

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF WATERWORKS

BOARD MEMBERS

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

Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 18, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.
Reported for Fissinger & Associates
By: Lisa Pena

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLIANCE:

ROLL CALL: Present in Chambers: Joseph Ochoa, John Bakota,
Henry Ventura, Anthony Askounis, Ray Lopez

STAFF PRESENT: In Chambers: Ateria Allen, Allan Lee, Winna
Guzman, Joseph Allegretti, Bill Biller.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 7, 2022

Motion to approve July 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes made by Ray
Lopez. Second by John Bakota.

Comments/Questions: None.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:

Payroll

MR. OCHOA: Payroll. Payroll Number 070822 in the
amount of \$11,731.33 Utilities Payroll 6/18/22 to 7/1/22.

Motion to approve Payroll Warrant 070822 Utilities Payroll
6/18/22 to 7/1/22 made by Henry Ventura. Second by Anthony
Askounis.

1 Comments/Questions: None.

2 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
3 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

4 MR. OCHOA: Payroll 070822 in the amount of \$49,952.84
5 Payroll 6/18/22 to 7/1/22.

6 Motion to approve Payroll Warrant 070822 Payroll 6/18/22 to
7 7/1/22 made by Anthony Askounis. Second by Ray Lopez.

8 Comments/Questions: None.

9 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
10 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

11 Accounts Payable

12 MR. OCHOA: Accounts Payable 062222 WB in the amount of
13 \$50,092.49.

14 Motion to approve Accounts Payable Warrant 062222 WB made by
15 Ray Lopez. Second by Henry Ventura.

16 Comments/Questions: None.

17 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
18 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

19 MR. OCHOA: 062222 WT in the amount of \$1,000,000.

20 Motion to approve Accounts Payable Warrant 062222 WT made by
21 Ray Lopez. Second by John Bakota.

22 Comments/Questions:

23 MR. BAKOTA: I have a question. What is this?

24 MR. BILLER: Mr. President, that is the loan from the
25 Tank Fund to the General Fund. Last month there was a docket
to repay the loan from Water to the Tank Fund.

If you notice this docket is dated June 22. It
should have been presented to the Board last meeting. It's
coming to this meeting. But that's taking the loan back to
the Water Department.

MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.

1 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

2 MR. OCHOA: Accounts Payable 071222 WB in the amount of
3 \$135,598.15.

4 Motion to approve Accounts Payable Warrant 071222 WB made by
Henry Ventura. Second by Anthony Askounis.

5 Comments/Questions: None.

6 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
7 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

8 MR. OCHOA: 071822 CD in the amount of \$643.94.

9 Motion to approve Accounts Payable Warrant 071822 CD made by
Anthony Askounis. Second by Ray Lopez.

10 Comments/Questions: None.

11 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
12 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

13 MR. OCHOA: Warrant Number 071822 WB in the amount of
14 \$108,767.66.

15 Motion to approve Accounts Payable Warrant 071822 WB made by
John Bakota. Second by Anthony Askounis.

16 Comments/Questions: None.

17 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
18 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

19 MR. OCHOA: Warrant Number 071822 WT in the amount of
\$150.

20 Motion to approve Accounts Payable Warrant 071822 WT made by
Henry Ventura. Second by Anthony Askounis.

21 Comments/Questions: None.

22 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
23 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

24 REPORTS:

25 Filtration Report None

1 Water Report None

2 Distribution Report

3 MR. OCHOA: Distribution Report, Allan Lee.

4 MR. LEE: I'll try to make it fast before I get in
5 trouble. There's a lot going on.

6 125 shut-offs still. 60 of them need still dug
7 out. If you see a number, there's an address. Believe me.
8 This is not just made up out of air. We have an address for
9 everything that needs to be done.

10 65 of them can't be located. And we're working on
11 that inhouse now that we have our own locating equipment and
12 we're practicing our locating. Every time we find one that's
13 a \$3,000 savings.

14 We did bid out 25 of the B-boxes to Hessville.
15 They have one left to do.

16 Currently there's 70 valve boxes on the street. 29
17 of them need to be replaced. That's broken valves. 41 of
18 them need to be repaired.

19 And we're going to try to do that inhouse. Hoping
20 to do it on Saturdays maybe. For every one we do it's a
21 \$5,000 savings.

22 Currently we have 30 hydrants left to replace. I
23 know we keep getting closer. But then we start working on
24 things and we find a few more.

25 We did bid out five which leaves coming up five
more going out. So that leaves 25.

And just to let you know Calumet got the first five
hydrants. They have two left to do of the five. They
replaced three of them so far.

Inventory, we are redoing our inventory. We're
making a master list to make sure we have everything so Winna
knows exactly what we have in the house since we bought a lot
of stuff. So we want to get it on a master list. We're
working on that.

MR. OCHOA: Is all this inventory centrally located?

1 MR. LEE: Yeah. It's all nice. Come by the shop. It's
2 all nice and organized. Believe me.

3 Still haven't did the flow meter thing because of a
4 part. We have to get a part. It's on backorder.

5 Hopefully it won't be like the 2-inch meters
6 because the 2-inch meters were ordered before I got here.
7 Like six or seven months before I started last year. And
8 they're still on backorder. So let's hope that part doesn't
9 take that long.

10 MR. LOPEZ: Is that the manufacturer?

11 MR. LEE: It's the manufacturer I guess.

12 Shortages, you should know that. We're sort of in
13 a good position because we ordered a lot of stuff before all
14 this sort of got crazy.

15 Since January 1 we did 160 emergency jobs. We're
16 inventorying the hydrant parts. We're going to need some
17 money for that, funding.

18 I'll try to go a little faster. We did the classes
19 on the meter testing. We're going to be doing that.

20 Little upset about CCP just got funding for the 49
21 jobs on restoration we did this winter. So we're going to do
22 better on that and have a game plan for next winter to make
23 sure the POs stay open or something.

24 So you fix something you've got to fix the grass.

25 Let's see. This is July. Dug my yard last winter.
I wonder how happy you would be. It's not good for me and
it's not acceptable. So that has to be fixed.

Going over with Hasse tomorrow. We're going to
replace two valves and a 4-inch valve on 143rd on that big
leak we had.

And CCP and I are working on Indianapolis for the
Roxana area. There's two 12-inch valves and a 16-inch valve
going there because there's two big valves that are broke.

And because we did valving last week, we definitely
found out there's low pressure and dirty water. Those valves
are definitely off.

1 That's it. Hope I went fast enough.

2 MR. OCHOA: Thank you.

3 NEW BUSINESS WATER:

4 MR. OCHOA: Resolution WD 22-13. A resolution of the
5 Board of Trustees of the East Chicago Water Department
6 amending Resolution Number WD 21-28 being a Resolution
7 establishing a salary and wage schedule for the Employees of
8 the City of East Chicago Water Department for fiscal year
9 2022.

10 Motion to approve Resolution WD 22-13 made by John Bakota.
11 Second by Ray Lopez.

12 Comments/Questions: None.

13 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
14 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

15 MR. OCHOA: Resolution WD 22-14. A Resolution of the
16 Board of Trustees of the East Chicago Water Department
17 authorizing the transfer of appropriations into different
18 budget categories.

19 Motion to approve Resolution WD 22-14 made by Ray Lopez.
20 Second by Henry Ventura.

21 Comments/Questions: None.

22 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
23 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

24 Request of PO, Proposal & E-mail Approved Only

25 MR. OCHOA: Request for PO, Proposal and E-Mail Approved
 Only. I will do all of these at one time.

 Same address. 9400, Calumet City Plumbing, 459
 Cline, Water.

 The following will all be emergency jobs.

 The cost for the first one is \$3,490. Account
 number 109001436010WUTIO.

 Second one from Calumet City Plumbing 145th Street
 and Olcott Avenue in the amount of \$20,900.

1 Next one Calumet City Plumbing 3915 Carey Street in
2 the amount of \$6,750. 402 Liberty Street, Water, in the
3 amount of \$5,550. 3825 Deodar Street, Water, in the amount
4 of \$3,750. 4826 McCook Avenue, Water, in the amount of
5 \$7,000. 3730 Parrish Avenue in the amount of \$6,550. 4517
6 Magoun Avenue in the amount of \$5,750. 3901 Ivy Street in
7 the amount of \$6,250. 4005 Fir Street in the amount of
8 \$8,075. 418 Prospect Street, Water, in the amount of \$5,550.
9 4013 Grand Boulevard in the amount of \$4,250. 5011 Olcott
10 Avenue in the amount of \$3,750.

