

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
Tuesday, March 10, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS:

Anthony Serna, President
Rick Rodriguez, Vice President
Valda Lewis, Secretary
Gilberto Cantu
Eugene Austin

STAFF:

Courtnee Dinkins
Dawn Dawkins-Legal
Mayra Acosta, Dir.

Reported by: Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR
Fissinger & Associates

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present: Anthony Serna, Gilberto Cantu
Valda Lewis

Staff Present: Dawn Dawkins, Legal Counsel
Courtnee Dinkins, Recording Secretary
Mayra Acosta, Director

CHIEF SERNA: First thing, under
Administrative Matters, I would entertain a motion to
approve meeting minutes of February 25, 2020.

Motion to approve minutes of February 25, 2020, made by
Valda Lewis. Second by Gilberto Cantu.

CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

Next, entertain a motion to approve
the payroll dated March 6, 2020.

Motion to approve payroll of March 6, 2020, made by
Valda Lewis. Second by Gilberto Cantu.

CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

Let the record reflect, Mr. Austin
is now in attendance.

Next, we have approval of Warrant

1 report 030220 PB, in the amount of \$90.27. Entertain a
motion to approve warrant report.

2 Motion to approve Warrant Report 030220 PB, in the
3 amount of \$90.27, made by Gilberto Cantu. Second by
Valda Lewis.

4 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
5 saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

6 CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

7 Next, we have approval of Warrant
report 031020 PB, in the amount of \$8,539.44. Entertain
a motion to approve warrant report.

8 Motion to approve Warrant report 031020 PB, in the
9 amount of \$8,539.44, made by Valda Lewis. Second by
Gilberto Cantu.

10 CHIEF SERNA: Next item on agenda, Old
11 Business. Do we have any old business, Madame
secretary?

12 MS. DINKINS: No.

13 CHIEF SERNA: Move on to New Business --
14 Mayra.

15 MS. ACOSTA: So the first item is the
past due invoices for Calumet Waste and Recycling.

16 CHIEF SERNA: So we have two invoices,
17 both from Calumet Waste and Recycling.

18 MS. ACOSTA: Correct.

19 CHIEF SERNA: So we have invoice number
20 4200, dated July 11, 2019, in amount of \$1,495. And
then the second invoice is invoice number 4386, dated
21 November 15, 2019, amount of \$1,498. The reason why we
are 60 days past due?

22 MS. ACOSTA: They sent us the invoice and
the work wasn't completed. We held the invoice until
23 they were completed with the work and we were completely
satisfied.

24 CHIEF SERNA: All right. Any questions
25 on invoices Board members? (None) I'll entertain a

1 motion to approve payment for invoice number 4200,
2 amount of \$1,495 and invoice number 4396, amount of
3 \$1,498 to Calumet Waste and Recycling.

4 Motion to approve both past due invoice to Calumet Waste
5 and Recycling made by Gilberto Cantu. Second by Valda
6 Lewis.

7 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
8 saying aye?

9 (All signify aye.)

10 CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

11 MS. ACOSTA: Next we have three items on
12 the agenda to purchase three sculptures. These
13 sculptures are currently located at the parks. So it's
14 Tod Park, Sunnyside Park, and Nunez Park. We have
15 leased the sculptures for two years and now, instead of
16 renewing the lease, we want to actually purchase the
17 sculptures.

18 CHIEF SERNA: And what is the amount? Is
19 that on here?

20 MS. ACOSTA: Yes. There is also a
21 picture of the sculpture and then there is the quote
22 from the artist of what the cost is.

23 CHIEF SERNA: Okay. So for Tod Park,
24 that sculpture is \$6500?

25 MS. ACOSTA: Correct.

CHIEF SERNA: For Sunnyside -- it doesn't
say which park, does it, on the back?

MS. ACOSTA: It does not. It only has
the name of the artist on there.

CHIEF SERNA: So that second one is then
for Sunnyside Park.

MS. ACOSTA: That's the Chicago
blacksmith, yes, that's for Sunnyside and the abstract
is for Nunez.

CHIEF SERNA: So then the three amounts
are \$6500 for the one at Tod, and then \$16,000 for the
one at Sunnyside, and then \$17,000 for the one at Nunez.

