

## Lakeview Crime Prevention District Meeting

May 28, 2020

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: N/A Via Zoom due to COVID-19

Freddy Yoder called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m., and roll was called. In addition to Freddy Yoder, in attendance were commissioners, Jeb Bruneau, Trey Babin, Chris Beacher, Reid Raymond, Ann LeBlanc, Graham Ryan, Val Cupit, Brian Anderson and Melissa Lessell. Board accountant Larry Jacobi, board attorney Richard Bordelon, and LCPD Commander Sgt. Benjamin were also in attendance.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Val moved to approve the February 2020 minutes, Reid seconded, and the motion carried.

### **Crime Report:**

Sgt. Benjamin presented the crime report indicating that in May, there were two auto thefts, five auto burglaries, one shoplifting (Walgreens) and two thefts. There was also one aggravated battery involving a female acquaintance who allegedly beat the victim with a “fish bat” and stole \$600. YTD, crime has been down 6% in Lakeview. There have been 105 crimes this year compared to 112. There has been a slight increase in auto burglaries and shoplifting this year compared to 2019. There has been a 75% clearance rate regarding persons crimes.

### **Financial Report**

Accountant Larry Jacobi reported that collections are up. \$17K is due on back mileages. All bills have been paid through April 11. Issues relating to City’s IT issues have been resolved. It is possible to move forward with police sedan and equipment which had been budgeted in 2019. Sgt. Benjamin confirmed a new vehicle is needed. The board asked that Larry start the process of purchasing a vehicle. It takes about 45 days. There are also funds for Reid’s proposed project.

Average patrol cost is \$39.56 an hour.

Larry provided an amended budget with is due to the City auditor now by September 1. It is below. It must explain any variance of 5%. In sum, there is slightly less revenue but also less expense.

**Lakeview Crime Prevention District - Revised Budget 2019**

	<b>Budget 2019</b>	<b>Actual 2019</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Reason</b>
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Parcel Fees	\$914,458	\$896,345	-2%	
Parcel Fees - Previous Years	\$10,000	\$14,966	33%	<b>A</b>
Interest	\$250	\$223	-12%	<b>B</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$924,708</b>	<b>\$911,533</b>		
<b>Disbursements:</b>				
Patrols	\$882,220	\$805,684	-9%	<b>C</b>
Newsletter	\$4,000	\$0	100%	<b>D</b>
Insurance	\$23,500	\$22,002	-7%	<b>E</b>
Accounting	\$20,000	\$17,950	-11%	<b>F</b>
Telephone	\$2,000	\$1,792	-12%	<b>G</b>
Police Sedans	\$28,457	\$0	100%	<b>H</b>
Sedan Radios & Equipment	\$15,000	\$0	100%	<b>I</b>
Web Site	\$500	\$0	100%	<b>J</b>
Technology/IT Equipment	\$60,000	\$18,737	-220%	<b>K</b>
Legal	\$10,000	\$5,114	-96%	<b>L</b>
Bank/Office	\$1,500	\$1,204	-25%	<b>M</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,047,177</b>	<b>\$872,482</b>		

<b>A</b> - Historical data is used to budget for parcel fees previous years. The City of New Orleans collected more fees from previous years than originally budgeted.
<b>B</b> - There was less cash in the bank account throughout the year so less interest was collected than originally budgeted.
<b>C</b> - Patrols are scheduled by LCPD Commander Rene Benjamin as needed and as funds are available.
<b>D</b> - LCPD is using the website for their newsletter.
<b>E</b> - The insurance expense includes a slight increase from the previous year. However, premium was less than originally budgeted.
<b>F</b> - The fees for the audit were less than originally budgeted.
<b>G</b> - The new phones included in the budget were not required.
<b>H</b> - The Board decided to not purchase additional police sedans in 2019.
<b>I</b> - The Board decided to not purchase additional police sedans in 2019. Therefore, additional radios and equipment were not purchased.
<b>J</b> - No expenses incurred.
<b>K</b> - The LCPD Camera Program was combined with all IT equipment. In 2019, the LCPD Board approved the City of New Orleans camera program. Additional equipment purchased and installation was postponed to 2020.
<b>L</b> - Additional attorney services were not required in 2019. Therefore, less hours were billed by the attorney than budgeted.
<b>M</b> - The minutes from each meeting are required to be published in the newspaper. These costs were less than originally budgeted.

**Old Business**

Citizen Forum Status: Brian Anderson reported that he submitted an official report to the DA, judges and city council and was in the process of setting up a follow up meeting which had been delayed due to closures related to COVID-19. His goal is to provide formal presentation to the City Council when everything opens back up.

IT Person: Reid is looking into what our website license fees would be and trying to find a reliable IT person for hire who would be accountable. Reid is working on a job description before he starts looking for someone.

Car stickers and yard signs: Freddy will give to LCIA for distribution.

Status of annual calendar: Richard will get with Larry Jacobi to update the deadlines.

Block Captain Program: After speaking with Richard, Freddy recommended allowing LCIA to take on this project due to public meeting laws that impact LCPD. Trey Babin indicated it was on

the LCIA agenda, and he will report back. The intent is to improve communication among Lakeview citizens.

### **New Business**

**Crime Camera:** Phase 1 has been completed. This involved 35 cameras at a cost of \$11,844. We are now in Phase II which had involved 25 cameras and License Plate Readers (“LPRs”). Reid recommended pulling out LPRs from this phase because LPR is not sending alerts, and the city does not know when those alerts will be restored. He made a motion which was seconded by Val. Following discussion, Brian moved to shelf discussion regarding LPR until the issue of alerts can be resolved. Brian and Reid will work together on this. Reid seconded, and the motion carried. Reid went on to discuss the low bid for Phase 2 (25 cameras) at \$10,700. Legality of bidding process was discussed. Melissa asked that Reid continue to try and get cameras in West Lakeview and he agreed.

**Zoom meetings:** Reid asked about legality of Zoom meetings, and Richard indicated they are allowed as long as the Governor’s Executive Order allows it for public meetings. Any subcommittee has to abide by all public meetings laws.

**Emergency texting:** Brian and Val talked about emergency text messaging system similar to what Entergy has. There was discussion on what issues would be covered and if it would be done as the event was happening or after the fact. There was concern about posting things that were not cleared by Sgt. Benjamin and subject to official release. Ann expressed concerns that if we start this process, we will have to be aware of expectations and concerns about missing texts. Melissa indicated that these messages may be welcomed by taxpayers who will feel like they are getting important information for their mileage. We will talk more about this at the next meeting.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Ann moved to adjourn, Jeb seconded and the motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:25 p.m.