

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  
Monday, February 3, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.  
Reported for Fissinger & Associates  
By: Lisa Pena

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 24, 2020 and January 29, 2020

Motion to approve January 24, 2020 and January 29, 2020 Meeting Minutes made by Ray Lopez. Second by Anthony Askounis.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

APPROVAL OF CHECK WARRANTS:

MR. BAKOTA: Check Warrant 020320 WB in the amount of \$52,197.13

Motion to approve Check Warrant 020320 WB made by Henry Ventura. Second by Anthony Askounis.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL WARRANTS: None.

1 FILTRATION REPORT: None.

2 WATER REPORT: None.

3 DISTRIBUTION REPORT: None.

4 NEW BUSINESS WATER:

5 MR. BAKOTA: New Business Water, Emergencies, Hessville  
6 Plumbing, 4342 Magoun Avenue, total \$4,212.

7 Motion to approve Hessville Plumbing Emergency, 4342 Magoun  
8 made by Anthony Askounis. Second by Henry Ventura.

9 Questions/Comments: None.

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

12 MR. BAKOTA: Calumet City Plumbing, 3816 Guthrie Street,  
13 \$2,390.

14 Why is their name there? Is that specific?

15 MR. HERRERA: I am not sure why that is.

16 MR. BAKOTA: We're going by Guthrie Street.

17 MR. HERRERA: They never list -- yeah, they do.

18 MR. BAKOTA: They don't list it here. Why is that name  
19 there?

20 MR. HERRERA: I don't know. It's never been like that.

21 MR. BAKOTA: We're going to disregard that. We're going  
22 with Frank Mundo. Why the name is there I don't know. 4818  
23 Walsh Avenue, amount of \$3,910.

24 We'd better do them separate. There's not that  
25 many. Unless the Board wishes me to go through them and do  
it all at once?

MR. OCHOA: Just like last time.

MR. BAKOTA: Go through them?

MR. OCHOA: Yeah.

1 MR. BAKOTA: Everybody agree to that?

2 MR. OCHOA: That's fine.

3 MR. ASKOUNIS: Yes.

4 MR. LOPEZ: Yes. While we're on this one I'd like to  
5 question it. If you don't have enough water pressure, it's  
6 our responsibility to clean the lines and all this because  
7 this guy had a lot of work done.

8 MR. HERRERA: So you're asking if it's our  
9 responsibility?

10 MR. LOPEZ: All the way around the house, the ground,  
11 all that. Where does our responsibility stop?

12 MR. HERRERA: We stop once we're done with this job. So  
13 it calls for us to clear the lines out because of the  
14 pressure. We have to do that.

15 MR. LOPEZ: That's the question. Thank you. I make a  
16 motion.

17 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Mr. Lopez, that does sound a little  
18 curious. Unless it's part of a service line replacement or  
19 part of a meter replacement normally the service line is the  
20 responsibility of the property owner. And that is defined as  
21 from the main to the street. Actually from the property  
22 line. From what I call the parkway to the house is the  
23 responsibility of the homeowner.

24 So maybe there's a different explanation. But  
25 normally we assume no responsibility for the homeowner's  
service lines or property owner's service lines.

MR. HERRERA: We go through these very thoroughly. If  
you see the date on that one, that's from last year. So we  
held it for a long time just to make sure on our end that we  
were responsible or not.

MR. VENTURA: It seems like they had low pressure while  
they were doing --

MR. HERRERA: Winna would completely stop it.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: She's the gatekeeper.

MR. HERRERA: She knows. She goes through every line.

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MR. LOPEZ: Thank you for the answer to the question.

MR. BAKOTA: Any other comments or questions?

Motion to approve Calumet City Plumbing, 4818 Walsh Avenue made by Ray Lopez.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. BAKOTA: I'll go through starting at Guthrie Street on down reading them all, the amount. And then I will give you time to scrutinize them before we ask for a motion or a vote rather.

First one is 3816 Guthrie Street, amount of \$2,390. Next one is 4015 Fir, amount of \$7,956.12. Next is 1301 West 150th Street, amount of \$5,136.48. Next is Public Works, 5400 Cline Avenue, \$1,500. Next is 2829 Gary Road, East Chicago Animal Control, \$145. Next is 144th Street and Indianapolis Boulevard, \$8,401. Next is 144th Street and Olcott Avenue, \$8,572.

These are all listed under Calumet City Plumbing.

Motion to approve Calumet City Plumbing; 3816 Guthrie Street; 4015 Fir; 1301 West 150th Street; Public Works, 5400 Cline Avenue; 2829 Gary Road, East Chicago Animal Control; 144th Street and Indianapolis Boulevard; 144th Street and Olcott Avenue made by Anthony Askounis. Second by Henry Ventura.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. BAKOTA: Next is Agreement/Rate Sheet 2020, Budd Mechanical.

Motion to approve Budd Mechanical 2020 Agreement/Rate Sheet made by Anthony Askounis. Second by Henry Ventura.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

1 MR. BAKOTA: These are Past Due Invoices. Felix Varela,  
2 amount of \$621.85. The reason is invoices were sent to the  
3 former A.P. Clerk who is no longer employed with the City of  
4 East Chicago.

5 Motion to approve Felix Varela Past Due Invoice made by  
6 Joseph Ochoa. Second by Anthony Askounis.

7 Questions/Comments:

8 MR. LOPEZ: Question. Is that for lunch too? It says  
9 McDonald's.

10 MR. HERRERA: Yes. Employees get reimbursed for their  
11 stay, their food and the seminar costs or the continuing  
12 education costs as well. But they don't get reimbursed for  
13 mileage no longer.

14 MR. LOPEZ: Well, they made a good choice, McDonald's.

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

17 MR. BAKOTA: Next is De-vine, \$65. It's Filtration.  
18 Reason is invoices were being sent to former A.P. Clerk who  
19 is no longer employed with the City of East Chicago.

20 Motion to approve De-vine Past Due Invoice made by Henry  
21 Ventura. Second by Joseph Ochoa.

22 Questions/Comments: None.

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

25 MR. BAKOTA: Next is GPRS, \$1,600. Listed as Water.

Motion to approve GPRS Past Due Invoice made by Joseph Ochoa.  
Second by Henry Ventura.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. HERRERA: Could you state the reason?

MR. BAKOTA: Invoices were placed on hold until the  
company sent a reference sheet.

1           Microbac, \$275. Listed as Filtration. The reason  
2 was invoices were being sent to former A.P. Clerk who is no  
longer employed with the City of East Chicago.

3 Motion to approve Microbac Past Due Invoice made by Joseph  
4 Ochoa. Second by Anthony Askounis.

5 Questions/Comments: None.

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

8 REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL: None.

9 FINANCIAL REPORT: None.

10 UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

12           \* Next Regular Meeting Date: February 17, 2020 @  
13 5:00 p.m.


14 Motion to adjourn was made by Joseph Ochoa. Second  
15 by Henry Ventura.


16 Questions/Comments: None.

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

19           \* The Meeting ended at 5:13 p.m.  
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1                    Approval of the Meeting Minutes of  
2                    Monday, February 3, 2020  
3                    Approved and Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
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7 John Bakota, President

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10 Henry Ventura, Vice President

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14 Joseph Choa, Member

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18 Anthony Askounis, Member

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21 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 13th day of February, 2020.

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