1 MS. ACOSTA: That is correct.

2 CHIEF SERNA: Okay. Any questions Board
3 members?

4 MR. CANTU: There is already one at
5 Sunnyside. There is already one there.

6 CHIEF SERNA: They have been leasing it.
7 We approved leasing it.

8 MR. CANTU: I don't recall that about
9 leasing.

10 CHIEF SERNA: Yes, we approved leasing
11 the sculptures before we bought them -- or in the
12 process now of buying them.

13 MR. CANTU: Maybe I wasn't here then. I
14 mean with the coronavirus and all that stuff, I don't
15 see any need for anything like this in the park. We
16 have to put something down there so they won't be sick.

17 CHIEF SERNA: So you think that having
18 things at the park right now is a bad idea?

19 MR. CANTU: I think it's a bad idea right
20 now with this virus. We don't know what is going to
21 happen. Is the City prepared to do something down there
22 for the City of East Chicago? Most of the time -- at
23 the present time, all the people that's getting sick
24 right away. We have plenty of senior citizens right
25 here with Nicosia and on the Harbor too. We don't know
what is happening today down there. Is the City doing
something to take care of them?

A little while ago I was watching
the news and New York -- there is an area down there,
where they are already infected, and most of the time
they are senior citizens down there.

My question, is the City going to do
something for them or something like that?

CHIEF SERNA: Let the record reflect that
Board member Rick Rodriguez is with us now.

As far as what the City is going to
do about the coronavirus, if you want to have a
discussion about that, we can. But I think right now in
front of the Board, we need to vote on whether to table
this or whatever. But we can have discussion about the

1 coronavirus, if you like, but as far as these, what is
2 in front of us, we should vote on it or table it,
3 whatever the Board's pleasure.

4 Rick, we are on agenda item -- New
5 Business -- the quotes for the sculptures. There is
6 pictures attached, along with the sculptures.

7 MR. CANTU: We spent a lot of money on
8 this and I don't think I was here when they lease it.
9 But we shouldn't be doing something -- there are going
10 to be kids playing around in the parks. Are we prepared
11 for them to, you know, sanitation or something, so we
12 can take care of them and not get infected and so forth,
13 because -- doesn't mean it's going to happen.

14 CHIEF SERNA: I understand your concern
15 for the virus that's going around.

16 MR. CANTU: I want to table all these
17 things for the time being because I don't think we have
18 a necessity to bring things like this at the parks at
19 the present time. We can do other things for the safety
20 of the community.

21 CHIEF SERNA: You know, they are not
22 bringing them in because they are already there.

23 MR. CANTU: I know it is down there for
24 some time, but I don't remember leasing. I wasn't here
25 maybe.

CHIEF SERNA: You have pretty good
attendance.

MR. CANTU: One of those days I wake up
and see that one in front of park. I live across the
street. I was the first one to notice that, you know.
I don't recall discussing any of this. I even question
down there, about the animals we put down there. That
was big discussion on that. I don't recall about this
one, so maybe I was confused.

MR. AUSTIN: I want to know this, the
statues that we have down there, the lion, elephant, and
giraffe; something fell off down there, certain amount
fell off. I think the elephant is the one that
happened. I mean that will happen. I think we are
in-house -- you know -- the Board is in-house too.

1 CHIEF SERNA: Are you saying they have
actually fallen over, is that what you are saying?

2 MR. AUSTIN: Something fell off I heard.

3 CHIEF SERNA: Have they been falling
4 apart, Mayra?

5 MS. ACOSTA: No. They are core 10 and
6 13,000 pounds. So unless somebody really -- I don't
know how they would even damage that.

7 MR. AUSTIN: That's what I was told, you
8 know. Everything we do, the Board should know about it
and not getting it on the street. You know what I'm
9 saying?

10 CHIEF SERNA: Well, have they been
damaged, Mayra?

11 MS. ACOSTA: No. Not as far as I know.

12 CHIEF SERNA: Maybe it's just a rumor.

13 MR. AUSTIN: Well, I brought it to the
14 Board because I heard that.

15 CHIEF SERNA: Well, Mr. Cantu, would you
like to make a motion to table this?

16 MR. CANTU: I make a motion to table for,
17 you know, maybe for the future down there.

18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I just got here, can you
update me on this real quick before I make a vote?

19 CHIEF SERNA: Let me explain to the Board
20 member. We have on the agenda the quote for sculptures
at Tod Park, Sunnyside Park, and Nunez Park. You have
21 pictures with the quote in your packet.

22 So we are currently leasing them and
now we are going to buy them, that's the proposal in
23 front of us, to buy them. The prices are attached. And
so that's the discussion right now, is whether or not to
purchase. Mr. Cantu is making a motion to table at this
24 time. His concerns are the coronavirus.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: What does that have to do
with this?

1 CHIEF SERNA: You can ask him. Mr.
2 Cantu, maybe you can restate your concerns.

3 MR. CANTU: I only say there is no need
4 for us to bring all these things at the present time.
5 We don't know what is going to happen tomorrow, next
6 day, or next week in the City of East Chicago. I know
7 that coronavirus is hitting more of the old people.
8 Here in East Chicago we have a lot of old people, many
9 senior citizens and so forth. And I think this is waste
10 of money to buy all those things. I said to table this
11 for the time being.

12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's a separate entity.

13 MR. CANTU: He said we are leasing this.

14 CHIEF SERNA: Yes. They are currently at
15 the parks right now. We are not bringing them into the
16 parks, they are already there.

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: The coronavirus is
18 questions for the Board of Health and see what they are
19 doing about it.

20 MR. CANTU: What I'm saying is, I don't
21 think we need all these things, to buy them at the
22 present time. Okay. That money should be bringing
23 something else, so we can have safety for our children
24 if they go to the park.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I understand that.
That's a separate entity.

MR. CANTU: Just throw our money away.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's a separate entity
that's suppose to be taking care of that side.

MR. CANTU: Is already all these things
on the parks. We are paying rent for them, according to
the Chairman here. I wasn't here when this thing
passed. The only thing I saw is in front of my house,
that sculpture down there, last year.

All I am saying is to table and to
stop wasting money down there on those things. That we
should be prepared to do some things to bring for the
safety of the kids when they go to the parks. Let's

1 invest money in something else right now, at the present
time, is all I am saying.

2
3 CHIEF SERNA: So there is a motion on the
4 floor by Mr. Cantu to table this. There would be a
5 second, if anyone else is in agreement, to second that
6 motion.

7 MR. AUSTIN: May I ask, before we come to
8 that, this is something that we are going to bring, but
9 we already have all of this. May I ask, why wouldn't --
10 you've spoken of your decision and ask that we follow.
11 I mean the Mayor first and then you, right. I mean
12 because seems like we should have a briefing on this if
13 we're buying the same thing. I'm just asking. I'm new
14 person here. I'm not trying to do anything that will
15 affect us here.

16 CHIEF SERNA: Right. The only thing I
17 can say --

18 MR. AUSTIN: We are here to work
19 together. Once the president knows, he should relate it
20 to us.

21 CHIEF AUSTIN: Mayra, can you explain the
22 genesis of the sculptures again?

23 MR. AUSTIN: Does anybody here on the
24 Board know this? I mean I'm not asking something that
25 is for Gene, I'm asking for City

26 CHIEF SERNA: All I know is what is in
27 the packet, what we received in the packet. I received
28 that at the same time that you received the packet. So
29 I mean we read our packets and we know what is coming on
30 the agenda. The agenda is ready a week ahead of time.
31 We read the agenda and we know together -- we know at
32 the same time at the very least.

33 MR. AUSTIN: I just want to make it
34 known, on the record, I am not trying to do anything
35 that offset the Board no kind of way, because I know
36 that it can be confusing here, and I don't like
37 confusing. All of us work together and everything will
38 run smooth, that's what I believe.

39 And then also, the summer is coming.
40 If we've got some money, we are going to need goals, fix
41 up the basketball; that's what I think that we should

1 use that for. You know, think about that. Don't you
2 think so, Chief?

3 CHIEF SERNA: I think that is in Mayra's
4 budget. We can ask her if she has any money. First,
5 let's go back to the motion, can you explain -- he asked
6 about the sculptures and can you explain these
7 sculptures from the beginning?

8 MS. ACOSTA: Two years ago, when I came
9 in, we had basically almost completed all the work for
10 all the parks to be updated. So all the parks got new
11 shelters, new playground equipment, some had exercise
12 equipment, park trails. So then the next step is to
13 beautify the parks. And the only thing that most of the
14 parks are missing is art.

15 And so if you go to any other city,
16 you will see there is art pieces in their parks. So
17 then we said, why not East Chicago? Why can't we enjoy
18 that? That's when we started leasing the art pieces, to
19 see what the residents reaction would be.

20 So, our residents enjoyed the art
21 pieces. Our residents haven't damaged the art pieces
22 for the last two years. We leased art and we got a good
23 result. So we got a lot of feedback from residents
24 appreciating the art. None of the art has been damaged
25 to-date. That's the reason why we are moving forward.

26 Instead of paying the annual leasing
27 fee, which has doubled, then we are just going to buy
28 some pieces and other pieces are going to be custom
29 pieces that are more meaningful to the City. Like
30 something regarding heritage and something that has to
31 do with the City's actual history, versus buying a piece
32 that we don't know what it comes from.

33 MR. AUSTIN: Well, I just think -- I
34 don't want to speak out of order or nothing -- I want
35 the Board to understand what it is -- we are trying to
36 understand everything together. We vote and vote on our
37 hearts. You know what I'm saying? And because like now
38 summer is coming, that if we got so much extra money, we
39 should maybe go to buying something for the kids to play
40 baseball or something like that.

41 CHIEF SERNA: That would be my next
42 question, Mayra. You mentioned baseball or basketball
43 courts, how are we looking -- budget wise -- to be able
44 to maintain or build or anything, with basketball courts
45 at least?

1 MS. ACOSTA: All the basketball courts in
the City and all the parks, they are all new.
2 Everything has been painted. Everything has been
maintained. Now some of the nets might be ripped, and
3 that we hire Public Works to change them. That's just
repair or maintenance item.
4

5 CHIEF SERNA: So we have all new
basketball courts. So I would say that the budget has
been spent. There's been money spent on the basketball
6 courts, on things like that for the kids. Swings, I
mean, how are we on swings and swing sets?
7

8 MS. ACOSTA: All the playground equipment
is all brand new throughout all the parks.

9 MR. AUSTIN: Well, that's the only thing
I'm saying. She's doing a good job and everything.
10 Then I think, you know, maybe we have extra money or
something, maybe we can go out and collect, you know,
11 for kids to play basketball. Then we can cut some of
the expenses off the parents. The City could come up
12 with half of the money and then the parents would do
half, then we have the kids playing ball.
13

14 CHIEF SERNA: Like a program. Do we have
any currently, programs like that?

15 MS. ACOSTA: We have a summer program
that's completely free to residents and we do have a
16 sports program integrated into our summer program. We
have swimming. We have sports. We have field trips,
17 and all are free to East Chicago residents

18 CHIEF SERNA: Free, so no charge?

19 MS. ACOSTA: That is correct.

20 CHIEF SERNA: So we already have that
going on.
21

22 MS. LEWIS: The sculptures and the park
recreation, the basketball courts and swings, etcetera,
etcetera; would they be different line items in the
23 budget, because that would mean you are not switching
money from one place to another.
24

25 MS. ACOSTA: That is correct. Any
improvement to the City is a different line item. We

1 don't have a budget for improvements, so the Park budget
2 has zero dollars allocated to improvements. So any
3 improvements would need to go through Jim Bennett and --
4 Jim Bennett is the financial advisor for the City -- and
5 he would have to figure out, if we were to need any
6 improvements, where he would give us those funds for.
7 But we do have funds for repair and maintenance, usual
8 annual expenses.

9 CHIEF SERNA: So, Mr. Cantu has a motion
10 on the floor to table the purchase of these. Is there a
11 second?

12 MR. AUSTIN: I second the motion.

13 CHIEF SERNA: So we have a motion to
14 table made by Mr. Cantu, second by Mr. Austin. We'll
15 take a vote on that. All those in favor of tabling,
16 please say aye?

17 MR. CANTU: Aye.

18 MR. AUSTIN: Aye.

19 CHIEF SERNA: All opposed?

20 MS. LEWIS: Opposed.

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Opposed.

22 CHIEF SERNA: Opposed. That motion is
23 defeated.

24 So, I will entertain a motion to
25 approve the purchase of the sculptures for the three
26 parks, Tod, Sunnyside and Nunez. First one is 6500, the
27 second one is 16,000, and the third one is 17,000.

28 Motion to approve purchase of the three sculptures made
29 by Rick Rodriguez. Second by Valda Lewis.

30 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
31 saying aye?

