

O2017-2

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAKEWOOD, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER IX OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAKEWOOD, SPECIFICALLY, SECTION 9-8 (METERS AND RATES)

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Lakewood, State of New Jersey that Chapter IX TAXICABS is supplemented and amended as follows:

9-8 METERS AND RATES.

9-8-1 Meters. Every medallioned taxicab conducting business in the Township of Lakewood, shall have an odometer installed within the taxicab. The odometer shall be of a make, model equal or superior to the Pulsar Technology Systems, Inc. Pulsar Mileage Odometer Model 100. The cost of the odometer shall be borne by the taxicab owner. The odometer shall be placed in full view of the rear passenger(s). (Ord. No. 99-29 & 9A)

a. No passenger shall be carried in any taxicab unless the taximeter shall be in operation. This provision shall apply regardless of whether a taxicab is engaged for a trip entirely within the boundaries of the Lakewood Township or partially outside thereof, and the taximeter shall be kept operating continuously during the entire time that it is engaged in the transportation of passengers, regarding of the point of destination.

b. Within one month prior to submitting an application for issuance or renewal of Taxicab Medallion, the taximeter of such taxicab must be tested and sealed by the appropriate regulatory authority.

c. A taximeter shall be placed in each taxicab so that the reading dial showing the amount to be charged will be well lighted and readily discernible to a passenger riding in the taxicab.

d. Every taximeter used in the operation of taxicabs shall be subject to inspection at any time by a duly authorized representative of the Lakewood Township, or by other appropriate authority. Upon the discovery of any material inaccuracy of a taximeter or inconsistent with approved rates, the operator thereof shall remove, or cause to be removed, from service, the vehicle equipped with the inaccurate or inconsistent taximeter until such taximeter shall have been replaced or repaired, and tested and resealed.

e. Flag Drop Charges. The driver of any taxicab, while carrying passengers, must immediately activate the meter once the vehicle is in motion and is actively transporting passengers, and must be deactivated by the driver once the passengers have reached the desired destination, or the passenger verbally communicates the cancellation of the service, and/or at the termination of the service.

f. Charge to be Registered. All charges for taxicab service shall be calculated and indicated by taximeter, and at all times while the taxicab is engaged, the taximeter shall be activated to register the charges. No taximeter shall be so operated as to cause any charge to be registered thereon except during the time when the taxicab is engaged by a passenger or passengers.

g. Receipt for Charges. No driver of any taxicab, upon receiving full payment for a fare as indicated by the taximeter, shall refuse to give a receipt when requested. The receipt shall show the name of the taxicab company, name of the driver, date of service and taxicab number, total amount of fare, origin of fare and destination.

h. Charges must be indicated. Charges for transportation of passengers in a taxicab operated in the Lakewood Township shall not exceed the amount shown on the taximeter installed in the taxicab and which is verified by the Ocean County Weights and Measures. It is unlawful for any owner or driver of any taxicab to charge any passenger or passengers any sum in excess of the sum indicated on the taximeter.

i. Fasten Seatbelt Sign. In every taxicab, there shall be a sign no smaller than five inches by seven inches, stating that all occupants on the taxicab, including the driver, must wear his or her seatbelt at all times while the vehicle is in motion.

j. Vehicle Inspection and Certification by Licensed Mechanic. The owner of taxicab shall have each taxicab vehicle inspected by a licensed mechanic within 60 days prior to applying for a Lakewood Township Taxicab Medallion, Taxicab Medallion, renewal or replacement of these permits. No taxicab permit shall be granted unless the applicant presents a signed and dated statement from a licensed mechanic who inspected the vehicle certifying that the vehicle is in safe operating condition. The statement from the licensed mechanic must include the date of the inspection, the name of the business and name of the mechanic: the vehicle identification number (VIN) and license plate number to the taxicab vehicle. The business license shall not be renewed until the above requirements have been satisfied, and the dated statement submitted to the Lakewood Township Clerk.

NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing ordinance was introduced at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Lakewood, in the County of Ocean and State of New Jersey on the **19th day of January, 2017** and was then read for the first time. The said Ordinance will be further considered for final passage by the Township Committee in the Town Hall at 7:30 p.m. on **February 15, 2017**. At such time and place or any time or place to which said meeting may be adjourned, all persons interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

Kathryn Hutchinson, RMC
Township Clerk