

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF WATERWORKS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS:

John Bakota, President
Henry Ventura, Vice-President
Joseph Ochoa, Member
Anthony Askounis, Member
Ray Lopez, Member

STAFF:

Joseph Allegretti
Winna Guzman
Allan Lee
Ateria Allen

Reported by: Fissinger & Associates, Ltd.
By: Peggy S. LaLonde

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present in Chambers: John Bakota, Joseph
Ochoa, Henry Ventura, Anthony Askounis

STAFF Present in Chambers: Ateria Allen,
Rebecca Sliger, Joseph Allegretti

MR. BAKOTA: I would call to order the
meeting of the Water Board for June 5, 2023. We'll move
on to approval of minutes of May 15th, as written.

MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

MR. VENTURA: Second.

MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Approval of Warrants: Payroll -
Warrant 052623, amount of \$14,917.26. This is for
Utilities Payroll dates of 5-6-23 to 5-19-23.

MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve.

MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
Warrant 052623, amount of

1 \$44,300.92, payroll for dates of 5-6-23 to 5-19-23.

2 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

3 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second

4 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

5 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

6 Accounts Payable: Warrant 052323
WB, amount of \$23,590.41.

7 MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve.

8 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

9 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

10 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

11 Warrant 060523 WB, amount of
\$227,012.56.

12 MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to approve.

13 MR. VENTURA: Second.

14 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

15 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

16 Warrant 060523 WT, amount of
\$2,055.09.

17 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

18 MR. VENTURA: Second.

19 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

20 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

21 Filtration Report: Obed Perez. No
report.

Water Report: Winna Guzman

22 MS. SLIGER: It's in the packet.

23 MR. BAKOTA: Distribution Report: Allan
24 Lee. No Report.

Legal Counsel, Joe Allegretti.

25

1 MR. ALLEGRETTI: No report.

2 MR. BAKOTA: Financial Report: William
3 Biller or Rebecca Sliger.

4 MS. SLIGER: We have a cash report in the
5 Board packet. If the Board has any questions, I'll be
6 happy to answer.

7 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.

8 Next, we have New Business.
9 Resolution WD 23-11. A resolution appropriating East
10 Chicago Water Utility Construction Fund 6105 monies for
11 the purpose of defraying expenses of the East Chicago
12 Water Utility Construction Fund for the fiscal year
13 beginning January 1, 2023, ending December 31, 2023,
14 including all outstanding claims and obligations, and
15 fixing a time when same shall take effect.

16 MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve
17 resolution.

18 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

19 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
20 (All signify aye.)

21 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

22 Resolution WD 23-12. A resolution
23 of the Board of Directors of the East Chicago Department
24 of Waterworks authorizing an extension of the prescribed
25 time period for the temporary transfer to the East
Chicago Department of Waterworks.

MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve.

MR. OCHOA: Second.

MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Next is Proposals. As in the past
I'll number them for a matter of reference for comment.

1. Calumet City Plumbing, water
leak repair at 4143 Euclid Avenue, amount of \$14,750.00,

2. Calumet City Plumbing, meter pit
repair at 507 Penrhyn Place, amount of \$5,375.00.

3. Calumet City Plumbing, meter pit
repair at 4715 Parrish Avenue, amount of \$6,625.00.

4. Calumet City Plumbing, water

1 leak repair, amount 4821 Olcott Avenue, amount of
\$4,125.00.

2 5. Calumet City Plumbing, water
leak repair at 4750 Melville Avenue, amount of
3 \$4,625.00.

4 6. Hessville Plumbing, B-box repair
at 4323 Magoun Avenue, amount of \$2,733.50.

5 7. Hessville Plumbing, B-box repair
at 4007 Drummond Street, amount of \$2,733.50.

6 8. Hasse Construction, pavement
restoration at 151st and Homerlee Avenue, amount of
\$8,052.00.

7 9. Hasse Construction, emergency
water main repair on Chicago Avenue, amount of
8 \$35,800.11.

