

# TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: October 08, 2024

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To: Mayor and Town Council

Via: Kirk Blouin, Town Manager

From: Robert Miracle, Deputy Town Manager

Re: Status Report of Delinquent Accounts and Request for Authorization to Write-off Uncollectible Accounts

Date: September 30, 2024

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## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Town Council authorize staff to write off the balances identified in the report and summarized below:

Type of Charge	Write off Amount	FY2024 Revenue Collected	% of Write off vs. Total Revenue
EMS Charges	\$140,505	\$426,848	33%
Fire False Alarms	\$1,963	\$42,756	5%
Parking Tickets (FY2021)			
Tickets	\$81,565	\$800,869	10%
Penalties	\$131,125	\$331,886	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$216,058</b>	<b>\$1,602,359</b>	<b>13%</b>

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Status of Delinquent Accounts - Year End Update**

Attached is the September 30, 2024, Status of Delinquent Accounts report for your review. This report includes outstanding code enforcement liens and false alarm fees Contractors. The total amount of delinquent accounts on this report equals \$176,063.39. Most of the balance is made up of code enforcement liens. The numerous small amounts under code enforcement liens represent code enforcement administrative fees.

## **EMS Collections**

Fire-Rescue is requesting the authority to write off \$140,504.71 in uncollectible EMS fees. The Town has contracted with EMS Management and Consultants, Inc. (EMSMC) to bill and collect EMS fees. The Town has also contracted with Security Collection Agency to collect the delinquent EMS and other outstanding accounts. EMSMC sends the uncollectible accounts to SCA on a monthly basis.

The total amount due on EMS accounts is shown below.

Total amount due on EMS accounts as of September 11, 2024: \$243,630.77

Total amount of delinquent accounts as of September 11, 2024: \$183,727.81

The collection rate for the FY2023 dates of service is currently 56%, the collection rate for the FY2024 dates of service is currently 59 %

Total revenue from EMS fees for FY2024: \$426,848

## **Fire Dept**

Account MI-000374 \$240.00. The attached memorandum from Marsha Farmer, states the detail was never performed.

## **Fire False Alarms – Contractor**

Fire False Alarms, Contractor write-offs total \$1,963.39. The balance consists of nine accounts, Palm Beach Electronics, Blue Water Builders, Suncoast Communication, Fire Control Inc, Florida Pool Company, Prime Painting, Rogers Construction, Budget Rooter Plumbing and Dream House Construction. All nine were sent Certified Letters – no response. Also, numerous calls and emails to try and collect but no response to those as well.

## **Parking Tickets**

Revenues from parking tickets and associated penalties for FY24 were \$1,132,755.12 higher than FY23.

Last year, Town Council authorized staff to write off unpaid tickets issued during fiscal year 2020. We are requesting that the Town Council authorize staff to write off outstanding parking tickets and penalties issued prior to September 30, 2021, totaling \$212,690. This total consists of original tickets issued in the amount of \$81,565 and \$131,125 in penalties. These tickets have been sent to the collection agency and all efforts have been made to collect these tickets. The collection agency will continue to pursue these outstanding tickets.

The chart below compares FY2023 vs. FY2024 write off and receivable balances.

### Comparison of FY2023 vs. FY2024 Receivable Report

#### Write off Amounts

Type of Charge	FY2023	FY2024
EMS Charges	\$154,753	\$140,505
Code Enforcement Fines	2,450	\$ .00
Parking Tickets	\$135,010	\$212,690
Fire False Alarms	\$1,296	\$1,963

#### Balance of Delinquent Accounts

Type of Charge	FY2023	FY2024
Code Enforcement Liens	\$103,400	\$176,063
False Alarm Accounts	\$1497	\$3679
EMS Charges	\$137,721	\$183,728
Parking Tickets		
Tickets	\$453,980	\$657,879
Penalties	\$432,271	\$793,191

#### Revenues from above sources

Type of Charge	FY2023	FY2024
Code Enforcement Liens	\$1,979,850	\$100,510
EMS Fees	\$405,923	\$426,848
Parking Tickets and Penalties	\$979,676	\$1,132,755
False Alarm Revenues	\$63,121	\$42,756