

1 **Ordinance to Amend and Reenact the City Code of the City of Hampton, Virginia by**
2 **Amending Chapter 38, Vehicles for Hire, Article II, Division 1, Entitled, “Generally,”**
3 **Sec. 38-19 and Sec. 38-20, and to Article II, Division 4, Entitled Article II Entitled**
4 **“Taximeters,” Sec. 38-107, Sec. 38-108, Sec. 38-109, and Sec. 38-110 to update the**
5 **requirements for taxicabs and taximeters to be more in line with industry standards**
6 **and the other localities in the region.**

7
8 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Hampton, Virginia, that Sections 38-
9 19 and 38-20 of Division 1, Article II, and Section 38-107, Sec. 38-108, Sec. 38-109, Sec.
10 38-110 of Division 4, Article II, Chapter 38 of the City Code of the City of Hampton, Virginia
11 be adopted to read as follows:

12
13 **Chapter 38 – VEHICLES FOR HIRE**

14
15 ...

16
17 **ARTICLE II. – TAXICABS**

18
19 ...

20
21 **DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

22
23 ...

24 **Sec. 38-19. - General vehicle requirements.**

25 ...

26 (f) All public vehicles operated in the city shall be equipped with a taximeter.
27 ~~Whenever any public vehicle is engaged, there shall be conspicuously displayed an~~
28 ~~identification light connected to the taximeter, which shall show light when the~~
29 ~~taximeter is in operation.~~ All taximeters shall be kept accurate and in proper condition
30 and repair and sufficiently lighted so that the figures thereon shall be plainly visible to
31 the passengers.

32 ...

33 **Sec. 38-20. - Identification of vehicles, limitations on advertising.**

34 (a) Every public vehicle shall bear, on the outside and on at least two (2) sides
35 thereof, the *trade* name *or company name* of the *certificate holder* owner, in painted
36 characters not less than two (2) inches high and plainly visible at a distance of one
37 hundred (100) feet. On two (2) sides and the back of the vehicle, the owner's cab
38 number shall be painted in characters three (3) inches high and plainly visible at a
39 distance of one hundred (100) feet.

40 (b) No person shall use the term "taxi" or "taxicab" in any advertising or hold
41 himself out as a taxicab or public vehicle, or represent himself to be such by means of
42 advertisements, signs, trade names or otherwise, unless he has previously thereto
43 complied with the conditions, regulations and restrictions prescribed by this chapter.

44 . . .

45 **DIVISION 4. - TAXIMETERS**

46 . . .

47 **Sec. 38-107. – Sealing Required.**

48 No person shall operate or permit to be operated any taxicab equipped with a
49 taximeter pursuant to the provisions of this division, unless the taximeter has been
50 installed and sealed by a state certified technician with the official designated seal and
51 verified by the chief of police or his designee. *Sealing shall not be required for*
52 *taximeters that use Global Positioning System (GPS) software to determine distance*
53 *traveled.*

54 **Sec. 38-108. - Visibility.**

55 Taximeters installed in taxicabs pursuant to the provisions of this division shall be so
56 placed in the taxicab that the ~~reading dial showing the amount to be charged shall be~~
57 well lighted and readily visible to a passenger riding in such cab.

58 **Sec. 38-109. – *Unlawful Operation of Taximeter* Display of flag.**

59 It shall be unlawful for the driver of a taxicab, while transporting a passenger, to
60 ~~display the flag or other device attached to a taximeter installed pursuant to the~~
61 ~~provisions of this division in such position as to denote that such vehicle is for hire, or~~
62 ~~is not employed, or to have such flag or other attached device in such position as to~~
63 ~~prevent such *the taxicab's* taximeter from operating *properly*.~~ It shall be unlawful for
64 any driver to *cause* ~~throw such a flag or other attached device of a taximeter in a~~
65 ~~position which causes such taximeter to record *while*, when such vehicle is not~~
66 ~~actually employed, or to fail to *place* throw such a flag or device on the taximeter into a~~
67 nonrecording position at the termination of each and every service.

68 **Sec. 38-110. - Maintenance.**

69 It shall be the duty of every owner operating a taxicab to keep the taximeter installed
70 in such taxicab pursuant to the provisions of this division in proper *working* ~~mechanical~~

71 condition, so that such taximeter will, at all times, correctly and accurately indicate the
72 correct charge for the distance traveled or for the distance traveled plus waiting time.