

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: October 13, 2022

To: Mayor and Town Council

Via: Kirk Blouin, Town Manager

From: Jane Le Clainche, Director of Finance

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

Date: September 30, 2022

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	FY2022 Revenue Collected	% of Write off vs. Total Revenue
EMS Charges	\$126,311	\$430,561	29.34%
Fire False Alarms - Contractors	\$444	\$22,914	.02%
Parking Tickets (FY2019)			
Tickets	\$45,905	\$685,837	.07%
Penalties	\$53,580	\$202,390	26.5%
Total	\$226,240	\$1,341,702	16.8%

GENERAL INFORMATION

Status of Delinquent Accounts - Year End Update

Attached is the September 30, 2022, Status of Delinquent Accounts report for your review. This report includes outstanding code enforcement liens, false alarm fees and fire prevention fees. The total amount of delinquent accounts on this report equals \$3,206,917.40. Most of the balance is made up of code enforcement liens. The numerous small amounts under code enforcement liens represent code enforcement administrative fees.

Overall, aside from the code enforcement liens, the alarms and fire contractor accounts are mostly current and collection letters have been sent to the parties involved.

EMS Collections

Fire-Rescue is requesting the authority to write off \$126,310.88 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 19, 2022: \$234,922.61

Total amount of delinquent accounts as of September 19, 2022: \$139,662.72

The collection rate for the FY2021 dates of service is currently 70%, the collection rate for the FY2022 dates of service is currently 58%

Total revenue from EMS fees for FY2022: \$430,561

Fire False Alarms – Contractor

Fire False Alarms, Contractor write-offs total \$443.93. The balance consists of three accounts, Bugs Exterminators, Lexicon Builders and Xfinity/Comcast. Two accounts were turned over to the Code Enforcement Board for failure to pay the false alarm fire fees, Bugs Exterminating is no longer in Business, Lexicon Builders no response and Xfinity all mail has been returned.

Parking Tickets

Revenues from parking tickets and associated penalties for FY22 were \$133,537.54 higher than FY21.

Last year, Town Council authorized staff to write off unpaid tickets issued during fiscal year 2018. We are requesting that the Town Council authorize staff to write off outstanding parking tickets and penalties issued prior to September 30, 2019, totaling \$99,485. This total consists of original tickets issued in the amount of \$45,905 and \$53,580 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 FY2021 vs. FY2022 write off and receivable balances.

Comparison of FY2021 vs. FY2022 Receivable Report

Write off Amounts

Type of Charge	FY2021	FY2022
EMS Charges	\$136,395	\$126,311
Parking Tickets	\$124,014	\$99,485
Fire False Alarms	\$580	\$444

Balance of Delinquent Accounts

Type of Charge	FY2021	FY2022
Code Enforcement Liens	\$3,130,813	\$3,205,750
Fire Prevention Fees	\$7,009	\$0
False Alarm Accounts	\$690	\$990
EMS Charges	\$183,372	\$139,663
Parking Tickets		
Tickets	\$267,715	\$348,495
Penalties	\$278,179	\$355,565

Revenues from above sources

Type of Charge	FY2021	FY2022
Code Enforcement Liens	\$214,375	\$418,025
EMS Fees	\$358,282	\$430,561
Parking Tickets and Penalties	\$754,690	\$888,227
Fire Prevention Fees	\$76,271	\$176,534
False Alarm Revenues	\$50,525	\$51,939