9 That concludes the proposals.

10 MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve
the nine proposals.

11 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

12 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

13 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

14 Next is Change Order, Calumet City
Plumbing, Change Order #1 4908 Indianapolis Boulevard.
Originally was \$4,970.00, increase of \$8.60. The bottom
15 line is \$4,978.60.

16 MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to accept.

17 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

18 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

19 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

20 Next, Adjustments. Friedman
Industries, 4303 Kennedy Avenue. This company called
questioning the late fees.

21 MR. OCHOA: Was it a three percent
22 increase?

23 MS. SLIGER: No, it's a late fee.
Somehow there was a timing issue with that account.
24 Even though it was paid correctly on the due date, the
system didn't acknowledge that the payment was made and
25 actually applied a late fee the following day. It was a

1 timing thing.

2 MR. BAKOTA: Do I have a motion?

3 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to accept.

4 MR. VENTURA: Second.

5 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

6 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

7 Next, Melville Garrett, 1402 East
140th Street. Water assessed this account \$50.00.
Owner called stating it was incorrect, was actually for
8 property adjacent and it's been corrected.

9 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to accept.

10 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

11 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

12 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

13 Next is Bill Adjustment for January
to May. Does somebody need to address this?

14 MS. SLIGER: So, Winna has been working
on a detailed printout of all of the adjustments that we
15 have made throughout the year thus far.

16 MR. BAKOTA: These are going up and down?

17 MS. SLIGER: It's got to do with whether
or not these were estimated meters and now we are
18 actually reading it. So some people were owed a credit
because we are just estimating. We were assuming they
19 are going to use the same usage each month and they
didn't. Other people we estimated them and they ended
20 up being higher than what we estimated. So we had to
adjust their bill for the increase for this month and so
21 it's a bunch of different things like that. But it's
essentially a detailed report that shows you every
22 account that was adjusted, how it was adjusted at the
bottom.

23 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.

24 MR. ASKOUNIS: Make a motion to accept
25 adjustments.

1 MR. VENTURA: Second.

2 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

3 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
Next is past due invoice. F.E.
4 Moran, amount of \$28,295.00. Invoice sent to me on May
16, 2023. They were being sent to Tom Uran and due to
5 his passing I was not aware.

6 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to accept.

7 MR. VENTURA: Second.

8 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

9 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
Next we have Delinquent
10 Accounts/Monthly letter from January to May 2023.

11 MS. SLIGER: These are all informational,
going forward. The Delinquent Accounts, Activity
12 Reports, Aging Report, Consumption reports.

13 MR. BAKOTA: We don't have to act on
14 these?

MS. SLIGER: No, you don't. These are
15 all informational. You are just looking at them to see
basically what we have collected for the month and the
16 object of the report, it's actually broken down because
sometimes they are being paid from prior years.
17 Somebody might be coming in paying for service from
2020, 2021, 2022. The activity report is showing that
18 for the five-year.

19 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Activity report from
January to April, no action required?

20 MS. SLIGER: No action required.

21 MR. BAKOTA: Aging Report from January to
22 April, is that the same thing?

23 MS. SLIGER: Yes, just informational.

24 MR. BAKOTA: Consumption Report.

25 MS. SLIGER: That's all the same thing.

1 This is just informational and needs no action.

2 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.
Unfinished Business: None
3 Public Comment: None
4 Our next meeting will be Monday,
June 19th, at 5:00 p.m., here in the Council Chambers.
Do I have a motion for adjournment?

5 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to adjourn.

6 MR. VENTURA: Second.

7 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)

8 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
9 Meeting adjourned. Thank you.

10 ***** Meeting adjourned *****

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Approval of the Meeting Minutes of
June 5, 2023

Approved and signed June 19, 2023

John Bakota
John Bakota, President

Henry Ventura
Henry Ventura, Vice-President

Joseph Ochoa
Joseph Ochoa, Member

Anthony Askounis
Anthony Askounis, Member

Ray Lopez, Sr.
Ray Lopez, Member

Ateria Allen
Ateria Allen, 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 6th day of June, 2023.

Peggy S. LaLonde



Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR