
1 **2022-24 (2nd READING): TO AMEND CHAPTER 23 VEHICLES FOR HIRE,**
2 **ARTICLE II, TAXICABS, TO DELETE SECTION 23-32 (a) AND ADJUST FARES**
3 **IN SECTION 23-34.1 TO BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ADOPTION.**

4 **Applicant/Purpose:** Taxi drivers / to delete a section in conflict with another code section and to
5 adjust cab fares

6
7 **Brief:**

- 8 • Proposed ordinance deletes Section 23-32 (a), ~~Charges by taximeter. No person owning,~~
9 ~~operating or controlling any taxicab upon the streets of the city shall charge for the use of~~
10 ~~such taxicab to exceed the current rates to be determined by the taximeter. These rates~~
11 ~~shall be set from time to time by the city manager and a schedule of such fees is on file in~~
12 ~~the city clerk's office.~~
13 • This Section is in conflict with Section 23-34.1 which sets fares by Code, and the Code
14 can only be changed by a majority vote of City Council
15 • Proposed ordinance sets the following fares:
16 (1) For the first one-eighth mile ~~..\$3.50~~ ..\$3.50
17 (2) For each additional one-eighth mile ~~..0.35~~ \$0.45
18 (3) For each 55 seconds of waiting ~~..0.35~~ \$0.45
19 (4) Passengers in excess of one person per trip above the age of 15 ~~..\$1.00~~
20 • No changes since 1st reading.

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22 **Issues:**

- 23 • Cab companies feel the need to increase fares due to market conditions, and inflationary
24 pressures.

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26 **Public Notification:** Normal meeting notification.

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28 **Alternatives:** Amend the ordinance. Deny the ordinance.

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30 **Financial Impact:**

- 31 • Fares have not increased since 2016.
32 • Minimal financial impact to the City. Cab passengers will be impacted by the increase.

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34 **Manager's Recommendations:**

- 35 • I recommend 1st reading (4.26.22).
36 • I recommend approval (5.10.22).

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38 **Attachments:** Ordinance.

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4 **CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH** **TO AMEND CHAPTER 23, VEHICLES FOR**
5 **COUNTY OF HORRY** **HIRE, ARTICLE II, TAXICABS, TO DELETE**
6 **STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA** **SECTION 23-32 (a) AND ADJUST FARES IN**
7 **SECTION 23-34.1 TO BE EFFECTIVE**
8 **IMMEDIATELY UPON ADOPTION**
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11 NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED that Chapter 23, Article II is amended
12 by showing repealed sections as stricken through, enacted sections as underlined and
13 unchanged sections shown in context.
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15 **Sec. 23-32. Taximeters.**

- 16 (a) ~~Charges by taximeter. No person owning, operating or controlling any taxicab upon~~
17 ~~the streets of the city shall charge for the use of such taxicab to exceed the current~~
18 ~~rates to be determined by the taximeter. These rates shall be set from time to time~~
19 ~~by the city manager and a schedule of such fees is on file in the city clerk's office.~~
- 20 (b) *Taximeter required; definition; specifications.* Every taxicab shall have affixed
21 thereto and must use a taximeter of a size and design approved by the police
22 department and conform substantially to the following specifications:
- 23 (1) A taximeter is a mechanical instrument or device by which the charge for hire
24 of a taxicab is mechanically calculated either for distance traveled or for
25 waiting time or both and upon which such charge shall be indicated by means
26 of legible figures which are electrically lighted each time the taximeter flag is
27 thrown from nonearning to earning position.
- 28 (2) Such taximeters must register upon visual counters the following items:
- 29 a. Total miles;
- 30 b. Paid miles;
- 31 (3) Each taximeter must have a "dead-clock."
- 32 (c) *Taximeter flag.* The taximeter flag shall not be changed to vacant position until the
33 fare is paid.
- 34 (d) *Inspection and sealing required; retesting upon change from one taxicab to another.*
35 No person shall drive a taxicab to which is attached a taximeter that has not been
36 inspected and approved by the police department. The pinion gear shall be sealed
37 so that it cannot be removed or changed without breaking or otherwise damaging
38 the seal. It shall be unlawful to change the gears operating the taximeter, remove
39 the gear seal, or change a taximeter from one taxicab to another unless the
40 taximeter is inspected, retested, and approved by the police department, prior to
41 use.
- 42 (e) *Unlawful to operate without.* It shall be unlawful for any taxicab to be operated for
43 public hire unless it is equipped with a taximeter which must be used as provided in
44 this section.
45

1 Sec. 23-34.1. - Fares.
2 The schedule of maximum rates to be charged for the use of any taxicab within the city
3 shall read as follows:
4 (1) For the first one-eighth mile\$3.50
5 (2) For each additional one-eighth mile~~0.35~~ 0.45
6 (3) For each 55 seconds of waiting~~0.35~~ 0.45
7 (4) Passengers in excess of one person per trip above the age of 15\$1.00

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9 The fare or rate changes of this ordinance shall become effective upon adoption;

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BRENDA BETHUNE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JENNIFER ADKINS, CITY CLERK

1st Reading: 4-26-2022
2nd Reading: 5-10-2022