CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
August 8, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS:
Grayling Gordon, President
Rick Rodriguez, Vice President
Joseph Fernandez
Eugene Austin, Secretary

STAFF:
Genesis Gary
Vanessa Hernandez-Orange

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

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Present in Chambers: Grayling Gordon, Eugene Austin, Joseph Fernandez

Staff Present: Genesis Gary
Vanessa Hernandez-Orange
Jewell Harris

MR. GORDON: I would call to order the Board of Parks and Recreation meeting for Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

First on the agenda is approval of the minutes of July 25, 2023 as written.

MR. FERNANDEZ: Make a motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Approval and signing of payroll dated August 4, 2023.

MR. AUSTIN: Make a motion.

MR. FERNANDEZ: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Approval and signing of Warrant 073123 PB, in the amount of $2,547.56.

MR. AUSTIN: Make a motion to approve.

MR. FERNANDEZ: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Approval and signing of Warrant 080823 PB, in the amount of $32,613.99.

MR. FERNANDEZ: I make a motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Old Business: None

New Business: Director of Parks and Recreation, Vanessa Hernandez-Orange.

MRS. HERNANDEZ-ORANGE: Today I have nothing on the agenda for approval. Just to let you know, we had a successful event for Fusic Fest. Even though it rained, we still had a great event. The Mayor has generously decided to give back all the vendors their deposits for just the fact that they weren't able to receive anything for Saturday's event. We also are giving back the VIP money. That doesn't have to do with us, it's the Controller's office, for those who purchased tickets for Saturday.

But again, overall with the weather being what it was, we still had a great event, a great turnout. And at the end of the day, the Jerose Park Beach is part of the Parks and Recreation and people complimented how it looked. That's a congratulations to our department.

We had all of our staff present. The Park Department has been closed for the past two days, so if you've heard any complaints, it's true. We

closed it down just because all of our employees worked over the weekend. We had over 100 employees of the City of East Chicago working the event.

MR. GORDON: All right. Thank you so much. Public Comments? Anybody have anything?

MR. AUSTIN: I just want you to know, it was a wonderful event. I went Friday night, because it brought back some memories.

MR. GORDON: We've all heard good comments and the good things that are happening in our Parks Department, and most importantly I have heard good things of what is happening in our City.

Any other comments? (None)

Our next meeting is Tuesday, August 22, 2023, right here at City Hall Council Chambers, at the appointed time of 5:00 p.m.

Can I get a motion for adjournment?

MR. FERNANDEZ: Motion to adjourn.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye.

(All signify aye.)

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned.

* * * * *

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday
August 8, 2023

Approved and signed _____

Grayling Gordon, President

Rick Rodriguez, Vice-President

Eugene Austin, Secretary

Joseph Fernandez, Member

Genesis Gary, Recording Secretary

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 Valparaiso, Indiana, this 14th day of August, 2023.



Peggy S. LaLonde

Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR