

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, November 16, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.

Reported for Fissinger & Associates
By: Lisa Pena

CALL TO ORDER: 5:15 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, Bill
Biller.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 2, 2020

Motion to approve November 2, 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 on the agenda is Approval of Checks
Warrants. Check Warrant 111620 CD in the amount of \$371.74.

1 Motion to approve Check Warrant 111620 CD made by Anthony
Askounis. Second by Joseph Ochoa.

2 Questions/Comments: None.

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

5 MR. BAKOTA: Check Warrant 111620 WB in the amount of
6 \$67,007.

7 Motion to approve Check Warrant 111620 WB made by Henry
Ventura. Second by Anthony Askounis.

8 Questions/Comments: None.

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

11 APPROVAL OF PAYROLL WARRANTS:

12 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Approval of the Payroll Warrants.
13 Payroll 111320 in the amount of \$36,835.88. This is payroll
from 10/24/20 to 11/6/20.

14 Motion to approve Payroll Warrant 111320 Payroll 10/24/20 to
11/6/20 made by Joseph Ochoa. Second by Henry Ventura.

15 Questions/Comments: None.

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

18 MR. BAKOTA: Payroll Warrant 111320 in the amount of
\$22,633.16. This is Utilities Payroll 10/24/20 to 11/6/20.

19 Motion to approve Payroll Warrant 111320 Utilities Payroll
20 10/24/20 to 11/6/20 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 FILTRATION REPORT:

25 MR. BAKOTA: Filtration Report, Ben El Harit.

1 MR. EL HARIT: We have crazy week actually this week.
2 We have to work on our module for next four days. Also we
3 have IDEM coming for inspection. They do that every three
4 years.

5 We have issued 2021 supply and delivery of water
6 treatment chemical on November 12. We should be receiving
7 everything on December 2. And then we should be opening the
8 envelops at the meeting on December 7. And then we'll be
9 making decision the winners for the chemical December 17.

10 Any questions?

11 MR BAKOTA: No questions? Thank you, Ben.

12 WATER REPORT: None.

13 DISTRIBUTION REPORT: None.

14 NEW BUSINESS WATER:

15 MR. BAKOTA: Next is New Business. We have Resolution
16 WD 20-15. This is a total transfer of \$210,000.

17 MR. HERRERA: This is Anthony. We're just transferring
18 from one account to the other account. Actually from various
19 payroll accounts, salary accounts.

20 MR. BAKOTA: It's 210,000.

21 MR. HERRERA: To two accounts. One of them is Capital
22 for any future purchases. And then the other one is --

23 MR. BAKOTA: That second one, is that the next one,
24 WD 20-16?

25 MR. HERRERA: Like I was saying it's not unusual. It's
just transferring from Salaries and Payroll to Capital,
Miscellaneous Equipment and to Fire Hydrants. It's a regular
transfer of appropriations, money from one place to another.

MR. BAKOTA: Did the Board hear that?

MR. LOPEZ: No. You guys are breaking up.

MR. VENTURA: No. You could hear that.

MR. HERRERA: It's just a transfer of appropriations
from various Payroll Salaries Accounts to Capital, Equipment

1 and Fire Hydrants.

2 MR. LOPEZ: Okay.

3 Motion to approve Resolution WD 20-15 made by Joseph Ochoa.
4 Second by Anthony Askounis.

5 Questions/Comments: None.

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

8 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Resolution WD 20-16. Can you
9 explain that one?

10 MR. HERRERA: These are totals of the Personal Services
11 for the Utility Administration Fund. This goes into effect
12 for the year 2021.

13 This is just all budgeting purposes. Beginning of
14 the year or at the end of this year we like to allocate all
15 the moneys and basically budget for the next year.

16 MR. BAKOTA: And the amount is?

17 MR. HERRERA: Total amount of the Utility Administration
18 Fund appropriation is \$1,181,920. I do not believe much has
19 changed since last year. We're looking for approval.

20 If you want to look at the supporting documents,
21 you see the account. You see the budget for the year.

22 It does say budget year 2019. That should be 2021
23 as the title. And miscellaneous payroll, other charges and
24 services which equal the 1,181,920. We're asking the Board
25 for approval.

MR. BAKOTA: Does the Board want to act on that? Do I
have a motion?

Motion to approve Resolution WD 20-16 made by Anthony
Askounis. Second by Henry Ventura.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. HERRERA: Thank you.

1 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Emergency. It's West Side Tractor
at \$1,787.03. And there's also another one at \$2,026.46.
2 They're in your packet for your review.

3 Motion to approve West Side Tractor Emergency made by Joseph
Ochoa. Second by Henry Ventura.

4 Questions/Comments: None.

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

7 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Adjustments. 4400 Kennedy Avenue,
remove late payment of \$423.48. That is Praxair. That is
8 also in your packet.

9 Motion to approve 4400 Kennedy Avenue Adjustment made by
Anthony Askounis. Second by Henry Ventura.

10 Questions/Comments: None.

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

13 MR. BAKOTA: Next is 2 Million Gallon Tank Construction
Engineering not to exceed \$481,458. Increase of \$80,000.

14 MR. ALLEGRETTI: President Bakota, I think Engineer John
15 Phipps is on the meeting.

16 John Phipps, is this your subject matter?

17 John was on earlier. We lost him. We were waiting
for the room to clear.

18 MR. BAKOTA: He didn't come in on the roll call. I
19 don't know.

20 MR. ALLEGRETTI: No, he didn't. I know he didn't. He
was there and then we all got tossed.

21 MR. BAKOTA: There he is.

22 MR. HERRERA: Mr. Phipps, go ahead and explain this
23 adjusted amount for this item on here?

24 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Anthony, I might have misspoke. Maybe
it was not a John Phipps subject matter.

25

1 MR. HERRERA: Okay. The Board approved this one or two
2 meetings ago. And the not to exceed amount, it was supposed
to be a little bit more than what it was.

3 In order for us to process all of these pay
4 applications, because I do all the accounting portions for
the AP with all the construction projects for Water, I
5 noticed that the not to exceed number if you put all the
change orders in and calculate it didn't equal what it was
6 supposed to equal.

7 So I called Mr. Phipps. And then he ended up
8 sending this revised amount in. And the not to exceed amount
was not right. But the total of the increase was correct.

9 MR. PHIPPS: John and I may be able to provide some
information on this increase in construction services.

10 MR. BAKOTA: Okay. Please go ahead.

11 MR. PHIPPS: This additional \$80,000 which was involved
12 was approved earlier. However in terms of the total increase
there was an error made. Change Order Number 2 on this
13 contract was left out. And that resulted in a smaller number
for the total increase.

14 So what I think the Board wants to consider is a
15 total increase to \$481,458 to correct the earlier clerical
error.

16 MR. ALLEGRETTI: I can confirm that.

17 MR. BAKOTA: With that information will the Board give
18 me a decision on this.

19 Motion to approve Tank Construction Engineering Change Order
made by Joseph Ochoa. Second by Ray Lopez.

20 Questions/Comments: None.

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

23 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Proposals. Calumet City Plumbing,
Riley Park Meter Vault, \$11,950.

24 Motion to approve Calumet City Plumbing Riley Park Meter
25 Vault Proposal made by Henry Ventura. 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 Calumet City Plumbing, Indiana
5 Harbor Belt Railroad. This is \$12,800 to \$13,000.

6 MR. OCHOA: Is there that much of a leeway in the price?

7 MR. BAKOTA: It ain't that much really.

8 MR. SANTEN: I think that's not to exceed price.

9 MR. OCHOA: Okay.

10 MR. SANTEN: I am hoping it's a little lower when
11 they're done with that work at that project.

12 MR. OCHOA: Well, can we get that proposal after it's
13 done?

14 MR. SANTEN: Yeah. It will be less money than 12,800.
15 That's the proposal just to give us a ballpark of what they
16 have to do over there.

17 MR. ALLEGRETTI: And this is a cap of not to exceed, Ed?

18 MR. SANTEN: It's a cap not to exceed because I don't
19 know if I need to install an insert valve there which right
20 now the price is including an insert valve.

21 It's what we've done on all these other jobs. So
22 it's in order.

23 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.

24 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Because they'll have to come back for
25 additional --

MR. SANTEN: I don't think it will.

26 Motion to approve Calumet City Plumbing Indiana Harbor Belt
27 Railroad Proposal made by Joseph Ochoa. Second by Ray Lopez.

28 Questions/Comments: None.

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

1 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Fissinger & Associates, Court
Reporter Services for 2021.

2 Motion to approve Fissinger & Associates 2021 Court Reporter
3 Services Proposal made by Ray Lopez. Second by Henry
Ventura.

4 Questions/Comments: None.

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

7 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Rate Sheets. Devine, Snow Removal.
That's also in your packet.

8 Motion to approve Devine Snow Removal 2021 Rate Sheet made by
9 Joseph Ochoa. Second by Anthony Askounis.

10 Questions/Comments: None.

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

13 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Midwestern Electric. It's electric
services as needed.

14 Motion to approve Midwestern Electric 2021 Rate Sheet made by
Henry Ventura. Second by Anthony Askounis.

15 Questions/Comments: None.

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

18 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Hvac Masters, General Services.

19 Motion to approve Hvac Masters 2021 Rate Sheet made by
Anthony Askounis. Second by Ray Lopez.

20 Questions/Comments: None.

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

23 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Calumet City Plumbing, General
Services.

24 Motion to approve Calumet City Plumbing 2021 Rate Sheet made
25 by Joseph Ochoa. 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: Next is Peoples Federal Savings. This is
5 customer bill payment for Water.

6 Motion to approve Peoples Federal Savings 2021 Rate Sheet
7 made by Joseph Ochoa. Second by Henry Ventura.

8 Questions/Comments: None.

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

11 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Past Due Invoices. First is
12 Sidener Environment Services at \$885.83. The reason is
13 invoice was supposed to be sent to me. But they had the
14 wrong e-mail address.

15 Motion to approve Sidener Environmental Services Past Due
16 Invoice made by Ray Lopez. Second by Anthony Askounis.

17 Questions/Comments: None.

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

20 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Marco Supply \$208.20. This is
21 Filtration. Reason was invoices were given to secretary on
22 November 2, 2020.

23 Motion to approve Marco Supply Past Due Invoice made by Henry
24 Ventura. Second by Anthony Askounis.

25 Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. BAKOTA: Next is State of Indiana \$4,161, Water.

Motion to approve State of Indiana Past Due Invoice made by
Joseph Ochoa. Second by Anthony Askounis.

MR. BAKOTA: It says the Department received statement
on 11/10/20. AP clerk then called to request invoices.

25

1 Questions/Comments: None.

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

4 MR. BAKOTA: Next is Peoples Federal Savings \$83. This
5 is Water. The reason Department received invoices by vendor
6 on 11/5/2020.

7 Motion to approve Peoples Federal Savings made by Joseph
8 Ochoa. Second by Anthony Askounis.

9 Questions/Comments: None.

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

12 COMPLIANCE: None.

13 REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL:

14 MR. BAKOTA: Report from Legal Counsel, Mr. Allegretti.

15 MR. ALLEGRETTI: The only remark, President Bakota, is
16 that the Governor's Executive Order was published today.
17 Apparently we're being restricted further. The earlier
18 lessening of the restrictions has been rescinded.

19 This probably addresses a lot of activities
20 throughout the State. But probably the more justification
21 part as far as our Board is concerned to justify continuing
22 our remote. I know we're not happy with this. But
23 continuing our remote meeting protocol.

24 I know we'd like to get back to normal. But it
25 appears we're moving farther away rather than getting closer.

MR. BAKOTA: True. Thanks, Mr. Allegretti.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

MR. BAKOTA: Next is Financial Report, Bill Biller.

MR. BILLER: No report except that the next couple
meetings you'll have a number of resolutions pertaining to
the 2021 budgets in addition to the ones you approved tonight
for the Utility Fund. Just a heads up.

MR. BAKOTA: Thank you, Bill.

1 UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT:

3 MR. BAKOTA: At this time I'd just like to wish my
4 fellow Board Members and all attending Happy Thanksgiving and
5 stay safe and healthy.

6 BOARD MEMBERS: Same to you, John.

7 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.

8 * Next Regular Meeting Date: December 7, 2020
9 @ 5:00 p.m.

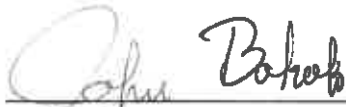
10 Motion to adjourn was made by Joseph Ochoa. Second by
11 Anthony Askounis.

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

14 * Meeting ended at 5:42 p.m.

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1 Approval of the Meeting Minutes of
2 Monday, November 16, 2020
3 Approved and Signed _____
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6 John Bakota, President
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9 Henry Ventura, Vice President
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13 Joseph Ochoa, Member
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17 Anthony Askounis, Member
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20 Ray Lopez, Member
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24 Anthony Herrera, 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 3rd day of December, 2020.



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



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