11 Next one would be 4944 Alexander Avenue in the
12 amount of \$6,750. 4814 Magoun Avenue, Water, in the amount
13 of \$5,250. 5613 Walsh Avenue in the amount of \$7,750.

14 These are all Purchase Order Requests.

15 Motion to approve 9400 Calumet City Plumbing Purchase Order
16 Requests made by Ray Lopez. Second by Anthony Askounis.

17 Comments/Questions: None.

18 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
19 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

20 Proposals

21 MR. OCHOA: Proposals. AMS Industries, Repairs and
22 Replacement Parts for Rooftop Unit, \$9,582. Filtration.

23 Motion to approve AMS Industries, Inc. Proposal made by
24 Anthony Askounis. Second by Henry Ventura.

25 Comments/Questions:

MR. LOPEZ: This is for what, the roof?

MS. GUZMAN: AC unit.

MR. OCHOA: Repairs and replacement.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
Opposed: None Motion Carries.

Approvals Needed

MR. OCHOA: We have Approvals that are Needed. Request
for Provisional License for Mark Djordjevich, Filtration, and
Request for Provisional License for Enrique Gonzalez.

1 Motion to approve Mark Djordjevich and Enrique Gonzalez
2 Provisional License Requests made by John Bakota. Second by
3 Anthony Askounis.

4 Comments/Questions: None.

5 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
6 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

7 Adjustment

8 MR. OCHOA: Adjustment. Armando Prieto 3730 Parrish
9 Avenue.

10 Motion to approve Armando Prieto 3730 Parrish Avenue
11 Adjustment made by Anthony Askounis. Second by John Bakota.

12 Comments/Questions:

13 MR. BAKOTA: I have a question. It's listed at 56,000?

14 MS. GUZMAN: Negative, yes. So we have to correct it.
15 So it was corrected before the next billing went out. So I
16 just wanted to bring this before the Board because it was
17 something that the staff did not catch. It didn't flag it
18 for some reason.

19 But it was due to error with reading being
20 incorrect, initial reading.

21 MR. BAKOTA: Was he billed that?

22 MS. GUZMAN: Yeah. Unfortunately we did, yes. It was
23 an error.

24 MR. BAKOTA: He had to be shocked.

25 MS. GUZMAN: I was when I saw it. I was like oh my
gosh. So we hurried up and corrected it.

So just letting the Board know we corrected it
right away before the next billing. So it is correct as of
now.

And I apologize for that. But we try to catch
these errors. But when a reading that they provide us is
incorrect, it wasn't caught at that time. And it didn't flag
it when the errors came out.

1 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.

2 MS. GUZMAN: You're welcome.

3 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
4 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

5 Other

6 MR. OCHOA: Other. Indiana Regulatory Commission,
7 30-Day Filing Number 50584.

8 Motion to approve Indiana Regulatory Commission 30-Day Filing
9 Number 50584 made by John Bakota. Second by Anthony
10 Askounis.

11 Comments/Questions: None.

12 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
13 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

14 UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

16 * Next Regular Meeting Date: Monday, August 1,
17 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.


18 Motion to adjourn made by John Bakota. Second by Henry
19 Ventura.

20 Questions/Comments: None.

21 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
22 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

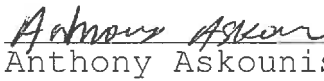
23 * Meeting ended at 5:20 p.m.
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1 Approval of the Meeting Minutes of
2 Monday, July 18, 2022
3 Approved and Signed August 7, 2022
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6 Joseph Ochoa, President
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9 John Bakota, Vice President
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12 Henry Ventura, Member
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17 Anthony Askounis, Member
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20 Ray Lopez, Member
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24 Ateria Allen, Board Secretary
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Lisa Pena, 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 said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Portage, Indiana, this 26th day of July, 2022.



Lisa Pena
Notary Public Porter County
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 084-003483

