



600 Jefferson, Ste. 400; Memphis, TN 38105
October 24, 2024, Board Meeting Report

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ben Adams.

The September 24th board report was reviewed and approved.

APPROVAL OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Adams presented the name of Joe Fracchia for board appointment.

The motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept Joe Fracchia to the Crime Commission board.

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS FOR 24-25

Chairman Adams reported that the Executive Committee convened to recommend the election of members for the Executive Committee and Crime Commission officers for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Upon motion made and seconded, Andrew Bland, representing Sylvamo, was added as a member of the Executive Committee. All other members of the Executive Committee were retained. All officers of the Crime Commission board were also retained.

APPROVAL OF FY 24-25 OPERATING BUDGET

Bill Gibbons provided an update on the operating budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025, highlighting several key changes. The primary increase in the budget is due to salary adjustments, with the addition of Mishell Vite as a full-time staff member. Additional funds have been allocated to the lobbying firm, transitioning from a nine-month agreement to budgeting for the entire year, with a sponsor contributing \$30,000 to cover the difference. Costs for luncheon meetings at 600 Jefferson have also increased, along with higher expenses for the reception held to engage legislators and invited guests. The budget now includes the golf tournament as a



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separate line item. However, items such as the 901Fund and Sky Cop Cameras are not included in the operating budget, as they are supported by separate earmarked funds.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the budget as presented.

3RD QUARTER CRIME NUMBERS AND SELECTIVE SAFE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN MEASUREMENTS

Mr. Gibbons presented a disclaimer regarding the crime figures, clarifying that the TBI data only includes City of Memphis figures and does not reflect countywide statistics. The reported number of major property crimes, which include burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, and other felony thefts, decreased by 20.3% from January to September 2024 compared to the same period in 2023. Major violent crimes also saw a decline, with a decrease of 2.6% in 2024 compared to 2023. Reported murders dropped by 11.5%, and reported robberies decreased by 22.5% in 2024 compared to 2023. Chair Adams emphasized that overall crime rates have decreased since 2006. Mayor Young is focusing significant efforts on reducing gun crimes. Additionally, Mr. Gibbons noted that the number of reported violent incidents involving guns decreased by 4.6% from January to September 2024 compared to the previous year. A total of 892 reported domestic violence aggravated assault incidents involving guns were also reported during this period.

UPDATE ON SAFE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Mayor Young emphasized that addressing crime is a two-fold process, involving not only the prosecution of offenders but also providing intervention to prevent repeat offenses. M.P.D. Chief C.J. Davis highlighted that a sizable portion of violent crimes are being committed by repeat offenders, representing a small percentage of the population. Both the mayor and the chief are actively working to reduce the



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number of aggravated assaults as part of their broader efforts to address violent crime.

Bill Gibbons noted that Susan Deason, representing SWITCH-Youth/Memphis Allies, was unable to attend to present a preliminary report. He stated that the Public Safety Institute is currently evaluating SWITCH-Youth, with a preliminary report expected to be available in March 2025.

Bill Gibbons introduced a recruitment form designed to engage the community in recruiting police officers. Under this initiative, community members can use the form to recruit young individuals to apply. If the recruit applies, graduates, and becomes a commissioned officer, a non-profit organization will receive \$1,000 in honor of the recruited person. The Crime Commission and the City of Memphis have each committed \$25,000 to support this program, with a focus on targeting churches and civic groups. Mr. Gibbons clarified that the funding should come from earmarked funds and not from operating funds.

Chief Davis emphasized that the primary goal of the recruitment initiative is to offset the natural attrition of police officers.

FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY

Mayor Mike Palazzolo briefed the Board on a potential new juvenile detention facility in Mason, emphasizing the need for action to address current inadequacies. He presented a resolution that has been adopted and approved by various municipalities, serving as a call to action for state support to drive this change. Mayor Palazzolo highlighted that the existing Wilder facility is inadequate, and this initiative represents an opportunity to advance the conversation and increase detention capacity for Shelby County and the surrounding regions. No action was taken at this meeting.

TALK IT OUT/COMMUNITY FORUM



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The next *Talk It Out* session is scheduled for October 30th, featuring Domestic Violence Court Judge Greg Gilbert in recognition of Domestic Violence Month. Attendance is limited to twenty-five participants per session.

Additionally, the next community forum will take place on November 16th at New Salem Missionary Baptist Church and will cover two distinct topics:

1. **Reducing Juvenile Crime Through Prevention and Intervention**, with presentations by Dr. Marie Feagins, Melvin Cole, and Gwendolyn Woods.
2. **Bail Reform**, with insights from Sheriff Bonner, Judge Lee Wilson, and Assistant M.P.D. Chief Don Crowe.

FINANCIALS

The golf tournament is expected to net close to \$40,000 after expenses. The next golf tournament has been scheduled for September 2025.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 23rd at 3:30 p.m.

In Attendance:

Ben Adams
Louis "Bo" Allen
Andrew Bland
Sheriff Floyd Bonner
SAC Joe Carrico
Harold Collins
J. Matt Cunningham
Tom Cowens
Chief Jeff Cox
Chief C.J. Davis
Rep. John Deberry



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Greg Duckett
John Dudas
Chris Fairey
Terry Harris
Henry Hooper
Jimmie Johnson
James Kirkwood
Paul Morris
D. A. Steve Mulroy
Dir. David Rausch
Joseph Saab
Blair Taylor
Coleman Thompson
Mayor Paul Young
Dorcas Young Griffin
Craig Weiss
Dr. Marie Feagin
Joe Guley
M. Rogers
Ron Walker
Norman Blake
Leslie Taylor
Tamika Williams
Rosi Teva
Nicos Godwin
J Turbin
Jeremy Baker
Gwendolyn Woods
Valerie Matthews
Lydia Holmes-Sakon
Sandy Bromley
David Wayne Brown
Chief Crowe