

Mid City Security District Minutes  
Board Meeting of **November 15, 2023**, 6:00 P.M.  
Pel Hughes, 3801 Toulouse Street, New Orleans LA

Chairwoman Wendy Laker called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with a roll call of participants which established a quorum.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Board Members present: Wendy Laker; Alvin Williams, Jr.; Charley Richard; Robert Rivard; Richard Lorusso; and Brett Emmanuel. Darby Shields was present prior to the meeting but left to attend another meeting and returned mid-way this meeting.

Presenters: Assistant Commander Lt A. Matthews, NOPD; Sgt. Alfred Russell, MCSD/NOPD Full Time Coordinator; Sudie Joint, CPA, MCSD accountant; Chad Perez of Pinnacle.

Guests: Emily Armbruster, Ron Rakosky, Patrick Hewitt, Melissa Hall, Jason (JuJu) Becker, and Ben Deffendall.

➤ **BOARD MINUTES**

- W. Laker moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2023, meeting, B. Emmanuel seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

➤ **FINANCIAL REPORT**

- The October 2023 Bank Statement was approved and initialed by all Board members.
- S. Joint requested Board approval of October monthly bills and payments (\$7.26 to Capital City Press for budget advertisement; \$1,324.50 to Graphix Matter for website and media work; \$18,961.46 to Pinnacle for patrol services; \$112.5.50 to Adams & Reese; \$770.00 for CPA Lawrence Jacobi; and EFT of \$74.80 to Verizon). Additionally, the City Of New Orleans finally forwarded bills for Police Patrols which included \$17,403.82 for period 3/12/23 to 3/25/2023; \$13,465.27 for 3/26-48/2023; \$13,516.62 for 4/9-4/22/2023; \$19,372.70 for 5/7-5/20/2023; \$20,711.28 for 4/23-5/6/2023; \$19,788.69 for 5/21-6/3/2023; \$22,621.35 for 6/4-6/17/2023; \$16,861.16 for 6/18-7/1/2023; \$23,384.14 for 7/2-7/15/2023; \$20,987.14 for 7/30-8/12/2023; \$22,204.28 for 8/13-8/26/2023; \$25,864.29 for 8/27-9/9/2023; \$25,505.73 for 9/10-9/23/2023; \$27,376.8 for 9/24-10/7/2023; \$28,135.36 for 10/8-10/21/2023. All payments were approved with a motion by W. Laker which was seconded by A. Williams and approved unanimously.
- S. Joint presented the Financial Statements. Discussed were the Profit and Loss for January through October 2023 versus same period 2022; Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2023, versus same period 2022; Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual for January through October 2023; and the millage figures 2020 through 2023.
- Discussion was held concerning the timing of the proposed budget for 2024 regarding city and state regulations. It was noted that 10 days advance notice were required for a meeting to discuss the budget. Therefore, it was decided that the next meeting have two agenda items: amend 2023 budget with regard a 5% variance and the 2024 budget based on the failure of the passage of the ballot initiative. R. Rivard motioned to propose and approve the resolution (attached to these minutes). W. Laker seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

➤ **CRIME REPORTS**

- Assistant Commander A. Matthews, along with Sgt Russell made comments regarding the situation that had arisen in the first two blocks of N. Carrollton. As was discussed last month, the real problem has been at Wit's Inn where "off road" vehicles had been blocking the

streets, neutral ground, and parking lots in the area. Several guests who lived/worked in that area also had comments regarding drug activity and the presence of weapons. It was noted that a combined force of all affected city agencies (including code enforcement and NOPD) along with time would be required to solve the issue. However, in the meantime citations were being given out at every opportunity to those causing the issue. Barricades had been placed on the neutral ground to prevent parking there and these were also used to prevent vehicles from circling the area by blocking off the intersections. Comments by NOPD indicated that upcoming events such as the Bayou Classic weekend would reduce the number of available officers in each district due to their reassignment in the downtown area.

- Sgt Russel discussed important crime issues since the last meeting.
- Korey Lewis with Pinnacle Security was not able to attend due to illness although Chad Perez was able to make comments regarding Pinnacle's efforts.
- Discussion continued with guests regarding specifics within the reports and the N. Carrollton situation.
- R. Rivard motioned that a letter from MCSD be sent to all city agencies that could have any impact on the Carrollton situation alerting them to the support that MCSD could provide to solve the issue. W. Laker seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.
- R. Rivard motioned that Pinnacle redirect their efforts from general patrolling of the district to concentrate on the Carrollton area when NOPD staffing is low (such as Bayou Classic) and during appropriate times. The motion died due to lack of a second, basically because Chad Perez (Pinnacle) was present and indicated that this could easily be directed upon.

➤ COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Outreach and Visibility. W. Laker noted that the ballot initiative was discussed at the MCNO meeting.

➤ OLD BUSINESS

- D. Shields presented his extensive report on crime cameras. No action was taken but it was agreed that this would be on the December agenda along with the two budget items.
- Postcards had been mailed out to constituents in the MCSD concerning the ballot initiative.
- It was noted that the SDT Company would have the app online for the MCSD by January 2024.

➤ ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

- It was noted that Board completion of mandatory ethics training and preventing sexual harassment was required before the end of 2023.

➤ W. Laker asked for public input. Most of the comments were made during the crime reports section but it was suggested that further discussion could be held after the meeting.

➤ At 8:30pm, W. Laker offered a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by A. Williams. There was no opposition.

CERTIFICATE As Secretary of the Mid-City Security District, I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes duly and legally adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mid-City Security District, after due notice, and that said minutes have not been rescinded. WITNESS, my signature, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.