32 MS. LEWIS: Aye.

33 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

34 MR. CANTU: No.

1 CHIEF SERNA: Any abstentions? (None) I
vote in favor of the motion. The motion passes. (No
2 vote by Mr. Austin.)

3 Next item.

4 MS. ACOSTA: Our exposure of the golf
course. It's been a struggle to kind of get people to
5 come and visit our golf course. So we have been sending
out items to residents advertising when we've got a new
6 event at the golf course. Also trying to get people to
come and visit, but the attendance has been low.

7 What we found is Groupon. I don't
know if you are familiar with Groupon. It's an app on
8 your phone and it offers discounted tickets to spas or
events, or just different places of entertainment. And
9 so in front of us we have a proposal that if Groupon
were to advertise for us, it will be at a discount price
10 of the sale of the entries, we would get a percentage
out of their ticket sales.

11 CHIEF SERNA: Any questions on that,
Board members? So what does Groupon charge you for
12 that?

13 MS. ACOSTA: So Groupon takes a
percentage off whatever they sell. There is no fee
14 outside of that. So there is no fee for us to be with
them. We could cancel any time. We do collect on
15 anything they sell. So even if a person buys a ticket
and doesn't redeem it before the expiration, we still
16 get the percentage of that sale.

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Mayra, do you know the
percentage?
18

19 MS. ACOSTA: Yes, it should be on the
second page. There is two in there, one for the golf
20 course and there is one for batting cages and miniature
golf.

21 I did also reach out to like very
small community newspapers, just to give you an idea and
22 to kind of do a full page advertisement with them, which
will be \$650.00 to do one page. So, you know, at least
23 with this, I feel like there is no cost. We are not
paying them anything and we are just taking a fee of who
24 actually shows up.

25 MR. RODRIGUEZ: They are doing the work.

1 CHIEF SERNA: No up front cost to
2 Groupon?

3 MS. ACOSTA: Correct.

4 CHIEF SERNA: They would take in -- can
5 you give us an example of what the fee is, if it was \$20
6 or whatever, give an example?

7 MS. ACOSTA: So, four example -- I think
8 this is the golf -- our retail value, if you do nine
9 holes and we give you bag of tees and a ball, would be
10 \$13.00. For Groupon, because they are discounted, they
11 would have to sell it for \$7.00, to kind of get people
12 to want to buy them. So we would get 56 percent of
13 that, so we would get about \$4.00 off the \$7.00.

14 CHIEF SERNA: \$4.00 from 13, yeah, that's
15 maybe 40 percent, not quite. It's a third.

16 MS. ACOSTA: It's high, but at least it's
17 trackable. So we would be able to know, like Anthony
18 Serna bought four tickets. It would give us your name
19 and how many persons versus when we do a newspaper ad,
20 we really don't know. We can't track who purchased and
21 who didn't, and we are not able to track the traffic
22 increase or not. It's kind of hard for us.

23 MS. LEWIS: Who determines the Groupon
24 price, they do?

25 MS. ACOSTA: Yes, that is what they are
offering. And I think he said it was based on -- based
on competition in the area. And he said the courses
that are close by -- we have a few golf courses in the
area -- that's the only way they can make it appealing
to people. I'm going to hand these out, just so you get
an idea.

MS. LEWIS: While you are handing those
out, this time of year, I think the Times, they do a
survey and you log on to the Times and you vote for your
best pick from the area. Have you ever looked into any
of that? Because I did look at it and I didn't see East
Chicago golf course on there -- you know -- and there
were other golf courses. I don't know how you get
included in the group or anything like.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: You write in first, and

1 the more votes you get, then it will show up on their
ad.

2 MS. LEWIS: Shows up this year for future
3 years?

4 MR. RODRIGUEZ: They are doing it now, so
5 you have to submit your vote. It will be say, your
6 write in vote, and then you have to put all your
information, e-mail -- that's a must -- before you even
7 vote on anything. And the more votes you get, then it
will show up if it gets enough votes.

8 CHIEF SERNA: It has to get a certain
amount of votes before it even pops up.

9 MR. RODRIGUEZ: It's on different
categories.

10 MS. LEWIS: Restaurants, furniture
11 stores, bakeries, and stuff like that.

12 CHIEF SERNA: So I guess we have to
13 campaign all park workers -- all park employees -- to
try and get in on that. Is there another way to
14 advertise? Well, I have seen it in the newspapers, our
golf course. I have seen it in the sports section. I
15 don't know if anybody else does, I still get the Hammond
Times. The sports section usually a color ad says,
16 MacArthur Golf Course, maybe two by three inches, and at
the bottom of one of the sports pages. I know we
17 advertise in the Hammond Times, but definitely Groupon
is one way to go.

18 MR. AUSTIN: I'd like to know what size
19 is the golf course? That's nine hole or full golf
course size?

20 MS. ACOSTA: Right, we only have nine
21 holes. A full golf course would have 18, double the
size.

22 MR. AUSTIN: Can you get the same out of
23 nine holes as you do out of 18?

24 MS. ACOSTA: No, it's different. The 18
is more challenging.

25 CHIEF SERNA: Just so we understand,

1 Mayra, so the proposal is for the batting cages, mini
2 golf, and proposal for the golf course; there is no cost
3 for entering into the agreement with them? They will
4 take their fees off anything that they sell?

5 MS. ACOSTA: Correct.

6 CHIEF SERNA: So, for example, as we
7 talked about golf, \$13.00 retail value. They will sell
8 at Groupon for \$7.00, and so we will get \$3.92, and they
9 will get the rest. And like you say, it's a way to
10 track it. You would know how effective Groupon was.
11 And so if we agree to enter into this with Groupon, no
12 up front cost, just the cost if somebody buys on
13 Groupon.

14 MS. ACOSTA: And we can cancel any time.

15 CHIEF SERNA: So it's not a contract?

16 MS. DAWKINS: It is a contract. Where
17 does it say that, that you can cancel at any time?

18 CHIEF SERNA: It's got to be in more fine
19 print.

20 MS. DAWKINS: This is the agreement here.

21 MS. ACOSTA: This is the Groupon
22 Merchants. This is what is going to allow us to go in
23 and see who is purchasing things and who is not, then we
24 can make sure.

25 MS. DAWKINS: Because this contract is
kind of one-sided and it's one-sided against us to me.
Is the City going to be the merchant or Parks going to
be the merchant? How is that -- who's going to -- is it
just Parks and not the City?

MS. ACOSTA: Right.

CHIEF SERNA: Okay. Merchant authorize
to terminate this seven days before prior written notice
to Groupon -- it's not numbered. I would say six pages
in, item number six, terms and termination. Like I
said, there's no page numbers on here. I'm about six
pages in, terms and termination.

So, merchant is authorized to
terminate this agreement upon seven business days prior

1 to written notice to Groupon. Termination of this
2 agreement. Merchants obligation to redeem any voucher
3 according to the terms of this, including the obligation
4 for the amount paid after the promotional value
5 expiration date. The provisions in this agreement that
6 are intended to survive termination will continue in
7 full force and effect after the term --

8 MS. DAWKINS: This paragraph is contrary
9 to a lot of other paragraphs in the contract, that puts
10 the burden on the merchant and not them. So they don't
11 even have to give us any notice of termination. It's
12 also a provision in there that extends, even though it's
13 suppose to be a termination date on the voucher, they
14 can reset it, so the vouchers never expire.

15 CHIEF SERNA: So is there a way we can
16 counter?

17 MS. DAWKINS: Well, I think that we
18 should. Plus, it's Illinois. It's only Illinois. You
19 can't have a trial. There is a lot of little bitty
20 things that are red flags to me.

21 CHIEF SERNA: Groupon only in Illinois?
22 I've never bought anything. What does that mean?

23 MS. DAWKINS: If there was a lawsuit, we
24 have to go to Illinois to file it. We couldn't file it
25 in Indiana.

26 CHIEF SERNA: So, Counsel, is there a way
27 that we can counter this or this is their contract,
28 standard contract?

29 MS. DAWKINS: I think this is their
30 standard contract. I don't know, but it's kind of
31 tricky.

32 CHIEF SERNA: Do you need more time to
33 maybe find out if we can counter? When does the golf
34 course officially open?

35 MS. ACOSTA: April 1st.

36 CHIEF SERNA: Opens April 1st.
37 We would make it in time for the next -- before the next
38 Board meeting. But I know you want to get this in
39 Groupon sooner, Mayra.

1 MS. DAWKINS: There is nobody else that
2 does this, but them? There is nobody in Indiana that
3 does it at all?

4 MS. ACOSTA: Groupon? No.

5 MS. DAWKINS: Everything they gave you
6 was really Illinois stuff. I'd like to talk with
7 Corporate Counsel, just to see what she says about it.
8 I haven't had a chance to do that since I just read it.

