

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2024-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHING TAXICAB RATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024

WHEREAS, Unalaska Code of Ordinances § 9.12.065 requires all licensed taxicabs operating within the city to have installed an instrument (meter) by which charges for hire of such taxicabs are calculated; and

WHEREAS, Unalaska Code of Ordinances requires that the meter shall calculate the fare and be calibrated in accordance with the fare standards set by the City Council at its first regular meeting in January each year; and

WHEREAS, the taxi rates for calendar year 2024 will not change from the rates for calendar year 2023.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Unalaska City Council establishes the taxicab rates for 2023, which include the 3% sales tax, as follows:

- \$2.65 per flag drop;
- \$0.30 per 1/10 mile;
- \$5.30 for each additional fare over two;
- \$1.06 per minute waiting time;
- \$80.00 per hour charter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said rates include a Senior Citizen Discount of \$1.00 off any metered rate between \$5.00 and \$10.00, and \$2.00 off any metered rate over \$10.00.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on January 9, 2024.

Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Estkarlen P. Magdaong
City Clerk

MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Estkarlen P. Magdaong, City Clerk
Through: William Homka, City Manager
Date: January 9, 2024
Re: Resolution 2024-01: Establishing taxicab rates for the calendar year 2024 as required by the Unalaska Code of Ordinances

SUMMARY: Unalaska Code of Ordinances (UCO) § 9.12.065(A)(3) requires that the City Council set taxicab rates at the first regular meeting in January each year. Resolution 2024-01 sets the rates for calendar year 2024 at the same level as the rates for 2023. Staff recommends adoption of this resolution.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Council has adopted taxicab rates annually since 1993. Through Resolution 2006-01, Council increased rates by \$0.03 per minute for waiting time and added \$80 per hour for charters. Rates have not changed since 2006.

BACKGROUND: The taxicab ordinance was adopted in 1993 and revised in 2003 and 2005. In 2005, several changes were made, but UCO § 9.12.065(A)(3) has not changed through the years of revision. The ordinance requires the City Council to set the rates each year. At the time of the 1993 adoption, the Taxi Owner's Association was active and provided input on this issue.

During a meeting held at Public Safety in November 2017, taxi drivers and taxi permit holders expressed no interest in changing the rates. There has been no response to the Clerk's written request to the permit holders to comment on rates before council set the rates (2018 to present). There was no public comment on this topic at the council meetings from 2018-2023.

On December 20, 2023, the City Clerk mailed letters to all taxi permit holders inviting them to submit comments about the rates for 2024 and encouraging them to attend tonight's council meeting. Copy attached. No responses were received before the writing of this memo.

ALTERNATIVES: Adopt rates as recommended, raise the rates, or lower the rates.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: If rates are changed, it is expected that a corresponding increase or decrease would be seen in sales tax revenue to the City. Also if rates are changed, meters would have to be reprogrammed at the expense of taxi owners.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the adoption of Resolution 2024-01.

PROPOSED MOTION: "I move to adopt Resolution 2024-01".

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS: I support the staff recommendation.

ATTACHMENT: Letter to taxi permit holders.

CITY OF UNALASKA
City Clerk's Office
43 Raven Way - P.O. Box 610
Unalaska, Alaska 99685
TEL (907) 581-1251 FAX (907) 581-1417



December 20, 2023

Taxi Permit Holders:

On the first City Council meeting in January, they will discuss taxicab rates for calendar year 2024. You are invited to attend the Council meeting to provide your comment/input. The Council meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at City Hall, Council Chambers.

If you prefer not to attend the meeting, but would still like to provide your comment regarding taxicab rates, you may send your written comments to the City Clerk on or before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 in person or via email at emagdaong@ci.unalaska.ak.us

The City Council would like to hear what your opinions are with regards to the taxicab rates.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

CITY OF UNALASKA



Estkären P. Magdaong
City Clerk