

Mid City Security District Minutes  
Board Meeting of **January 18, 2024**, 6:00 P.M.  
3803 Toulouse Street, New Orleans LA “The Cannery”

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; Darby Shields; and Richard Lorusso. Brett Emmanuel was not present and indicated that he would have to resign from his board position due to health issues.

Presenters: Sgt. Alfred Russell, MCSD/NOPD Full Time Coordinator; Lawrence Jacobi, CPA, MCSD accountant; Chad Perez, Marcel Madere, and David Myers all from Pinnacle Security.

Guests: None present.

➤ **BOARD MINUTES**

- W. Laker moved and R. Rivard seconded to approve the minutes of the December meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

➤ **FINANCIAL REPORT**

- The December 2023 Bank Statement was approved and initialed by all Board members present.
- L. Jacobi requested Board approval of December monthly bills and payments (\$1,182.50 to Graphix Matter for website and media work; \$24,633.45 to Pinnacle for patrol services for 12/9/23 through 1/6/2024 periods; \$112.50 to Adams & Reese for legal consultation; \$770.00 for CPA Lawrence Jacobi; and EFT of \$74.80 for November and \$43.54 for December to Verizon. All payments were approved with a motion by W. Laker which was seconded by R. Lorusso and approved unanimously. The city of New Orleans has not sent bills for police work since October 22,2023.
- L. Jacobi presented the Financial Statements. It was noted that final bills, including bills from the city of New Orleans for police work, were estimated for all of the statements provided at this meeting. Discussed were the Profit and Loss for January through December 2023 versus same period 2022; Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2023, versus same period 2022; Profit and Loss, Budget vs. Actual Summary for January through December 2023; Profit and Loss, Budget vs. Actual Detail for January through December 2023; and the millage figures 2020 through 2023 (in dispute). It was noted that there was a surplus of \$125,000 that was being rolled over into 2024.
- It was noted that at the February 2024 meeting, a vote would be required to accept the completed 2023 Financial Statements.

➤ **CRIME REPORTS**

- Sgt Russell provided detailed reports of crime activities for each week since the November meeting. A chart comparing crimes from 2023 and 2022 was presented and will be made available through the MCSD website. Sgt. Russell noted that they were focusing on more vehicle stops for various infractions as well as driving through parking lots and sometimes a walk through of stores in an effort to thwart crime. Also, MCSD vehicles were travelling with their lights on to provide additional presence in the neighborhoods. While vehicle burglary and thefts continue it was noted that the main effort of criminals has often been to steal guns from vehicles.

- A discussion followed about the situation on N. Carrollton around Wit's Inn and Red Door Lounge where issues have persisted. It was noted that Councilman Giarusso is well aware of this and is working diligently to try and get this resolved using as many city agencies as necessary. It was noted that the Club Good Times on Conti has also received complaints as of late regarding noise and other issues.
- Representatives from Pinnacle Security indicated that they have recently had problems with the software they use for reporting purposes and so did not have a printed or PowerPoint report for this meeting. Pinnacle continues to patrol the entire MCSD but focuses on "hot spots" at critical times. They commented that during December the average truck mileage was 141 miles/day while there was a total of 4,365 miles driven. The average amount of "stop time" was 1 hour and 39 minutes which included meal breaks, stops for incident issues, etc. They noted that the software alerts the dispatcher if a vehicle stops for more than 20 minutes in any one location.
- It was noted that for Endymion Saturday, it will be difficult to move from one side of Orleans and Canal Streets to the other side for an extended period of time. Pinnacle will need to take this into account for their patrols and find ways to navigate around the boundaries set up by the parade. It was further noted that during other days, the majority of police will be reassigned to the uptown parade routes meaning that Pinnacle will perform an important role in patrolling the MCSD area.

#### ➤ COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Outreach and Visibility. D. Shields, W. Laker and Sgt Russell attended the City Park Neighborhood Assn. meeting and discussed various issues. It is further proposed that three mailers be sent out from MCSD to residents and business in the district: the first in March which could focus on the MCSD Crime App, a second during the summer, and the third in the early fall to focus on the renewal ballot initiative for MCSD.
- A discussion was held concerning the Registrar of Voters who did not properly adjust for who was able to vote in the previous election on the MCSD issue. Since the district crosses precinct lines, they need to do a better job of determining who is eligible and who isn't. It was estimated that approximately 75 people who were eligible to vote were not able to do so.

#### ➤ OLD BUSINESS

- R. Rivard spoke with legal counsel concerning whether or not the renewal ballot initiative could have changes as long as it stayed within the parameters of the original language. It was agreed that this might be possible. A draft was presented (attached to these minutes) and it was moved by D. Shields that this language be provided to counsel for an official determination as to whether it fits in the parameters of the original MCSD language. R. Rivard seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- D. Shields presented a proposed letter to Lumana regarding a "trial" use of their cameras. After discussion, D. Shields moved that the letter be provided to Lumana (attached to these minutes). R. Rivard seconded the motion which was passed unanimously. As for the locations of the trial cameras, Sgt. Russell suggested 200 to 600 S. Alexander, 200-600 S. Hennesey, 3200-3300 Conti, 3200-3400 Banks or 3100 to 3300 Iberville. R. Rivard further moved to authorize approval of a contract with Lumana depending upon the approval of legal counsel of said contract.
- The Mid City Crime App was again discussed and it was thought that it would be close to complete by the end of the month. I pads were purchased while on sale prior to December 31 through Verizon but if MCSD decides to cancel after the trial period, Bob Simms of the SDT Company indicated he would reimburse MCSD for the costs. This had been approved by legal counsel.

- No guests were present so there were no public comments.
- At 7:55pm, W. Laker offered a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by R. Rivard. 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 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.



Charley Richard, Secretary

**Proposed Proposition, subject to review by counsel.**

Shall the City of New Orleans levy an annual fee on each parcel of land in the Mid-City Security District ("District"), within the boundaries delineated by La. R.S. 33:9091.14(B), in the following amounts for residential parcels: For unimproved parcel or those with single-family dwellings, condominium, townhouse, or two-family dwellings and three- or four-family dwellings, the fee shall be \$195.00 per year.

For each residential parcel which contains more than four rental units the fee shall be \$100.00 per rental unit, except that no parcel which contains more than 40 rental units can be assessed a fee greater than \$4,000.00.

For commercial parcels the fee shall be a flat fee per parcel of land not to exceed \$500.00 per year; with any parcel used for commercial and residential purposes considered commercial if comprised of fewer than 5 residential units and residential if comprised of 5 residential units, or greater.

The parcel fee for any parcel subject to La. Const. Art. VII, Sec. 18 shall be \$150 per year.

Said fees shall be for eight (8) years, beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2032, and are estimated to generate approximately \$xxxxxx annually, to be used exclusively for promoting and encouraging security within the District, except for a 1% City collection fee, and if used for additional law enforcement personnel and their services, such personnel and services shall be supplemental to and not in lieu of personnel and services provided by the New Orleans Police Department?

January 18, 2024

Lumana  
Los Gatos, California

Jim Vossoughi –

Mid City Security District (MCSD) would like to arrange for a 90-day trial of the Lumana surveillance camera system, starting February 1, 2024, dependent on the availability of the equipment.

The equipment we would like to install for the trial would include 3 each Turret Cameras (LT800) and 1 each Core 2TB unit (LUM252).

MCSD would be responsible for installing the system at a residence and for purchasing any required wiring and POE converters. MCSD would also be responsible for removing and returning the trial units at no cost to Lumana.

The operation of the cameras would be coordinated with Pinnacle Security and Investigation Inc. Pinnacle would receive alerts generated by the core unit and direct their patrols to the site when necessary.

Please provide us with a standard Lumana trial contract which will be signed by the MCSD Board Chairman Wendy Laker and would be endorsed by a vote from the MCSD Board Members.

Let us know if any other information is needed to initiate the trial installation.

Darby Shields  
MCSD Board Member