

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
Tuesday, March 24, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS:

Anthony Serna, President
Rick Rodriguez, Vice President
Valda Lewis, Secretary
Gilberto Cantu
Eugene Austin

STAFF:

Courtnee Dinkins
Dawn Dawkins-Legal
Mayra Acosta, Dir.

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

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present: Anthony Serna, Rick Rodriguez,
Eugene Austin

Staff Present: Dawn Dawkins, Legal Counsel
Courtnee Dinkins, Recording Secretary
Mayra Acosta, Director

CHIEF SERNA: First thing, under
Administrative Matters, I would entertain a motion to
approve meeting minutes of March 10, 2020.

Motion to approve minutes of March 10, 2020, made by
Rick Rodriguez. Second by Eugene Austin.

CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

Next, approval of payroll dated
March 20, 2020. Entertain a motion to approve payroll.

Motion to approve payroll made by Rick Rodriguez.
Second by Eugene Austin.

CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

Next, approval signing of Warrant
032420 PB, in the amount of \$155,821.35. Entertain a
motion to approve warrant report.

1 Motion to approve Warrant 032420, amount of \$155,821.35,
2 made by Rick Rodriguez. Second by Eugene Austin.

3 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
4 saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

5 CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

6 Old Business: Proposal for Groupon
7 for MacArthur Golf Course, batting cages and mini golf.

8 MS. ACOSTA: We are still waiting for the
9 attorney to speak to Groupon regarding this.

10 CHIEF SERNA: Okay. We'll keep this
11 under Old Business then for next meeting. We are
12 waiting on our attorney?

13 MS. ACOSTA: Correct.

14 CHIEF SERNA: Then the next item is the
15 Agreement-Groupon Merchant agreement. Same thing?

16 MS. ACOSTA: It's the same.

17 CHIEF SERNA: Waiting on our attorney,
18 Dawn Dawkins.

Next item is New Business.

19 MS. ACOSTA: We have a past due invoice
20 that we need approval.

21 CHIEF SERNA: Past due invoice,
22 Mechanical Concepts, \$499.50. Reason why the invoice is
23 delinquent?

24 MS. ACOSTA: Got lost in the mail. We
25 never got it.

CHIEF SERNA: Okay. Any questions on
this Board members?

MR. AUSTIN: We have found it now?

MS. ACOSTA: Yes.

CHIEF SERNA: All right. Entertain a
motion to approve payment of late invoice number 43058,
dated October 31, 2019, Mechanical Concepts, in the
amount of \$499.50.

1 Motion to approve payment of past due invoice to
2 Mechanical Concepts made by Eugene Austin. Second by
Rick Rodriguez.

3 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
4 saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

5 CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

6 MS. ACOSTA: Next one is agreement with
7 ServiScape for Christmas lights for all the parks for
8 this year, for 2020.

9 CHIEF SERNA: Christmas light agreement
10 for all the parks. Compensation total for project, 16
11 parks, is \$57,513.91. Is that correct?

12 MS. ACOSTA: Yes, that's correct.

13 CHIEF SERNA: Any questions on this Board
14 members?

15 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Anything different?

16 MS. ACOSTA: Yes. Last year we paid
17 \$150,000.00 because we purchased a lot of pieces, a lot
18 of lights. This year we are only paying a third of
19 that -- \$57,000 -- because we already own them.

20 CHIEF SERNA: Any other questions?
21 (None) Entertain a motion to approve agreement with
22 ServiScape, LLC, for the Christmas lights, amount of
23 \$57,513.91.

24 Motion to approve agreement with ServiScape, LLC made by
25 Rick Rodriguez. Second by Eugene Austin.

CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.

MS. ACOSTA: I don't have anything else.

CHIEF SERNA: We have Resolution 2020-1,
Board of Parks and Recreation authorizes payment of
certain claims prior to Board approval. (Resolution
read.) This is for pre-approved payment of expenses
that are verified and come before the Board of Parks and

1 Recreation.

2 I believe this is a resolution,
3 Mayra, because of the COVID-19 -- because of the virus.
4 A lot of boards across the City are allowing this for
5 bills to be paid, in essence if meetings are not able to
6 be held; is that correct?

7 MS. ACOSTA: Yes.

8 CHIEF SERNA: So are there any questions
9 on this Resolution 2020-1 Board members? (None)
10 Entertain a motion to approve and adopt Resolution
11 2020-1, Resolution of Board of Parks and Recreation for
12 payment of certain claims prior to Board approval.

13 Motion to approve Resolution 2020-1 made by Rick
14 Rodriguez. Second by Eugene Austin.

15 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
16 saying aye?

17 (All signify aye.)

18 CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries.
19 Anything further?

20 MS. ACOSTA: The only thing, I think,
21 that's still pending, is the approval for the Board of
22 Elections to use our centers for upcoming election.

23 CHIEF SERNA: They moved that back
24 another month, to --

25 MS. ACOSTA: To June 5th.

CHIEF SERNA: So, I thought we approved
that at a previous meeting.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: We did.

CHIEF SERNA: Are we looking to maybe
rescind that approval? For discussion, Board members,
do you think we should consider -- with everything
involved -- that we not have a polling place at our
centers? What do you think?

MR. RODRIGUEZ: The only question I have,
is there any activities going on at that time that you
have use of the centers?

MS. ACOSTA: June 5th, if everything goes

1 well and reopens, we are going to be having our Summer
2 Stars Program starting shortly after.

3 MR. RODDRIGUEZ: Is there going to be a
4 conflict?

5 MS. ACOSTA: It might.

6 CHIEF SERNA: Now, they are pushed back
7 to June and that's when the Summer Stars Program starts.
8 You think we should let the Board of Elections know that
9 we can't host it, too much of a conflict? What do you
10 think? What do you recommend?

11 MS. ACOSTA: If you want to wait till
12 April to see how things are.

13 MR. RODRIGUEZ: You don't want them to be
14 scrambling at the last minute.

15 MR. AUSTIN: Do you think there's going
16 to be any change?

17 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Any other location in
18 that building maybe?

19 MS. ACOSTA: Well, right now our
20 facilities are closed. They are closed till the
21 beginning of May, so -- I don't know.

22 CHIEF SERNA: It's hard to predict how
23 this is going to play out.

24 MR. AUSTIN: Can we put a question mark
25 on it?

CHIEF SERNA: Well, we can consider it
for next Board meeting or cut the cord now.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: I think that maybe inform
them -- this might change -- it might be a conflict,
that way they may be looking for somewhere else.

CHIEF SERNA: Maybe send a letter to the
Board of Elections and Registration that there's a
possibility that with the new date of election, there's
a conflict because of our summer programs. Madame
Secretary, if you could send that letter to inform them
of the possible conflict.

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Our summer programs will
be starting.

2 CHIEF SERNA: And we'll make a decision
3 at our April Board meeting. Okay, anything further,
4 Mayra?

5 MS. ACOSTA: No

6 CHIEF SERNA: All right. Next item is
Public comments. There is none.

7 Next meeting date is Tuesday,
April 14th, right here at City Hall Council Chambers,
8 time of 5:00 p.m.

I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

9 Motion to adjourn meeting made by Rick Rodriguez.
10 Second by Eugene Austin.

11 CHIEF SERNA: All in favor signify by
saying aye?

(All signify aye.)

12 CHIEF SERNA: Motion carries. Meeting
13 adjourned.

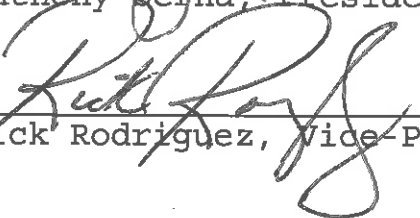
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15 ***** Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.*****
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Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday
March 24, 2020

Approved and signed April 14, 2020



Anthony Serna, President



Rick Rodriguez, Vice-President

Valda Lewis, Secretary

Gilberto Cantu, Member

Eugene Austin, Member



Courtnee Dinkins, Recording Secretary

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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 Munster, Indiana, this 26th day of March, 2020.

Peggy S. LaLonde



Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR