

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF WATERWORKS

BOARD MEMBERS

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

Regular Meeting Minutes
(Via Telephone Conference)
Monday, August 3, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.

Reported for Fissinger & Associates
By: Lisa Pena

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present in Chambers: John Bakota, Anthony Askounis.

Present Via Telephone Conference: Henry Ventura, Joseph Ochoa, Ray Lopez.

Also Present in Chambers: Anthony Herrera, Winna Guzman.

Also Present Via Telephone Conference: Joseph Allegretti, Ben El Harit, Edward Santen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 20, 2020

Motion to approve June 20, 2020 Meeting Minutes made by Ray Lopez. Second by Joseph Ochoa.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

APPROVAL OF CHECK WARRANTS:

MR. BAKOTA: Next is Approval of Check Warrants. Check Warrant 072120 WB in the amount of \$23,757.49.

Motion to approve Check Warrant 072120 WB made by Henry Ventura. Second by Ray Lopez.

1 Questions/Comments: None.

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

4 MR. BAKOTA: Check Warrant 080320 WB in the amount of
5 \$15,812.93.

6 Motion to approve Check Warrant 080320 WB made by Ray Lopez.
7 Second by Joseph Ochoa.

8 Questions/Comments: None.

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

11 MR. BAKOTA: Check Warrant 080320 WT in the amount of
12 \$72,692.

13 Motion to approve Check Warrant 080320 WT made by Anthony
14 Askounis. Second by Henry Ventura.

15 Questions/Comments: None.

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

18 APPROVAL OF PAYROLL WARRANTS:

19 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Payroll Warrants. Payroll Warrant
20 071020 in the amount of \$34,991.07. This is payroll from
21 6/20/20 to 7/3/20.

22 Motion to approve Payroll Warrant 071020 Payroll 6/20/20 to
23 7/3/20 made by Joseph Ochoa. Second by Henry Ventura.

24 Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. BAKOTA: Payroll Warrant 072420 in the amount of
\$26,329.73. This is Utilities Payroll from 7/4/20 to
7/17/20.

Motion to approve Payroll Warrant 072420 Utilities Payroll
7/4/20 to 7/17/20 made by Henry Ventura. Second by Anthony
Askounis.

1 Questions/Comments: None.

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

4 MR. BAKOTA: Payroll Warrant 072420 in the amount of
5 \$36,194.18. This is Payroll from 7/4/20 to 7/17/20.

6 Motion to approve Payroll Warrant 072420 Payroll 7/4/20 to
7 7/17/20 made by Joseph Ochoa. Second by Anthony Askounis.

8 Questions/Comments: None.

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

11 FILTRATION REPORT:

12 MR. BAKOTA: Filtration Report.

13 MR. EL HARIT: This is Ben El Harit. So basically
14 everything is going well in Filtration other than we will be
15 working on high service in the next couple of weeks.

16 Basically we're going to change a couple actuators
17 and also taking one of the motors for the high service to the
18 shop to be rewinded.

19 Also in both plants one of our breakers and
20 transformer gets burned out like couple weeks. I mean like
21 probably three weeks ago. We need to fix that because we
22 need it for emergencies just in case.

23 Basically that's what's going on in Filtration. If
24 you have any questions, just let me know.

25 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you, Ben.

MR. VENTURA: Thank you.

MR. BAKOTA: Thank you, Ben.

MR. EL HARIT: Any time.

WATER REPORT: None.

DISTRIBUTION REPORT: None.

NEW BUSINESS WATER:

1 MR. BAKOTA: We'll move on to New Business. Resolution
2 WD 20-09. It's a resolution of the Board of Trustees of the
3 East Chicago Water Department authorizing the transfers of
4 appropriations into different budget categories. It's
5 included in your packet.

6 Motion to approve Resolution WD 20-09 made by Ray Lopez.
7 Second by Joseph Ochoa.

8 Questions/Comments: None.

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

11 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Contract 3, Change Order Number 3.
12 It's Bowen Engineering. It's labeled Nies Engineering. But
13 it's Bowen Engineering with a subcontractor evidently.

14 Is that an increase?

15 MR. HERRERA: It's an increase. But we're going to ask
16 the Board to table it at this time.

17 MR. BAKOTA: You want to table it?

18 MR. HERRERA: Yes. Please if we can.

19 MR. BAKOTA: I am asking for a motion to table this Nies
20 Engineering Contract.

21 Motion to table Contract 3, Change Order Number 3, Bowen
22 Engineering made by Ray Lopez. Second by Henry Ventura.

23 Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. BAKOTA: Next we have Rate Sheet Hasse Construction
valid through May 31, 2021. It's also in your packet.

Motion to approve Hasse Construction Rate Sheet Valid through
May 31, 2021 made by Joseph Ochoa. Second by Anthony
Askounis.

Questions/Comments:

MR. LOPEZ: How come you've got the revised highlighted?
Is it new rates?

1 MR. HERRERA: Mr. Lopez, this is Anthony. Every six
2 months this particular contractor I am not going to say
3 increases. But they may adjust their prices.

4 Every six months this contractor sends us a revised
5 rate sheet. They don't always increase their numbers. But
6 sometimes they do. And that's why they only give a rate
7 sheet, it's only good for six months.

8 It was up for renewal in June. Now it's extended
9 through 2021 of May I believe.

10 MR. LOPEZ: But they do this every six months or so
11 would you say?

12 MR. HERRERA: Every six months they do, yes. Usually
13 it's annually. But this particular contractor sometimes
14 their rates increase. So they said to be on the safe side
15 they're going to go ahead and send a revised one every six
16 months.

