



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#23-0056

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: January 10, 2023

TITLE: Second Reading – Ordinance Amending Chapter 4 – Alarm Systems, Sections 4-1, Definitions, 4.2, Registration of Alarm Systems; Alarm Certificates, and 4.9, Service Fee of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale Providing for a More Streamlined Process for Registering Residential and Commercial Alarm Systems and the Collection of Outstanding Fees by Using an Outside Vendor to Register Alarm Users and Collect Outstanding Fees and Update the False Alarm Fees - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve amending Sections 4.1 (Definitions), 4.2 (Registration of Alarm Systems) and 4.9 (Service Fee) by streamlining the alarm registration and fee collection process for residential and commercial alarm users by using an outside vendor for registering alarm users and the collection of outstanding fees. Staff recommends that the City Commission approve the new fee schedule for false alarm responses.

Background

The Police and Fire-Rescue Departments currently bill for alarm response fees and alarm registration. The billing system for alarms is antiquated and inefficient resulting in potential loss of revenue. As a result, Staff has recommended the City outsource alarm registration and billing and fee collection for alarm response and alarm registration fees for Police and Fire-Rescue responses. Staff selected and recommended a vendor for the alarm billing, and on June 21, 2022, the City Commission approved an agreement with PMAM Corporation to manage the Police and Fire Alarm billing process (CAM 22-0501). During the process of implementation, it was determined that the Alarm Ordinance required revisions and Staff is recommending the attached alarm ordinance revisions. This recommendation is to revise the ordinance to allow the third-party corporation to manage the process and is an update to the current cost associated with responding to alarms.

Resource Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2022 Commission* Priority, advancing the Community Response and Safety initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Safety Focus Area
- Goal 6: Build a safe and well-prepared community.
- Objective: Prevent and solve crime in all neighborhoods.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are Community.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Ordinance

Prepared by: Captain Glenn Galt, Police Department

Department Director: Patrick Lynn, Chief of Police