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**ORDINANCE NO. 2016 – 007**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEXARKANA, TEXAS AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF TEXARKANA, TEXAS BY REVISING CHAPTER 44 - TAXICABS SECTION 44-108 SO AS TO PROVIDE A RATE STRUCTURE FOR TAXICAB SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 44, Section 44-108 of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Texarkana Texas was codified in 2015 without the rate structure for taxicab services, and;

**WHEREAS**, ArTex Transport has requested the City Council to consider a rate increase to offset their rising operational costs, and;

**WHEREAS**, the last rate increase occurred in 2005, and;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is authorized by the Texas Local Government Code to establish the prevailing rate structure for taxicab services within the municipality and to regulate said services through ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEXARKANA, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1:** That Chapter 44 Taxicabs of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Texarkana, Texas is hereby amended by revising Section 44-108 to read as follows:

- a.) It shall be unlawful for any person to charge any fare for taxicab services in excess of the schedule of rates adopted by the city council.
- b.) A copy of the rate schedule shall be maintained for public inspection in the office of the city secretary.
- c.) As many as **two** passengers shall be transported for one fare, calculated according to the maximum rate as set, if picked up at one place and discharged at the same destination. In the event more than one party, each consisting of one or more passengers, desire to be carried to more than one destination, then the fare to the first party discharged shall not be more than the maximum fare as set, and the fare for each subsequent party discharged shall be calculated from the point where the party boarded the cab.
- d.) The fare for transporting each passenger to or from the city municipal airport and points within the city shall be a minimum fare of **\$7.00** or the fare as indicated on the meter, whichever is greater.
- e.) Notwithstanding any rate herein established, no taxicab company operator or driver shall charge or cause to be charged any rate for services in the city, which is greater than the rate applicable for the same services in Texarkana, Arkansas.
- f.) As a part of its rate schedule, each permittee is encouraged to offer a senior citizen discount to those persons 55 years of age or older.
- g.) The following shall be the maximum lawful rate for taxicab service:
  1. Rate for first on-fifth (1/5) mile or fraction thereof.....\$3.50

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2. Rate for each additional one-fifth (1/5) mile or fraction thereof.....\$.35
3. Waiting time per hour.....\$18.00, Waiting time per minute.....\$.30
4. Fares with more than two passengers an additional \$5.00 per passenger charge.
5. Minimum trip charge is.....\$7.00
6. Minimum round trip charge.....\$14.00

**SECTION 2:** That the City Secretary be and is hereby directed to publish the formal Ordinance title of this Ordinance for three (3) successive days in the Texarkana Gazette within ten (10) days of the passage of this Ordinance, as provided in Article XI, Section 3 of the Charter of the City of Texarkana, Texas.

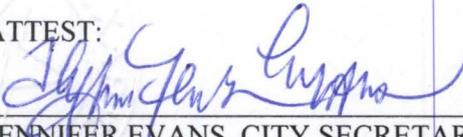
**SECTION 3:** That in case a section, clause, sentence or part of this Ordinance shall be deemed or adjudged by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such invalidity shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 4:** That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are specifically repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**SECTION 5:** That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect ten (10) days after its passage and approval.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** in Regular Council Session on this the **22<sup>nd</sup>** day of **February, 2016**.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JENNIFER EVANS, CITY SECRETARY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
BOB BRUGGEMAN, MAYOR

6:24 p.m.