

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2021-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHING TAXICAB RATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2021

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 2021 will not change from the rates for calendar year 2020.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Unalaska City Council establishes the taxicab rates for 2021, 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 12, 2021.

Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Marjie Veeder, CMC
City Clerk

MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Marjie Veeder, City Clerk
Through: Erin Reinders, City Manager
Date: January 12, 2021
Re: Resolution 2021-02, Establishing taxicab rates for the calendar year 2021 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 2021-02 sets the rates for calendar year 2021 at the same level as the rates for 2020. 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 \$80.00 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 was no response to the Clerk's written request to the permit holders to comment on rates before council set the rates for calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020. There was no public comment at the council meetings in 2018, 2019 or 2020.

On December 17, 2020, the City Clerk mailed letters to all taxi permit holders inviting them to submit comments about the rates for 2021 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 2021-02.

PROPOSED MOTION: I move to adopt Resolution 2021-02.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS: I support Staff's Recommendation.

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



December 17, 2020

Taxi Permit Holders:

Each year the Unalaska City Council sets the rates taxicabs may charge. As a permit holder, you are encouraged to provide comments or suggestions to the City Council regarding the rates.

If you would like to submit comments before the meeting, I need to receive them no later than 5pm on Wednesday, January 6, 2021.

You are also encouraged to attend the meeting, which will be on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. You can also participate by telephone. This is your opportunity to provide input to the City Council as they prepare to set the taxi rates for 2021.

Unless we hear from you, the rate adopted will most likely be the same as last year, which is (all rates include City sales tax):

- \$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
- 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.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at 581-1251 or email me at mveeder@ci.unalaska.ak.us.

Sincerely,

CITY OF UNALASKA

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M Veeder".

Marjie Veeder
City Clerk