17 MR. LOPEZ: Okay. That's kind of strange. They just
18 automatically do it and we don't question it.

19 We make a contract with them for one rate. And
20 then when they raise it is it on a new contract?

21 MR. HERRERA: No. That's why the terms are only six
22 months because after that six months those rates expire.
23 Then they come around and revise those rates. Either they
24 leave it the same or they increase it. So we always bring it
25 to the Board, their renewal every six months.

And we use this contractor quite often.

MR. LOPEZ: Thank you.

MR. BAKOTA: Any other questions or comments?

Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. BAKOTA: Next we have Adjustments for 4928 Baring
which is also in your packet.

Motion to approve 4928 Baring Adjustment made by Anthony
Askounis. Second by Joseph Ochoa.

1 Questions/Comments: None.

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

4 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Ferguson Waterworks 2 Inch Meter
5 Purchase at \$2,184.

6 Motion to approve Ferguson Waterworks 2 Inch Meter Purchase
7 made by Ray Lopez. Second by Anthony Askounis.

8 Questions/Comments: None.

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

11 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Calumet City Plumbing 4000 Cline
12 Avenue. This is a budgeted item. I don't see a price on it.

13 MR. HERRERA: It's approximate cost. Look at
14 approximate cost under the first paragraph.

15 MR. LOPEZ: I think \$4,295.

16 MR. BAKOTA: It's approximate cost \$4,295. You're
17 right, Ray. It's to be payment in full within 30 days of
18 completion of work.

19 Motion to approve Calumet City Plumbing 4000 Cline Avenue
20 made by Ray Lopez. Second by Joseph Ochoa.

21 Questions/Comments: None.

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

24 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Flowpoint Environmental Systems
25 Bulk Filling Station. This is cloud based software.

MR. OCHOA: What's that for?

MR. BAKOTA: We'll ask for explanation further on it.
Winna is going to be here.

MS. GUZMAN: Good evening, Board. Winna Guzman,
Director of Water Department. This is for Flowpoint
Environmental Systems, Inc. It's related to the Bulk Filling
Station located on Michigan Avenue.

1 It's a cloud based software license agreement that
2 we're looking to enter into the two year agreement. Monthly
3 fee is equal to the greater of \$99 or 50 cents per
4 transaction. And I'm asking the Board to approve this.

5
6 Motion to approve Flowpoint Environmental Systems Bulk
7 Filling Station made by Anthony Askounis. Second by Ray
8 Lopez.

9 Questions/Comments: None.

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

12 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Ferguson Waterworks Purchase of 3x
13 Fire Hydrant Meters at \$1,335.

14 MR. OCHOA: Is that the total price or is that per
15 hydrant?

16 MR. BAKOTA: That's total price.

17 MS. GUZMAN: It's per hydrant. \$1,335 per hydrant. So
18 we need three of them for a total of \$4,005.

19 MR. BAKOTA: Oh, okay. Joe, it's per hydrant.

20 Motion to approve Ferguson Waterworks Purchase of Three Fire
21 Hydrant Meters made by Henry Ventura. Second by Anthony
22 Askounis.

23 Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. BAKOTA: Next is Past Due Invoices. Eurofins
Analytical at \$360. The reason was invoices were being sent
to former secretary to pay due to them being late.

Motion to approve Eurofins Analytical Past Due Invoice made
by Anthony Askounis. Second by Ray Lopez.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. BAKOTA: Next is Grainger at \$77.27. This is

1 Filtration. The reason is I called them to see if we had any
2 Outstanding Invoices from last year before we could close on
the PO. And they sent me this one.

3 Motion to approve Grainger Past Due Invoice made by Ray
4 Lopez. Second by Anthony Askounis.

5 Questions/Comments:

6 MR. LOPEZ: Tony, thank you for following up on this.

7 MR. HERRERA: That's not department for the record.

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

9 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Qmation at \$11,146. It's
10 Filtration. The reason was invoices were sent to me on July
22, 2020 from ven.

11 MR. OCHOA: What did they actually do?

12 MR. EL HARIT: What is the name of the company?

13 MR. HERRERA: Wonderware, Ben, for SCADA.

14 MR. EL HARIT: Wonderware, yeah. That is SCADA. We use
15 SCADA. Every year for maintenance we have to pay that
amount.

16 Motion to approve Qmation Past Due Invoice made by Joseph
17 Ochoa. Second by Henry Ventura.

18 Questions/Comments: None.

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

20 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Commonwealth at \$982.17. This is
21 Filtration. Reason was invoice was sent to us yesterday. So
I really don't know why it was late.

22 Motion to approve Commonwealth Past Due Invoice made by Henry
23 Ventura. Second by Anthony Askounis.

24 Questions/Comments: None.

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

1 REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL:

2 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Report from Legal Counsel, Joseph
3 Allegretti.

4 MR. ALLEGRETTI: I have no report. Everything seems to
5 be okay. We're proceeding with the Cost of Service Study.
6 It's going to be kind of a long haul. But our consultants
7 are working diligently.

8 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you, Joe.

9 FINANCIAL REPORT: None.

10 UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

12

13 * Next Regular Meeting Date: August 17, 2020
14 @ 5:00 p.m.

15

16 Motion to adjourn was made by Joseph Ochoa. Second by Henry
17 Ventura.

18

19 Questions/Comments: None.

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

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25 * Meeting ended at 5:22 p.m.

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 12th day of August, 2020.



Lisa Pena
Notary Public, Porter County
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 084-003484



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