ORDINANCE NO. 5224

AN ORDINANCE to repeal Article R (LICENSE TAXES ON MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAILERS AND SEMITRAILERS), Sections 3-2-321 through 3-2-350, of Chapter 2 (TAXATION) of Title 3 (FINANCE, TAXATION AND PROCUREMENT) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended;

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Article R, Sections 3-2-321 through 3-2-350 of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended be, and the same hereby, is repealed as follows:

ARTICLE R Local Registration Fee on Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semitrailers

Sec. 3-2-321 Local Registration Fee required; license tax levied and billed.

A Local Registration Fee (also known as the license tax authorized pursuant to Section 46.2-752 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended) is imposed each year on every motor vehicle, trailer and semitrailer which is normally garaged, stored or parked within the city, for the period from October 5 to the following October 4. Such Local Registration Fee shall be at the rate set forth in sections 3-2-327 through 3-2-331, and shall be for the purpose of providing revenue for the general fund of the city except such portions thereof as are required by section 46.2-753 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, to be allocated to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission. Nothing in this section shall be construed as imposing a Local Registration Fee on any vehicle not required to be licensed by section 46.2-663 et seq., Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, or any vehicle exempted by section 46.2-755, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, or any vehicle exempted by the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act of 2003, 50 U.S.C. App. section 501 et seq., or the Military Spouses Residency Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. App. section 571. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the display on any vehicle of a windshield decal or other representation of the Local Registration fee so paid. The Local Registration Fee imposed herein will be billed to taxpayers at the same time as the personal property tax on motor vehicles, imposed pursuant to section 3-2-221 et seq. of this code, and the two amounts will be imposed in a single combined bill. If any portion of the combined bill is not paid timely, late payment penalty and interest charges shall apply to the balance. (Code 1963, Sec. 22-234; Ord. No. 3871, 6/15/96, Sec. 4; Ord. No. 4642, 1/23/10, Sec. 1)

Sec. 3-2-322 - Exempt vehicles

Any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer exempted from taxation solely by reason of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act of 2003, 50 U.S.C. App. section 501 et seq., or the Military Spouses Residency Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. App. section 571 shall register such vehicle, trailer or semitrailer with the department of finance in the same manner as if it were not so exempt. Registration shall be made in the manner prescribed by section 3-2-323 of this code. There shall be no charge for a Local Registration Fee. (Code 1963, Sec. 22-234.1; Ord. No. 3871, 6/15/96, Sec. 4; Ord. No. 4642, 1/23/10, Sec. 2)

Sec. 3-2-323 - Local Registration; when fee payable.

- (a) The Local Registration Fee covered by section 3-2-321 of this code shall be due and payable to the director not later than October 5 of each year.
- (b) At the time of the initial local registration of a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer, the owner shall present their state registration or other proof of ownership. Such initial local registration and payment of the appropriate Local Registration Fee shall be made:
- (1) upon registering and licensing any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer with the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles when the registration of such a vehicle shows an address in the city;
- (2) upon commencement of operation upon the streets of the city of any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer which has been in the city for a period of at least 30 days and which is registered and licensed by another state or by the Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles whose records show as an address elsewhere in Virginia; or
- (3) upon commencement of operation upon the streets of the city of a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer from a place of business within the city, which vehicle is used in the conduct of any business or occupation within the city. (Code 1963, Sec. 22-235, as amended by Ord. No. 2396, 10/13/79, Sec. 6; Ord. No. 3871, 6/15/96, Sec. 4; Ord. No. 4332, 1/24/04, Sec. 1; Ord. No. 4479, 5/12/07, Sec. 1)
- (c) The director of finance, or designee, may waive the annual local registration fee due October 5th of the tax year, if the applicable vehicle is sold, disposed of, or moved from the City of Alexandria prior to October 5 of the tax year, and the fee is not otherwise transferred to a replacement vehicle pursuant to Section 3 2 332(a).

Sec. 3-2-327 Local Registration Fee on vehicles used for transportation of passengers.

- (a) The annual Local Registration Fee on motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers designed and used for the transportation of passengers shall be as follows:
- (1) \$33 for a passenger car or motor home if such passenger car or motor home is not used for the transportation of passengers for compensation and is not kept or used for rent or for hire.
- (2) \$0.30 per 100 pounds of weight or major fraction thereof for a private motor vehicle with a normal seating capacity of more than 10 adult persons, including the driver, if such private vehicle is not used for the transportation of passengers for compensation and is not kept or used for rent or for hire; provided, that in no case shall the fee be less than \$23.
- (3) \$0.30 per 100 pounds of weight or major fraction thereof for a private school bus; provided, that in no case shall the fee be less than \$23.
- (4) \$23 for a trailer or semitrailer designed for use as living quarters for human beings.
- (5) \$23 for a taxicab and any other vehicle kept for rent or hire and operated with a chauffeur for the transportation of passengers, which operates or should operate under permits issued by the state corporation commission as required by law, and \$28 for any such vehicle that

weighs in excess of 4,000 pounds. This subsection does not apply to vehicles used as common carriers.

- (6) \$21 for a motorcycle with or without a sidecar.
- (7) \$23 for a bus used exclusively for transportation to and from Sunday school or church for the purpose of religious worship, and \$28 for any such bus which, when empty, weighs in excess of 4,000 pounds.
- (8) \$13 in addition to \$0.70 per 100 pounds of weight or major fraction thereof for other passenger-carrying vehicles.
- (b) The Local Registration Fee for passenger vehicles owned by members of the Virginia National Guard shall be one half of the fee prescribed in this section, upon presentation of evidence by the registered owners that special Virginia National Guard license plates have been issued to the vehicles as provided in section 46.2-744 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. (Code 1963, Sec. 22-238; Ord. No. 2667, 3/13/82, Sec. 1; Ord. No. 2715, 9/18/82, Sec. 1; Ord. No. 2735, 11/13/82, Sec. 1; Ord. No. 3871, 6/15/96, Sec. 4; Ord. No. 4488, 6/16/07, Sec. 1)

Sec. 3-2-328 - reserved.

Editorial Note: Ord. No. 3871, § 3, adopted June 15, 1996, repealed § 3-2-328, which pertained to tax on vehicles used for transportation of passengers—small rented vehicles jointly owned. See the Code Comparative Table.

Sec. 3-2-329 - Local Registration Fee on vehicles not designed or used for transportation of passengers.

(a) The annual Local Registration Fee on all motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers not designed and used for the transportation of passengers shall be determined by the gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles of which it is a part, when loaded to maximum capacity for which it is registered and licensed, according to the following schedule:

— Gross Weight Groups		
— (Pounds	s)	-Fee
4,000 c	o r less	. \$33.00
-4,001	10,000	38.00
10,001	-12,000	43.00
12,001	15,000	48.00
15,001	-18,000	53.00
18,001	20,000	58.00
20,001	22,000	63.00

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22,001 24,000 ..... 68.00
24,001 26,000 ..... 73.00
26,001 40,000 ..... 83.00
40,001 and up ..... 98.00
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(b) The Local Registration Fee for pickup trucks and panel trucks owned by members of the Virginia National Guard shall be one-half of the fee prescribed in this section, upon presentation of evidence by registered owners that special Virginia National Guard license plates have been issued to the vehicles as provided in section 46.2 744 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. (Code 1963, Sec. 22 240; Ord. No. 2667, 3/13/82, Sec. 2; Ord. No. 2715, 9/18/82, Sec. 3; Ord. No. 2735, 11/13/82, Sec. 2; Ord. No. 3871, 6/15/96, Sec. 4; Ord. No. 3907, 1/25/97, Sec. 1; Ord. No. 4488, 6/16/07, Sec. 1)

Sec. 3-2-330 - Fee on certain trailers.

