

APPROVED: January 25, 2016

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

WORK SESSION

December 7, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: President Maher called the meeting to order at 8:50 p.m.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

This is to advise that the notice requirement provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" has been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given and transmitted to The Times and Princeton Packet; filed with the Clerk of the Municipality; and posted in the West Windsor Township Municipal Building at North Post and Clarksville Roads on November 11, 2015.

ATTENDEES: President: Maher; Vice President: Geever; Council: Borek, Marathe, Mendonez; Business Administrator: Schmid; Township Attorney: Goodell; Traffic Sergeant: Mohr; Township Clerk: Young

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

FOR DISCUSSION:

COUNCIL MEMBER/CLERK

West Windsor Taxi Association Meeting

Mr. Jeff Shanker, President, Limousine Association of New Jersey, advised that UBER representatives have not been in attendance at other stakeholder meetings involving New Jersey towns. He spoke about State and Township regulations that govern vehicles for hire which UBER does not adhere to such as: 1.5 million dollar insurance policy requirement, background investigations, yearly physicals, and payment of fees to be licensed in townships. Mr. Shanker explained that UBER does very good marketing versus other ground transportation companies which are behind the times in technology. He advised that Transportation Network Companies (TNC) such as UBER do not have the authority to operate in the State of New Jersey and noted that vehicles for hire are extremely regulated for passenger safety.

Mr. Daniel Palumbo, Owner of AAA Taxi, informed Council that the UBER drivers that are caught driving illegally at the train station plead guilty, and UBER then pays the \$2,000 fine and supplies an attorney if necessary.

Council addressed questions.

Mr. Shanker spoke about other issues that UBER is in violation of. He asked for Council's support by sending a letter to the League of Municipalities to back proposed legislation, and to promote enforcement of the current Township ordinances and laws.

Mr. Palumbo outlined the Township's licensing process for both owners and drivers.

Sergeant Mohr advised Council that the electronic sign that was posted at the train station advising patrons to use licensed taxi drivers instead of UBER is currently out for repair. He urged the Taxi Association to invest in their own signage.

Mr. Palumbo noted that the Association is working with New Jersey Transit on the placement of signage.

Ms. Geever advised of her concerns with UBER not being in compliance with West Windsor's ordinances.

Mr. Shanker outlined the basics of the proposed legislation for regulating TNCs.

Discussion ensued with the Taxi Association members and Sgt. Mohr.

Mr. Borek voiced his concerns with the safety of residents using unregulated TNCs. He remarked of "red flags" being raised when he was informed of UBER drivers pleading guilty and paying their fines.

Mr. Marathe inquired about the number of reoccurrences with UBER drives and duplication of penalties.

Sgt. Mohr outlined how many tickets have been issued and what the tickets were issued for.

Mr. Mendonez asked specific questions and spoke about how UBER drivers are getting around the Township Code. He asked what Council and Administration could do to assist their cause.

Discussion ensued over enforcement of the Township laws, Police vigilance at the train station monitoring the TNCs, and Council consideration of a resolution in support of legislation to license TNCs.

Mr. John Church, 11 Princeton Place, spoke in support of the West Windsor Taxi Association. He asked the Police Division why they were not writing more tickets for the lack of proper insurance.

Ms. Ayesha Hamilton, 11 Hereford Drive, advised that this is an enforcement issue and recommended letting the State take the lead.

President Maher encouraged Council to support a resolution.

Mr. Josue LaJeunesse, Owner of R&J Princeton Taxi, explained that the taxi owners and drivers follow the Township laws and advised that their licenses are their livelihood and their retirement. He urged Council not to support UBER.

Ordinance to Amend and Supplement Chapter 179 "Storage of Vehicles"

Mr. Goodell reviewed the amendment and noted that the Chapter 200 portion of the ordinance would need Planning Board review and therefor would not be able to be introduced and adopted before the end of the year.

Ms. Alison Miller, 41 Windsor Drive, suggested introducing the ordinance without the Chapter 200 language.

Council agreed with Ms. Miller's suggestion.

President Maher reviewed his concerns with residents parking their vehicles on their front or side lawns. He outlined his amendments to the ordinance.

Discussion ensued over language changes to the ordinance.

Mr. Goodell read the ordinance into the record with the suggested language changes.

2015-15 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 179,
"STORAGE OF VEHICLES," OF THE CODE OF WEST WINDSOR
TOWNSHIP

Motion to introduce: Borek

Second: Marathe

RCV: aye Borek

aye Geevers

aye Marathe

aye Mendonez

aye Maher

The Public Hearing will be held on December 21, 2015.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Borek

Second: Mendonez

VV: All approved

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.



Sharon L. Young

Township Clerk
West Windsor Township