

## Lakeview Crime Prevention District Meeting

March 27, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

St. Dominic Rectory, 775 Harrison Avenue, NOLA 70124

### **Opening**

The meeting started at approximately 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Val Cupit, Kevin Avin, Graham Ryan, Ann LeBlanc, Aimee McCarron, Susan Dinneen, and Joe Rochelle. Richard Bordelon, Sudi Joint, and Sgt. Benjamin were also present.

**Motion to approve minutes:** Val moved, Kevin seconded, and the motion carried.

### **Financial report**

Sudi had information on 2024 financials. Auditors have what they need.

We have received invoices from the city through February which is good and improvement from last year.

Assets at end of the year were 1.3M and Accounts Payable was 1.2M which includes disputed millage. Disputed millage at end of 2024 is 490K. Graham recommended that we separate disputed millage in financials so we don't have to explain why the numbers are skewed. Auditor says we cannot do that per Sudi. Deputy Chief Superintendent Stephanie Landry indicates she is going to look into this issue and report to the city.

Profits and Losses for 2024 show patrols were up 133K. Unclear if we have to amend budget due to variance of greater than 5 percent because need to find out from auditors if we have to include disputed millage in analysis.

In terms of 2025 balance sheet, assets are 444K and liabilities include 608K. That's actual patrols and disputed millage. According to P&L through March 2025, we only have 3K in parcels compared to 341K last year. Sudi expects to get more deposits in April and May from the city of the parcel fees. Total disputed millage to date is 507K. We are in the middle of internal audit. Legislature needs it by June 30. We have budgeted 909K for patrols which is less than last year because we are trying to get to a zero budget.

Sgt. Benjamin was told to cut patrols by 10%. He reported that he has eliminated the shift of 11 am to 3 pm and from 3 pm to 7 pm, they will have 2 officers instead of 3. He has saved 1200 so far this year. He does not see any trouble with it. Graham indicated that the board is comfortable with him using his discretion if needs to go beyond the budget if necessary. The 3rd circuit is aware of the need to make cuts. The 3<sup>rd</sup> circuit has set up traffic school zones and being proactive in that area.

### **Crime report**

Sgt. Benjamin reported that there were 1079 UCR crimes citywide, 107 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10 in LV. There was 1 aggravated assault, 1 aggravated burglary, 1 auto theft, 4 burglaries, 1 shoplifting and 2 thefts. The aggravated battery occurred at an Endymion party. A man with a gun went into a party and there was a struggle and the victim was shot in the abdomen. He did not know anyone at the party. He turned himself in after a warrant was issued for his arrest. The aggravated assault occurred at Walgreens when cashier approached the shoplifter and he allegedly pulled a gun on her. Police have a suspect in that incident and it should be cleared by arrest next week. The cashier was fired. Crime has been down 51% year to date. Out of 10 crimes, 4 have been solved or cleared by arrest or warrant.

We have had 25 incidents compared to 51 last year. The only categories that have gone up are burglaries (6 this year, 5 last), thefts (7 this year, 3 last year). There has been a 56% clearance rate so far this year.

In terms of stolen guns, there have been 105 YTD (2025) for the city compared to 143 last year. 47 have been stolen from vehicles city wide compared to 92 in 2024. There have been none stolen in LV YTD. Sgt. Benjamin believes the message about not leaving guns in vehicles may have been received. Further the concealed gun law changing may be helping.

There have been 326 traffic stops in LV compared to 150 last year. Only 6 tickets were issued. For the year so far, there have been 1047 stops with 42 tickets.

The response time has been 7:21 total (4:36 in route time, with 2:45 hold time). Turnover rate at 911 is high. It is a constant battle.

Sgt. Benjamin discussed a quality of life issue of speeding on West End Blvd. They put an officer there and noted 370 speeding violations in one day. On Pontchartrain there were 119 violations. Capt. Bush at 3<sup>rd</sup> district is considering a stop sign on Filmore and West End. Traffic stops are up 336% and this helps deter crime.

### **Technology**

No update

### **Miscellaneous**

Get your financial disclosures in by May 15.

### **Motion to adjourn**

Ann moved to adjourn and Val seconded.