

Date: 2021-01-08

Subject: **Mobile Licensing By-law 67-2014, Licence Fees 2021**

Contact: **J. Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Legislative Services, 905-458-3424 ext. 63222**

Report Number: Legislative Services-2021-085

Recommendations:

1. **THAT** the report from James Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Legislative Services, dated January 8, 2021, to the Committee of Council Meeting of February 3, 2021, re: Mobile Licensing By-law 67-2014, Licence Fees 2021, be received.
2. **THAT** Council enact amendments to Mobile Licensing By-Laws 67-2014 as attached as Appendix 3 to this Report.
3. **THAT** Council repeal by-law 75-2020.

Overview:

- **The Mobile Licensing By-law includes a provision for an automatic annual fee increase aligned with the Consumer Price Index.**
- **In view of the current pandemic, Council has directed staff to not increase the fees in 2021, but to keep them the same as January 1, 2020 fees.**
- **In April 2020, Council enacted a by-law to provide relief to the mobile licensing businesses that were affected by the pandemic.**
- **In order to comply with Council's direction to not increase fees in 2021, a schedule needs to be enacted.**
- **By-law 75-2020 is still in effect as the Emergency Order is still in place for the City of Brampton. The renewals have now been completed however, the fee for filing a lease for a taxicab and all late fees are affected and remain at \$0.00 until the by-law is repealed or the emergency order for Brampton is terminated.**

Background:

The Mobile Licensing By-law 67-2014 was enacted on March 26, 2014. At that time, the licence fees were reviewed and set in Appendix A to the By-law. Licence fees are mainly comprised of labour costs, and in order to keep the fees current, the following clause was added;

These rates shall automatically increase and be rounded up to the nearest dollar on the first day of January in each year by the percentage increase in the All Items Index of the Consumer Price Index (not seasonally adjusted) for the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area, published by Statistics Canada, during the 12-month period ending on September 30 in the year immediately preceding the rate increase date.

In 2020, the percentage change was 0.5%, this change would increase all fees in the schedule by that amount and would have been in effect for January 1, 2021.

In 2020, Council made two changes to user fees and licence fees, the first occurred on April 22, 2020, when Council adopted all recommendations put forward in the staff report entitled 'Options for Relief to the Taxi Industry and other Mobile Licensees'. By-law 75-2020 (Appendix 1) was enacted by Council. This By-law did not repeal the Licence Fee Appendix A from the Mobile Licensing By-law. This by-law had the following clause in it identifying the term of the by-law;

13. *This By-law shall come into force on the date of its passing and shall remain in force until the later date of the termination of either the emergency declared by the Lieutenant Governor in Council or the emergency declared by The Corporation of the City of Brampton.*

As the City of Brampton has not terminated the emergency, and By-law 75-2020 remains in effect at this time.

The renewal fees for the various businesses were reduced for every month the EMCPA Ontario Regulation 82/20 was in effect. This resulted in a three-month reduction in driver licence fees and for the owner licence renewal fees for refreshment vehicles, driving schools, limousines, taxicabs, tow truck and personal transportation companies.

The second change became effective on July 1, 2020 when all user fees were reduced to the values set for 2019, By-law 95-2020. The licence fees for mobile licensing were added to the User Fee By-law to reflect the change. The User Fee By-law did not delete or repeal the licence fees from Mobile Licensing By-law.

Staff ensured that both reductions were in place for all fees charged in 2020. Appendix 2 to this report is the revised list of fees as of July 1, 2020.

Current Situation:

In December 2020, Council approved the new User Fee By-law. All of the fees were reverted back to the fees that were approved at the beginning of 2020.

The Mobile Licence Fees were removed from the User Fees By-law and were not subject to the requested change to revert the fees back to the January 2020 levels. This would require the Mobile Licence By-law- Licence Fee appendix to be replaced and adopted by Council, Appendix 3 to this report.

By-law 75- 2020 is still in effect and the following fees have been waived during the time the by-law is in effect;

- Late renewal fees- \$56.00
- Filing of Lease Fee for taxicabs- \$66.00

By-law 75-2020 should be repealed for these fees to be part of the new Licence fee Appendix A, in the Mobile Licensing By-law 67-2014, as amended.

Corporate Implications:

Financial Implications: No financial implications.

Term of Council Priorities:

This report aligns with the City of Brampton 2018-2022 Priorities:

Brampton is a Healthy and Safe City: Focusing on community safety and encourage active and healthy lifestyles. Residents need to feel safe when using the various transportation services.

Brampton is a Well-Run City: Continuously improving the day-to-day operation of the corporation by streamlining service delivery while providing a safe and functional licensing experience to the small business operators providing service to the residents in the City.

Conclusion:

In order to have the licence fees in the Mobile Licensing By-law reflect the direction Council has provided for all fees in the City, By-law 75-2020 providing relief to the mobile businesses should be repealed and the new Appendix A- Licence Fees attached

to this report as Appendix 3, should be approved by Council, so that the new fee schedule would reflect the January 1, 2020 fees for the licences.

Authored by:

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Reviewed by:

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Approved by:

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Submitted by:

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Attachments:

- APPENDIX 1: Consolidated By-law Appendix A- Licence Fees, Effective July 1, 2020**
- APPENDIX 2: By-law 75-2020, To provide relief to fees and timelines under By-law 67-2014, as amended, during the COVID-19 emergency.**
- APPENDIX 3: Draft copy of Appendix A –Licence Fees, to By-law 67-2014**