9 MS. ACOSTA: I can also provide you with
10 the contact information for Groupon, that would address
11 your concerns.

12 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I'd like to make a motion
13 to table this till Counsel has the opportunity to look
14 at the contract a little closer.

15 MS. LEWIS: Second.

16 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
17 saying aye?

18 (All signify aye.)

19 CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

20 Next, Mayra.

21 MS. ACOSTA: This is a request from the
22 Board of Elections to use some of the park facilities
23 for Election Day.

24 CHIEF SERNA: I know we ran into the
25 problem before, where they would ask for one park and
they would send letters. So we'd approve one at a time,
or one in February, and then they come with another
letter in March for another place. So these three
letters that we have in front of us, all three of these
are the three places they use -- four places that they
use.

MS. ACOSTA: It's four, yes.

CHIEF SERNA: All right. So then it's
Riley Park, Sunnyside Park -- the Hothouse -- the Roxana
Recreation Center, and then Unity Center. So any
questions on this Board members? (None)

I will entertain a motion to approve
use by the Lake County Board of Elections for polling
places. In the letter it says, we would like once again

1 to request use for primary and general -- so they are
2 putting both dates in here, so we won't have to vote
3 again. They put Tuesday, May 5th, and November 3rd,
4 which would be a Tuesday -- Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020.
5 So that way, you know, if we motion to approve this, it
6 would be for both the primary and general election.

7 So I will entertain a motion to
8 approve the use of Riley Park, Sunnyside Park --
9 Hothouse -- the Roxana Recreation Center, and Unity
10 Center by the Lake County Board of Elections for the
11 primary and general elections for polling places

12 Motion to approve the use of the parks mentioned for the
13 Board of Elections, for both primary and general
14 election, made by Valda Lewis. Second by Rick
15 Rodriguez.

16 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
17 saying aye?

18 (All signify aye.)

19 CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

20 MS. ACOSTA: Thank you.

21 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Mayra, who has the
22 vouchers for the Little League this year, do you know?
23 Who is running the Little League this year?

24 MS. ACOSTA: I don't know. The only
25 contact that I have is like a para volunteer and she's
26 the one that's been in contact with the Park Department
27 for different things.

28 MR. RODRIGUEZ: I talked to the Mayor
29 about vouchers for the kids to play, do you know
30 anything about that?

31 MS. ACOSTA: That's Redevelopment, they
32 always have vouchers. Every year they give vouchers.

33 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Redevelopment has that?

34 MS. ACOSTA: Yes, that's Redevelopment
35 Department.

36 MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's it. So they have
37 to contact them then?

38 MS. ACOSTA: Correct.

1 CHIEF SERNA: We'll move on to public
comment. Public comment? (None)

2 Our next meeting date is Tuesday,
March 24, 2020, right here at the City Hall Council
3 Chambers, second floor, at 5:00 p.m.

I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

4
5 Motion to adjourn meeting made by Rick Rodriguez.
Second by Valda Lewis.

6 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
saying aye?

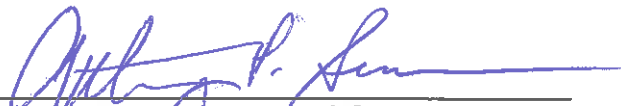
7 (All signify aye.)

8 CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries. Meeting
adjourned.

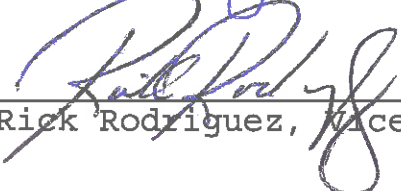
9 ***** Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.*****
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Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday
March 10, 2020

Approved and signed March 24th, 2020



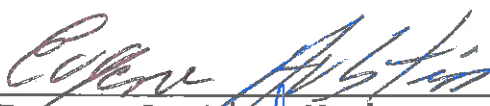
Anthony Serna, President



Rick Rodriguez, Vice-President

Valda Lewis, Secretary

Gilberto Cantu, Member



Eugene Austin, Member



Courtnee Dinkins, Recording Secretary

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Peggy S. LaLonde, a competent and duly qualified court reporter, do hereby certify that I did report in machine shorthand the foregoing proceedings and that my shorthand notes so taken at said time and place were thereafter reduced to typewriting under my personal direction.

I further certify that the foregoing typewritten transcript constitutes minutes of the said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Munster, Indiana, this 13th day of March, 2020.

Peggy S. LaLonde



Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR