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Charley Richard, Secretary

**Resolution of the Mid-City Security District  
Adoption of the Mid-City Security District Fee for 2024  
Adopted at the District’s November 15, 2023 Meeting**

**WHEREAS**, The Mid-City Security District (“District”) was created by the Louisiana Legislature by La. R.S. 33:9091.14 to promote and encourage security in the Mid-City neighborhood of New Orleans;

**WHEREAS**, in 2019 the voters approved the following range of fees for the District, as provided in La. R.S. 33:9091.14: an amount not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each improved residential parcel in the District, not to exceed three hundred seventy-five dollars (\$375) for each improved commercial parcel in the District, and not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) per year for each improved residential parcel subject to a special assessment level pursuant to Louisiana Constitution;

**WHEREAS**, the District wishes to adopt the same fees for the year 2024;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS**

**RESOLVED THAT**, the special annual fee for 2024 shall be \$195 for each improved residential parcel in the District, \$375 for each improved commercial parcel in the District, and \$100 for each improved residential parcel subject to a special assessment level pursuant to Louisiana Constitution;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, that the Council of the City of New Orleans shall levy and collect such fees as provided in La. R.S. 33:9091.14(F).

**MID-CITY SECURITY DISTRICT  
PLAN AND BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR 2024**

The District plans to provide security patrols within the District. The estimated annual cost of providing such services is \$949,130.00 to be spent as follows:

1. Patrol and Security Programs	
a. Pinnacle	\$ 230,630.00
b. City of New Orleans	\$ 620,000.00
2. Insurance	\$ 26,000.00
3. Operations	\$ 2,500.00
4. Professional Fees	
a. Accounting	\$ 20,000.00
b. Legal	\$ 10,000.00
c. Contracted Services	\$ 10,000.00
5. Equipment	\$ 20,000.00
6. Newsletter/Outreach	\$ 10,000.00
Total	\$ 949,130.00

The District anticipates receipts on improved parcels of taxable property for the tax year 2024 at approximately \$958,500.00. Therefore, the 2024 budget is as follows:

2024 Budget	
Revenues	
Parcel fees-current year	\$ 955,000.00
Interest	\$ 3,500.00
Total Revenue	\$ 958,500.00
Expenditures	
1. Patrol and Security Programs	
a. Pinnacle	\$ 230,630.00
b. City of New Orleans	\$ 620,000.00
2. Insurance	\$ 26,000.00
3. Operations	\$ 2,500.00
4. Professional Fees	
a. Accounting	\$ 20,000.00
b. Legal	\$ 10,000.00
c. Contracted Services	\$ 10,000.00
5. Equipment	\$ 20,000.00
6. Newsletter/Outreach	\$ 10,000.00
Total	\$ 949,130.00
Anticipated Ending Fund Balance (2024)	\$ 592,848.00
Anticipated Beginning Fund Balance (2023)	\$ 583,478.00
Net Revenue/Disbursements for 2024 (including surplus)	\$ 592,848.00

Passed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.

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Wendy Laker  
President

**Mid-City Security District**

	Budget 2022	Actual 2022	Budget 2023	YTD October 2023	Projected Actual 2023	Budget 2024	
<b>Revenue:</b>							
Current year	\$950,000	\$953,839	\$937,044	\$955,519	\$956,000	\$955,000	(A)
Previous year							
Interest	<u>\$450</u>	<u>\$642</u>	<u>\$300</u>	<u>\$2,897</u>	<u>\$3,555</u>	<u>\$3,500</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$950,450</u>	<u>\$954,482</u>	<u>\$937,344</u>	<u>\$958,416</u>	<u>\$959,555</u>	<u>\$958,500</u>	
<b>Disbursements:</b>							
Automobiles	\$104,321	\$104,321		\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	
Patrol and Security Programs	\$600,000	\$596,873	\$645,722				
Pinnacle				\$166,670	\$192,295	\$230,630	
City of New Orleans				\$506,717	\$618,717	\$620,000	
Office of Secondary Employment				\$1,773	\$1,773		
Newsletter/Outreach	\$0	\$0				\$10,000	
Insurance	\$23,816	\$23,816	\$25,026	\$24,079	\$24,079	\$26,000	
Operations	\$2,750	\$2,718	\$2,500	\$2,555	\$2,764	\$2,500	
Professional Fees	\$30,000	\$29,876	\$25,000				
Accounting				\$17,500	\$19,000	\$20,000	
Legal				\$8,632	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Outside Contract Services				\$17,778	\$20,000	\$10,000	
City Collection Fees (1%)	\$0						
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$49,962	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	
Misc Unanticipated Expenses	\$0						
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$760,887</u>	<u>\$757,604</u>	<u>\$748,210</u>	<u>\$747,303</u>	<u>\$890,228</u>	<u>\$949,130</u>	
<b>Excess Revenues over Expenditures</b>	\$189,563	\$196,877	\$189,134	\$211,113	\$69,327	\$9,370	
<b>Fund Balance Beginning</b>	<u>\$405,000</u>	<u>\$317,274</u>	<u>\$514,151</u>	<u>\$514,151</u>	<u>\$514,151</u>	<u>\$583,478</u>	
<b>Fund Balance Ending</b>	\$594,563	\$514,151	\$703,285	\$725,264	\$583,478	\$592,848	

(A) - All revenues come from the parcel fees levied pursuant to RS 33:9091.14(F)

I have prepared and the Mid City Security District board has approved the above budget plan for management use including revenue and expenditures and believe that they meet mandated purpose and policies of the Mid City Security District to promote and encourage security in the area included within its boundaries. Most importantly, 92% of the projected disbursements are made for patrols and equipment which directly impact security within the District.

*Laura Jacob CPA*