodily injury or death and \$50,000 per accident for property damage. Proof of insurance must also indicate that insurance coverage applies to all owned or leased vehicles of the applicant or must specify by description all of the vehicles to which the coverage applies. Said proof of insurance must also indicate that the Borough ~~will be notified with~~ shall receive advance written notice of thirty (30) days ~~advance notice should the coverage be cancelled or non-renewed~~ prior to any cancellation or non-renewal thereof, except that no less than ten (10) days advance written notice shall be provided for non-payment of premium. The Borough of Hightstown shall be named as an additional insured on any insurance policy submitted in accordance with the requirements of this section.
4. Information about each taxicab vehicle to be operated under the taxicab owner's license shall be provided, including the following:
  - (a) Vehicle year, make, model and color of vehicle.
  - (b) Vehicle identification number.
  - (c) New Jersey State license plate number.
  - (d) Passenger capacity.
  - (e) Insurance company, policy number and expiration date.

(f) Name and address of vehicle owner if different than applicant.

5. Any person who shall make a false statement in any license application or in any record or certificate that is required to be filed or maintained shall be subject to rejection of the application submitted and/or to appropriate disciplinary sanctions, including license suspension or revocation, in addition to any penalty provided under the New Jersey Criminal Code.

b. ~~Investigation; Grant or Denial of License Hearing before Council.~~ The ~~Chief of Police or a Police Officer designated by him~~ Police Director or his designee shall investigate the application. A copy of the application shall also be provided to the Zoning Officer for review and for a determination that the proposed location of the taxi operation does not violate applicable zoning regulations. A report containing the results of the Police investigation and evaluation, a recommendation by the ~~Chief of Police~~ Police Director or his designee that the license be granted or denied, and the reasons for ~~his~~ such recommendation shall be forwarded to the ~~Council~~ Police Director (i.e., in cases where the investigation is performed by the Police Director's designee) and the Police Commissioner. A report regarding the Zoning Officer's findings shall also be provided to the ~~Council~~ Police Director and the Police Commissioner. The Borough Clerk shall ensure that copies of these reports are also made available to the applicant. Based upon the findings set forth in the reports, the Police Director shall determine whether to grant or deny the license. Said determination shall be rendered in writing and shall be provided to the applicant. ~~In those cases where the Chief of Police or his designee, or the Zoning Officer, has recommended against issuing the license, the applicant shall be afforded the opportunity for a hearing before the Borough Council. Any request for a hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the applicant's receipt of the applicable report. At the hearing, the applicant shall have the right to be represented by counsel and will be afforded the opportunity to testify himself or to present witnesses in support of his position, to cross-examine opposing witnesses and, at his own expense, to have a stenographic record made of the proceedings. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Council will determine whether to grant or deny the license.~~

c. Factors Considered. In determining whether to grant or deny the license, the ~~Council~~ Police Director shall take into consideration the following factors:

1. The character, business and financial responsibility and experience of the applicant and the probability that, if granted a license, the applicant will operate his taxicab in accordance with the provisions of this section.
2. Any other factors directly related to the granting or denial of the license which would substantially affect the public safety or convenience.

- d. Issuance of License. ~~The Council shall, by resolution, grant or deny the license.~~ If the application is approved by the Police Director, the ~~Clerk~~ Police Department shall issue the license.
- e. License Term; Fees.
  - 1. A taxicab owner's license shall be valid for the remainder of the calendar year for which it is issued.
  - 2. The license fee shall be ~~fifty (\$50.00)~~ one hundred (\$100.00) dollars per year or portion thereof per vehicle and shall be nonrefundable in the event that the application is denied.
- f. In those cases where the license has been denied, the applicant shall be afforded the opportunity for a hearing before the Police Commissioner. Any request for a hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the applicant's receipt of written notice of denial from the Police Director. At the hearing, the applicant shall have the right to be represented by counsel and will be afforded the opportunity to testify himself or to present witnesses in support of his position, to cross-examine opposing witnesses and, at his own expense, to have a stenographic record made of the proceedings. Following the hearing, the Police Commissioner's determination shall be final.
- g. Renewals. A taxicab owner's license ~~may~~ shall be renewed by the ~~Council~~ Police Director ~~without a hearing~~ upon the licensee's filing with the ~~Chief of Police~~ Police Director or his designee a sworn notarized statement certifying that there have been no changes in the information contained in the initial application and upon the completion of the investigation set forth in paragraph (b) above indicating results that are satisfactory to the Police Director.
- h. Any change(s) in the information contained within the owner's license application shall be reported to the Borough Clerk within three (3) business days thereof. A charge in the amount of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars shall be levied for each business day after three days that any such changes are not reported to the Borough.

#### **4-21.5 Licensing of Taxicab Drivers.**

- a. Applications.
  - 1. Application for a taxicab driver's license shall be made annually to the Borough Clerk upon forms provided by ~~her~~ that office, and shall be forwarded to the ~~Chief of Police~~ Police Director for ~~investigation and approval~~ processing and determination. Applications ~~shall be completed by the applicant in the presence of the Borough Clerk or her designee, and~~ shall be taken in the Clerk's office only, during days and hours established

by the Clerk. Except as hereinafter provided, applicants shall have the following minimum qualifications:

- (a) Applicant must be over twenty-one (21) years of age.
- (b) Applicant must be a United States citizen or a legal resident alien. A copy of the alien registration card or work permit must be submitted with the application.
- (c) Applicant must possess a valid New Jersey driver's license.
- (d) Applicant must supply a certification from a licensed physician, on a form to be provided by the Borough Clerk, indicating that the applicant has been examined within the past sixty (60) days and is in sound physical condition, has eyesight corrected to 20/20 vision and is not subject to any infirmity of body or mind which might render the applicant unfit for safe operation of a vehicle for hire.
- (e) Applicant must certify that he/she is not addicted to the use of narcotics or intoxicating liquors.
- (f) Applicant must be able to read, write ~~and understand the English language~~ and speak the English language sufficiently to converse with the general public, to understand highway traffic signs and signals in the English language, to respond to official inquiries, and to make entries on reports and records.
- (g) Applicants must ~~not have been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude~~ submit to the performance of a criminal history record background check (State and Federal) paid at their own expense. An applicant shall be disqualified from operating or driving a taxi within the Borough, and shall not be issued a taxicab driver's license, if a criminal history record background check reveals a record of conviction of any of the following crimes as having been committed by the applicant prior to the effective date of this Ordinance:
  - Aggravated assault;
  - Arson;
  - Burglary;
  - Escape;
  - Extortion;
  - Homicide;
  - Kidnapping;
  - Robbery;
  - Aggravated Sexual assault;

- Sexual assault;
- Endangering the welfare of a child pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4, whether or not armed with or having in his possession any weapon enumerated in subsection “r.” of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1; or
- A crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-3, N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4 or 2C:39-9, or other than a disorderly persons or petty disorderly persons offense for the unlawful use, possession or sale of a controlled dangerous substance as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:35-2.

The above automatic disqualification shall not apply, however, to those applicants who had received consent to operate a taxicab within the Borough prior to the effective date of P.L. 2011, c.135, and who had a valid taxicab driver’s license issued and in effect by the Borough as of the effective date of P.L. 2011, c.135.

Additionally, if a person who has been convicted of one of the crimes listed above can produce a certificate of rehabilitation issued pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:168A-8 or, if the criminal offense occurred outside New Jersey, an equivalent certificate from the jurisdiction where the criminal offense occurred, then the criminal offense shall not disqualify the applicant from operating or driving a taxicab within the Borough.

- (h) ~~Applicant must have a thorough knowledge of the law, traffic regulations and geography of the Borough of Hightstown, the Motor Vehicle Act, the Traffic Act and other ordinances and regulations having to do with traffic. Each applicant may be examined as to his or her knowledge of these provisions, and if the result of the examination is unsatisfactory, the application shall be refused a license.—~~
- (i) (h) Applicant must be fingerprinted by the Police Department, with a report therein received from the State Police ~~or~~ and Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- (j) (i) Applicant must not have been convicted, within the three years prior to the date of the application, of reckless driving, ~~driving while intoxicated~~, leaving the scene of an accident or driving more than 30 miles an hour above the speed limit, and applicant must not have been convicted, within the five years prior to the date of the application, of driving while intoxicated.
- (k) (j) At the time of application, applicant must have no more than ~~eight~~ six (6) New Jersey State Division of Motor Vehicle points on his or her driving record, or the equivalent if licensed in any other

state.

(H) (k) Requirements (d) and ~~(i)~~ (h) above, regarding physician's certification and fingerprinting, shall not apply to any taxicab driver who holds a valid taxicab driver's license in any other Mercer County municipality which is compliant with P.L. 2011, c.135 and whose firm is licensed in and operating out of said municipality. Such person(s) shall be qualified to obtain a taxicab driver's license in Hightstown upon completion of the application form, payment of the required fee and submission of the following documentation:

- Certification by applicant that he or she meets requirements ~~(a)~~, ~~(b)~~, ~~(c)~~, ~~(f)~~, ~~(g)~~, ~~(h)~~, ~~(i)~~, ~~(j)~~ and ~~(k)~~ of Section 4-21.5(a)(1).
- If not a United States citizen, a copy of alien registration card or work permit.
- Current valid taxicab driver's license from any other Mercer County municipality.
- Valid New Jersey's driver's license.

2. The application shall be accompanied by a fee of fifty (\$50.00) dollars for the ~~initial~~ license period.

3. The application shall be accompanied by two (2) un-mounted, un-retouched glossy photographs of the face of the applicant taken within thirty (30) days preceding filing of the application. Photographs shall be two and one-half inches (2 1/2") by two and one-half inches (2 1/2") in size and shall be passport picture quality. New photographs shall be submitted whenever the licensee's appearance changes significantly.

4. Any person who shall make a false statement in any license application or in any record or certificate that ~~(s)he~~ is required to be filed or maintained shall be subject to rejection of the application submitted and/or to appropriate disciplinary sanctions, including license suspension or revocation, in addition to any penalty provided under the New Jersey Criminal Code.

b. Investigation; Grant or Denial of License Hearing before Council. ~~The Chief of Police or a police officer designated by him~~ Police Director or his designee shall investigate the application and shall report the results to the Council Police Director (i.e., in cases where the investigation is performed by the Police Director's designee) and the Police Commissioner within a reasonable time. The report shall include a recommendation that the license be granted or denied and the reasons therefor. The Borough Clerk shall ensure that a copy of the report is made available to the applicant. Based upon the findings set forth in the report, the Police Director shall determine whether to grant or deny the license. ~~In those~~



~~cases where the Chief of Police or his designee has recommended against issuing the license, the applicant shall be afforded the opportunity for a hearing before the Borough Council. Any request for a hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the applicant's receipt of the Police Chief's report. At the hearing, the applicant shall have the right to be represented by counsel and will be afforded the opportunity to testify himself or to present witnesses in support of his position, to cross-examine opposing witnesses and, at his own expense, to have a stenographic record made of the proceedings. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Council will determine whether to grant or deny the license.~~

- c. Issuance of License; Contents. Upon approval of the application by the ~~Council~~ Police Director, the ~~Clerk~~ Police Department shall immediately issue the applicant a taxicab driver's license. The license shall contain the licensee's name and address, physical description, signature and photograph.
- d. Term of License; Fees; Renewal. An initial license to drive a taxicab shall be valid for the remainder of the calendar year in which it is issued, ~~and shall be subject to a non-prorated fee of fifty (\$50.00) dollars.~~ A taxicab driver's license may be renewed annually thereafter, unless it has been revoked or suspended, upon the payment of a renewal fee of fifty (\$50.00) dollars and processing of the application in accordance with the procedures set forth above.
- e. Use of License. Taxicab driver's licenses are valid for use with any licensed taxi within the Borough of Hightstown.
- f. In those cases where the Police Director has denied the license, the applicant shall be afforded the opportunity for a hearing before the Police Commissioner. Any request for a hearing must be made within ten (10) days of the applicant's receipt of written notice of denial from the Police Director. At the hearing, the applicant shall have the right to be represented by counsel and will be afforded the opportunity to testify himself or to present witnesses in support of his position, to cross-examine opposing witnesses and, at his own expense, to have a stenographic record made of the proceedings. Following the hearing, the Police Commissioner's determination shall be final.
- g. Any change(s) in the information contained within the driver's license application shall be reported to the Borough Clerk within three (3) business days thereof. A charge in the amount of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars shall be levied for each business day after three days that any such changes are not reported to the Borough.

#### **4-21.6 Display of Licenses ~~and Fares Required.~~**

- a. The taxicab owner's license and driver's license (with photo) shall be displayed prominently in the interior of each cab. Rates of fares shall be posted in each taxicab.

- b. The taxicab driver's license must also be conspicuously displayed on the driver's outer garment when the driver is on duty and presented for confirmation when requested by the passenger.

#### **~~4-21.7~~ Inspection of Vehicles.**

- a. ~~Initial Inspection. Before any vehicle is used as a taxicab within the Borough, it shall be inspected by the Chief of Police or a police officer designated by him.~~
  - 1. ~~All vehicles will be photographed at the time of inspection.~~
  - 2. ~~Inspections will be conducted by appointment only.~~
  - 3. ~~Vehicles must be maintained in a safe, clean and sanitary condition.~~
  - 4. ~~Vehicles must contain all safety devices required by law.~~
  - 5. ~~Each vehicle must have at least one Federally-approved child restraint seat available at all times.~~
  - 6. ~~No vehicle may be more than ten (10) years old at the time of inspection.~~
- b. ~~Reinspections. All taxicabs shall be reinspected annually, or more often if the Council so requires by resolution. In addition, any police officer may inspect any taxicab at any reasonable time to determine if it is clean, sanitary and in a safe and proper operating condition.~~
- c. ~~Failure to Pass Inspection. Any taxicab which fails to pass inspection shall be immediately taken out of service and shall not be operated again within the Borough until the defects which led to its rejection are corrected. In the case of minor defects which do not constitute an immediate danger to the health or safety of the public, the taxicab may continue to be operated for a period of one (1) week, at the end of which time it shall be re-inspected. If the defect has not by then been corrected, the vehicle shall immediately be taken out of service and remain out of service until the defect is corrected. (Ord. No. 2005-29)~~

#### **~~4-21.8~~ 4-21.7 Exterior Taxicab Identification Required.**

- a. ~~Identification Required. Each taxicab operated in the Borough shall have a sign permitted on each rear door. The sign shall contain the owner's name, the words "taxicab" or "taxi," telephone number and vehicle number in letters not less than four (4) inches nor more than eight (8) inches in height. All taxicabs shall display on the body of the vehicle their taxi license number along with a listing of each municipality that has issued a taxi license to that taxicab. The taxi license number shall be three (3) inches in height and must be located in the center of the rear quarter panels on the driver and passenger sides as well as the rear center line of the trunk of the vehicle. The list of each municipality shall be displayed on each rear door in letters three (3) inches in height.~~

- b. Imitation of Color Scheme or Insignia. No taxicab operated in the Borough shall imitate the color scheme or any identifying design or insignia of another taxicab lawfully operating in the Borough, nor shall one taxicab have a color scheme or identifying design or insignia which is so similar to that of another taxicab as to be likely to have a tendency to mislead the public. The person first using a particular color scheme or identifying design or insignia for his taxicab shall have the prior right to it.

#### **4-21.9 4-21.8 Fares.**

- a. Rates of Fare. Fares shall be conspicuously displayed in each taxicab.
- b. Receipts. The driver of a taxicab, upon request, shall give the passenger a receipt for the amount charged. The receipt shall show the name of the owner, the license number of the taxicab, the amount of the fare and the date of the transaction.
- c. Refusal to Pay Fare. No person, after hiring a taxicab, shall refuse to pay the legal fare, nor shall any person hire a taxicab with the intent not to pay the legal fare.

#### **4-21.9 Taxicab Stands.**

- a. Designation of stands. Upon the advice of the Police Director, the Council may designate, by resolution, a taxicab stand or stands within the Borough.
- b. Regulations regarding taxicab stands.
  - 1. No taxicab shall remain idle for more than 3 minutes at any taxicab stand.
  - 2. Every taxicab, while occupying space at a public taxicab stand, shall be immediately available for hire.
  - 3. Only a taxicab licensed by Hightstown Borough may occupy or deliver a passenger to a taxicab stand in the Borough.
  - 4. Each taxicab stand shall be marked with suitable markings, which shall bear a statement that the stand is reserved for taxicabs licensed by Hightstown Borough only.
  - 5. No person operating a taxicab shall perform maintenance of any kind while occupying space at a public taxicab stand.

#### **4-21.10 Operating Regulations.**

- a. Licenses issued pursuant to this chapter are not transferable.
- b. A driver shall immediately surrender his or her taxicab driver's license to the Borough upon the suspension or revocation of his or her New Jersey driver's license.

- c. No taxicab shall remain idle for more than 3 minutes at any place in or upon any of the streets or highways or any other public place within the Borough.
- d. Cruising is prohibited within the Borough.
- e. No person, while operating or attending a taxicab for hire, shall:
  - 1. Obstruct any sidewalk; or
  - 2. Knowingly misinform or mislead any person as to the location of a destination.
- f. Any motor vehicle accident involving a taxicab and causing injury to a person or damage to property in excess of \$500.00 shall be reported immediately to the Hightstown Borough Police Department and a copy of the police report for such accident must be given to the Hightstown Police Department within 14 days of the accident. Such information shall be placed in the Borough's records regarding the taxicab owner and taxicab driver.
- g. All taxicab owners shall keep trip records and receipt books for six (6) months, which shall be kept current and shall be displayed when so requested by authorized Borough officials appointed by the Police Director. Trip records shall show, at a minimum, the date, time, pick-up location, destination, number of passengers and fare charged.
- h. All taxicab vehicles shall be kept clean and free of debris.
- i. Each licensed taxicab driver shall be clean in person and fully dressed while on duty, including shirt, pants and shoes.
- j. Taxicab drivers and passengers shall refrain from smoking within the taxicab vehicle while a hired trip is in progress. This prohibition shall be conspicuously posted in each Borough licensed taxicab vehicle.
- k. No driver shall operate a taxicab after 14 consecutive working hours without an eight (8) hour rest period.
- l. Taxicab drivers shall, immediately after the conclusion of their on-duty time, carefully search the taxicab for any property lost or left therein, and shall, within twenty-four (24) hours after finding any such property, advise the Hightstown Borough Police Department of the nature of the property and where it may be collected.

**~~4-21.10~~ 4-21.11 Promulgation of Additional Rules and Regulations; Copies to Be Distributed.**

The Council may establish, by resolution, such additional rules and regulations relating to the operation of taxicabs and the conduct of licensees as it deems appropriate. A copy of the rules and regulations shall be furnished to each licensee.

**~~4-21.11~~ 4-21.12 Unlawful Activities.**

All drivers shall be licensed personnel, and taxicabs shall be used exclusively for purposes of transportation of passengers and their baggage. No owner or driver shall be obliged to transport any person who is not orderly.

**~~4-21.12~~ 4-21.13 Suspension or Revocation of Licenses.**

- a. In the case of an emergency, licenses may be temporarily suspended for not more than seven (7) days by the Police Director.
- a: b. Licenses may be otherwise suspended or revoked, for cause, by the Borough Council after reasonable notice and a hearing. At said hearing, the licensee shall have the right to be represented by counsel and will be afforded the opportunity to testify himself or to present witnesses in support of his position, to cross-examine opposing witnesses and, at his own expense, to have a stenographic record made of the proceedings. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Council will determine whether to suspend the license or to permanently revoke the license. Any license so suspended or revoked shall not be re-issued except for good reasons shown.

In addition to the causes for revocation of a license set forth in subsection 4-1.10, any license issued under this ~~section~~ chapter may be revoked or suspended; ~~by the Borough Council~~, or any application for the issuance or renewal of a license denied, for any of the following reasons:

1. Failure to render reasonable, prompt, safe and adequate taxicab service.
2. The existence of a judgment unsatisfied of record against the licensee or applicant in any suit arising over the operation of a motor vehicle.
3. Permitting any taxicab owned or driven by the licensee to become unsafe, unsanitary or dirty.
4. Failure to comply with all applicable laws of the State of New Jersey, the ordinances of the Borough or the rules and regulations adopted in accordance with this ~~section~~ chapter.
5. Where taxicab vehicles are found to be used for any improper, immoral or illegal business or purpose or for the violation of any federal or state statute or for the violation of any of the provisions of this chapter.

6. Failure to maintain the proper amount of insurance on licensed taxicab vehicles pursuant to valid and effective insurance policies, as required by this chapter.
- b. c. Drivers. If the licensee is a driver, his license may also be revoked or suspended by the Borough Council for the following reasons:
1. Revocation or suspension of his New Jersey motor vehicle operator's license.
  2. Contraction by the licensee of a communicable or contagious disease.
  3. Operating a taxicab in a reckless or grossly negligent manner or habitually operating a taxicab in a negligent manner.

**4-21.13 4-21.14 Complaints; Enforcement.**

- a. All complaints shall be submitted to the Hightstown Police Department.
- b. Enforcement of Section 4-21 shall be the responsibility of the Hightstown Police Department or authorized persons designated by the Police Director.

**4-21.15 Violations and Penalties.**

- a. Licenses issued pursuant to this chapter may be suspended or revoked in accordance with Section 4-21.13, for the reasons set forth therein.
- b. For other violations of this chapter, any person convicted thereof shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Section 1-5 of the Borough Code.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that all other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that in the event that any portion of this Ordinance is found to be invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be limited in its effect only to that portion of the Ordinance actually adjudged to be invalid, and the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable therefrom and shall not be affected; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that this Ordinance shall take effect on upon final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

Introduced: April 16, 2012

Adopted:

**ATTEST:**

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Debra L. Sopronyi  
Municipal Clerk

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Steven Kirson  
Mayor