The annual fee on a one or two wheel trailer of a cradle, flat bed or open pickup type, with a body length of not more than nine feet and a width not greater than the width of the motor vehicle to which it is attached at any time of operation, which is to be attached to the owner's own motor vehicle and used only for carrying property belonging to the owner of such trailer, which is pulled or towed by a passenger car or station wagon, or a pickup or panel truck having an actual gross vehicle weight not exceeding 5,000 pounds, and which is used for carrying property not exceeding 1,000 pounds at any time, and the annual license fee on a trailer having a body length of not more than 16 feet which is designed and used exclusively for carrying boats, shall be \$14.50. Nothing herein shall be construed as applying to the fee for trailers or semitrailers designed for use as living quarters for human beings or to those trailers or semitrailers operated under lease or rental agreement or operated for compensation. (Code 1963, Sec. 22 241; Ord. No. 3871, 6/15/96, Sec. 4; Ord. No. 4488, 6/16/07, Sec. 1)

Sec. 3-2-331 - Combination of tractor-trucks and semitrailers.

- (a) In the case of a combination of a tractor truck and a semitrailer, each vehicle constituting a part of such combination shall be registered as a separate vehicle, but, for the purpose of determining the gross weight group into which any such vehicle constitutes a part, shall be considered a unit, and the aggregate gross weight of the entire combination shall determine such gross weight group. The fee for a semitrailer constituting a part of such combination shall be \$18 for a vehicle weighing less than 1,501 pounds, \$28.50 for a vehicle weighing at least 1,501 pounds but less than 4,001 pounds, and \$40.00 for a vehicle weighing at least 4,001 pounds.
- (b) In determining the fee to be paid for a tractor-truck constituting a part of such combination the fee shall be assessed at the total weight and the fee per 1,000 pounds applicable to the gross weight of the combination when loaded to the maximum capacity for which it is registered and licensed. However, there shall be no deduction from this fee for the fee of the semitrailer in combination. (Code 1963, Sec. 22-242; Ord. No. 2715, 9/18/82, Sec. 4; Ord. No. 3871, 6/15/96, Sec. 4; Ord. No. 4488, 6/16/07, Sec. 1)

(a) Any owner who has paid a Local Registration Fee required under this article for any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer may transfer the current fee to a replacement motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer registered in such owner's name, provided the vehicle to which the fee is transferred is a like vehicle and category as specified in this article and requires an identical fee, upon local registration on forms furnished by the director of finance or presentation of the registration card for the motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer to which the fee is being transferred; provided, that if such other motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer requires a greater fee than the original fee, the amount of the difference in the Local Registration Fee shall also be paid.

Sec. 3-2-334 - Local Registration Fee reciprocity.

(Code 1963, Sec. 22-2345, as amended by Ord. No. 2396, 10/13/79, Sec. 12; Ord. No. 3871, 6/15/96, Sec. 4; Ord. No. 3954, 10/25/97, Sec. 1; Ord. No. 4332, 1/24/04, Sec. 5) Pursuant to Section 46.2 752(H) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended no person who has paid a 12-month Local Registration Fee for a vehicle in one county, city, or town in the Commonwealth and then moves to and garages the same vehicle in the City of Alexandria shall be required to pay a Local Registration Fee for the same period until the expiration of the current Local Registration Fee from the locality from which the vehicle moved.

Sec. 3-2-335 reserved.

Editorial Note: Ord. No. 3871, § 3, adopted June 15, 1996, repealed § 3-2-335, which pertained to refund for unused portion of fee paid. See the Code Comparative Table.

Secs. 3-2-338 through 3-2-350 - reserved.

Section 2. That the repeal of this ordinance shall become effective upon July1, 2019, and that repeal of this ordinance shall in no way relieve a taxpayer from the duty to register vehicles normally garaged, docked or parked in the City with the Department of Finance as required by Section 3-2-229 of the Code of the City of Alexandria.

JUSTIN M. WILSON MAYOR

Final Passage: May 1, 2019