

1 CITY OF EAST CHICAGO BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS  
2 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

3 BOARD MEMBERS

4 Val Gomez, President  
5 William Allen, Vice-President  
6 Winna Guzman, Member  
7 Regular Meeting Minutes

8 Wednesday, July 10, 2019, at 4:30 p.m.

9 Reporter by Fissinger & Associates, Ltd.

10 By: Peggy S. LaLonde

11 Staff Present: Rene Cid  
12 Mark Escobedo  
13 Hector Rosario  
14 James Portalantin  
15 Natalie Adams  
16 Doug Cunningham  
17 Esperanza Ramirez  
18 Joseph Allegretti  
19 Richard Morrisroe

20 Call to Order: 4:30 p.m.

21 Roll Call: Present: Val Gomez and Winna Guzman

22 Motion to approve minutes of the regular meeting, June  
23 26, 2019 made by Val Gomez. Second by Winna Guzman.

24 Comments/Questions: None

25 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None

Opposed: None Motion carries.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

MR. GOMEZ: New business. First item is  
an MOU for the police department for the City of East  
Chicago from Ring Incorporated.

POLICE CHIEF HECTOR ROSARIO: Hector Rosario,  
Chief of Police, East Chicago Police Department. Basically  
the MOU for Ring, we want to partner up with them. What  
this entails, this is a doorbell alarm system for crime  
ridden areas in the City and we will be able to reach  
out to them through the mobile site and have them submit  
their footage to us. This will hopefully help us solve  
the crime or whatever is going on. We will also have a

1 press release, if there is a crime that is solved which  
2 entailed some of the footage from someone's doorbell  
3 system, to alert the public of this program. There is  
4 no money being exchanged. It's all free.

5 What will happen, once we jump  
6 onboard, we'll put something out to the Hammond Times,  
7 to the local media stations, and say, hey, the East  
8 Chicago Police Department is part of the portal now with  
9 Ring. They will come in -- I don't know exactly where  
10 it is going to be offered -- but the Ring doorbell  
11 system will be offered at a cheaper price, since we are  
12 jumping onboard. I think it's \$160 and you'd get a  
13 voucher for roughly, around \$60.00. So this will help  
14 the citizens and the police department.

15 MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments?

16 Comments/Questions: None

17 Motion to approve the proposal with Ring and the Police  
18 Department of the City of East Chicago, at no cost, made  
19 by Val Gomez. Second by Winna Guzman.

20 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
21 Opposed: None Motion carries.

22 MR. GOMEZ: We are going to skip to  
23 Comcast proposal for 100 West Chicago Avenue.

24 MR. MORRISROE: Richard Morrisroe, Law  
25 Department. This is a proposal that they would like to  
change Health 219 -- which is a major tenant affiliated  
with St. Catherine's Hospital -- would like to change  
their service to Comcast. As we are the landlord, they  
wanted to run it passed us. I think Comcast wanted to  
know that we are onboard with it. So, we have discussed  
this for some time and this is the authorization.

Mr. President and I had spoken to  
the administrative aid at 219 Health, East Chicago, this  
afternoon and simply requires the president -- and your  
vote -- of course. Any other questions?

Comments/Questions: None

Motion to approve Comcast's proposal for services at 100  
West Chicago Avenue made by Val Gomez. Second by Winna  
Guzman.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None

1 Opposed: None Motion carries.

2 MR. GOMEZ: Next, termination of contract  
3 Mr. Ralph Flores, Jr. The City is choosing to terminate  
4 services with the Flores Consulting Group. Terms of the  
5 contract allow us to do so. The work conducted was  
6 primarily our Block Stadium and baseball program. So  
7 the City has chosen to terminate the contract.

8  
9 Comments/Questions: None

10  
11 Motion to approve termination of the consulting  
12 agreement between the City of East Chicago and the  
13 Flores Consulting Group made by Val Gomez. Second by  
14 Winna Guzman.  
15 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
16 Opposed: None Motion carries.

17  
18 MR. GOMEZ: Next, we have proposal for  
19 Fire Services.

20 DEPUTY CHIEF ESCOBEDO: Mark Escobedo,  
21 Deputy Fire Chief. What you have are two quotes for  
22 preventative maintenance on all emergency vehicles. The  
23 vendor we currently use is NWI, which has gone out of  
24 business. So we got two quotes from two new vendors.  
25 I think they have grouped -- for the record -- an annual  
cost that we incur for maintenance of rigs. They do our  
pump test as well on all the fire engines.

16  
17 Comments/Questions:

18 MR. GOMEZ: This is for 2019?

19 DEPUTY CHIEF ESCOBEDO: Correct  
20 Motion to approve fire services for 2019 vehicle  
21 maintenance program made by Val Gomez. Second by Winna  
22 Guzman.

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

25  
26 MR. GOMEZ: Next we have outstanding  
27 invoices. Motorola, one invoice dated 4/16/2019, in the  
28 amount of \$2,565.64.

29  
30 DEPUTY CHIEF ESCOBEDO: Basically we  
31 purchased our radios through Miner, who are the

1 authorized dealers that we deal with, and they are the  
2 ones that actually do installation in our vehicles. So  
3 I guess this is the lapse in time from what Miner gets  
4 from Motorola and we get the invoices to replace it.

5 Comments/Questions:

6 MR. GOMEZ: The work was completed.

7 DEPUTY CHIEF ESCOBEDO: Work is  
8 completed, yes.

9 Motion to approve invoice from Motorola to the Fire  
10 Department, in the amount of \$2,565.64 made by Val  
11 Gomez. Second by Winna Guzman.

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

14 MR. GOMEZ: We'll come back to Building,  
15 proposals by Amereco.

16 MR. PORTALATIN: James Portalatin,  
17 Building Commissioner. This is site assessment for  
18 Phase 1 and 2 for the triangles and the price would be  
19 \$30,015 total.

20 MR. GOMEZ: Individually -- for the  
21 record -- Guthrie, Lincoln and Broadway triangle, Phase  
22 1 and Phase 2 and Michigan Euclid & Broadway triangle,  
23 Phase 1 and Phase 2.

24 Comments/Questions:

25 MS. GUZMAN: We need to strike out the  
1.7 percent finance charge.

MR. PORTALATIN: I've told them numerous  
times.

MR. GOMEZ: We'll strike it out.

Motion to approve Building proposal from Amereco for  
their Phase 1 and Phase 2 environmental work made by Val  
Gomez. Second by Winna Guzman.

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

MR. GOMEZ: Outstanding invoices. We  
have outstanding invoice from Illiana Transfer to Public

1 Works. Two invoices dated 3/15/19 and 3/31/19 for  
2 \$22,634.67 and one for \$24,642.19, total of \$47,096.86.

3 MR. CID: Rene Cid, from Public Works.  
4 We did not get the invoice in a timely manner, so this  
5 is why they are late.

6 MR. GOMEZ: The work was done?

7 MR. CID: Yes.

8 Comments/Questions: None

9 Motion to approve past due invoice of Illiana Transfer,  
10 in the amount of \$47,096.86 made by Val Gomez. Second  
11 by Winna Guzman.

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

14 MR. GOMEZ: Federal Protective Services  
15 Agency, Special Events.

16 MS. ADAMS: Natalie Adams. This is a  
17 rate schedule. Currently we have in place at the Marina  
18 ISM, and at the beach, for special events, we use DDS.  
19 And basically this company is one that we would use to  
20 potentially replace both. Gives us another option and  
21 cover the challenges with the other two, amount of staff  
22 call off, things of that nature, and not being able to  
23 fully take care of the areas that we need to take care  
24 of. So it's basically just to give us another option  
25 and that's their rate sheet.

MS. GOMEZ: I believe that we have  
something in the contract to delete.

MS. GUZMAN: Just to note that I think  
striking out the \$150 penalty that they will assess, we  
strike that out.

MS. ADAMS: Correct. And we went through  
that discussion with them. They did meet with myself,  
Chief Hector and Deputy Chief, and we went over the fact  
that the City doesn't pay any penalties, any late fees,  
and basically our invoices are paid within 60 days.  
They were okay with that.

Comments/Questions: None

1 Motion to approve Federal Protective Services Agency for  
Special Events, upon striking out any provision not  
2 allowed by State statute, made by Val Gomez. Second by  
Winna Guzman.

3

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

5

MS. ADAMS: My second item, I would  
6 request that we table that because I still don't have  
the information that I need from him to create the  
7 contract. Basically I have spoken with him and he is  
aware by not passing it timely, he will more than likely  
not get paid the day of the Festival.

8

MR. GOMEZ: We are basically using the  
9 same contract?

10

MS. ADAMS: We have a contract for Friday  
11 night, but you have to know the names of the people and  
the amounts that have to be paid in order for me to  
12 settle up the agreement appropriately, and I don't have  
those specifics.

13

MR. GOMEZ: He's aware?

14

MS. ADAMS: He is aware.

15

MR. GOMEZ: Okay, thank you. Back to  
16 outstanding invoices. We have an outstanding invoice  
from 4Imprint for Planning. We have two invoices from  
them, one dated April 12, 2019, and one March 25, 2019.

17

MS. RAMIREZ: That is correct. Esperanza  
18 Ramirez. Due to some transitioning in staff, we found  
out that 4Imprint, these two invoices in particular,  
19 have not been processed. Therefore, we are bringing  
them up to be processed right now. They were both for  
20 the Career Fair, in April.

21

MR. GOMEZ: And the work was provided --  
22 or done?

22

MS. RAMIREZ: Yes.

23

Comments/Questions: None

24

Motion to approve invoices from 4Imprint to our Planning  
25 Department made by Val Gomez. Second by Winna Guzman.

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

2

3 MR. GOMEZ: Next, Fissinger & Associates,  
one invoice for \$258.40. This is dated 4/4/19. Our  
4 engineer is not here to speak for them. The engineer  
received the following invoice late and the work was  
performed, and the invoice should proceed.

5

Comments/Questions: None

6

Motion to approve the late invoice from Fissinger &  
7 Associates, in the amount of \$258.40 made by Val Gomez.  
Second by Winna Guzman.

8

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

10

MR. GOMEZ: Move on to the Compliance  
Report, revised final report for 2018, East Chicago  
11 Resurfacing Project.

12

MS. RAMIREZ: Esperanza Ramirez. There  
13 was a final report provided on May 16th. They have  
already had a chance to go over some numbers. We have  
been made aware of some missing certified payroll,  
14 therefore they are not being incorporated. And now I  
just found out there's a new change order which will  
15 definitely affect my numbers right now, so I don't want  
to read off the numbers. Probably need to table this  
16 till next time.

17

MR. GOMEZ: Okay. Next meeting?

18

MS. RAMIREZ: Especially since these are  
19 last minute numbers, we want to make sure we are as  
close, if not final, in providing the Board with the  
information.

20

MR. GOMEZ: Okay. Thank you then. Next,  
21 we have Calumet City Plumbing. This is also engineering  
and I will speak with -- the city engineer is on  
22 vacation, so I will address this meeting. We have a  
proposal from Calumet City Plumbing and this is on our  
23 Walsh Street construction project, in particular 4826  
Walsh. We have complications with the project which  
24 contributed to problems at this address, which is  
requiring an emergency to restore the water to this  
25 location. We have approved the amount for this project

1 and I believe we also have an appeal in place already.

2 Comments/Questions: None

3 Motion to approve Calumet City Plumbing proposal, for  
4826 Walsh, for restoring the water made by Val Gomez.

4 Second by Winna Guzman.

5 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None

Opposed: None Motion carries.

6

MR. GOMEZ: Next, Walsh & Kelly,  
7 emergency repair. This is also on engineering, to make  
repairs to new concrete due to traffic accident at  
8 Parrish Avenue and Elm. The damage was to Elm Street  
and Columbus Drive for total of \$7,840. They had just  
9 finished completing that project when the accident  
occurred. Any questions or comments?

10

Comments/Questions: None

11

Motion to approve that emergency repair services from  
12 Walsh & Kelly, in the amount of \$7,840 for the Columbus  
Drive project made by Val Gomez. Second by Winna  
13 Guzman.

14 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None

Opposed: None Motion carries.

15

MR. GOMEZ: Next we have Change Orders 1  
16 and 2, which is Michigan Recreational Construction.  
This is due to an oversight. These two change orders  
17 were actually completed in '18, 8/7/18 and 7/20/18.  
Change order number one was for \$3,305. Change order  
18 number two was \$212,084. Change order number one was  
for design change change order. Number two was  
19 replacement of decking replacement for the polygon  
shelter. This was at the City's request.

20

By oversight, this work was  
21 completed, the change orders were never addressed in the  
original PO. So to correct this issue, the total for  
change orders is \$15,389. I have been assured the work  
22 has been completed by our city engineer and this just  
finalizes and closes out this project. Any questions or  
23 comments?

24 Comments/Questions: None

25 Motion to approve proposal from Michigan Recreational



1 Construction, Change Orders 1 and 2, in the amount of  
2 \$15,389 made by Val Gomez. Second by Winna Guzman.

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

5 MR. GOMEZ: Next we have Change Order 6,  
6 for Rieth Riley, 2018 East Chicago Resurfacing Project.  
7 This change order is the contract amount East Chicago --  
8 this confirms that the amount of damages will be  
9 \$116,077.72. Is this something you want us to hold  
10 onto? Is this connected to the ones you need to go  
11 over?

12 MS. RAMIREZ: You have to pass that one  
13 so I can incorporate that in my changes.

14 MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments?

15 Comments/Questions: None

16 Motion to approve Change Order 6, pertaining to the East  
17 Chicago Resurfacing Project, which confirms the amount  
18 of damages to be \$116,077.72, made by Val Gomez. Second  
19 by Winna Guzman.

20 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
21 Opposed: None Motion carries.

22 MR. GOMEZ: Next we come to Army Corps,  
23 Indianapolis Boulevard Water Main Replacement Project.  
24 This is an agreement between the Department and the Army  
25 for the Design Structure System for the Section 219  
Indianapolis Boulevard Replacement, Phase 2. This is  
the form that needs -- as a requirement -- the signature  
by the Mayor, our corporate counsel, and I believe by  
this Board. The mayor has reviewed this. He said once  
we approve it, he'll sign it. Are there any questions  
or comments on the agreement?

Comments/Questions: None

Motion to approve the Agreement between the Army Corps  
and City of East Chicago, Design Structure Systems, for  
the Section 219 of Indianapolis Boulevard Water Main  
Replacement Project, Phase 2, made by Val Gomez. Second  
by Winna Guzman.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None

1 Opposed: None Motion carries.

2 MR. GOMEZ: Next, right of way  
 3 applications, the City's Board of Public Works permit  
 4 applications 19-03239 to 19-03246. Are there any  
 5 questions or comments on any of these?

6 Comments/Questions: None

7 Motion to approve Board of Public Works right of way  
 8 permit applications 19-03239 to 19-03246 made by Val  
 9 Gomez. Second by Winna Guzman.

10 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None

11 Opposed: None Motion carries.

12 MR. GOMEZ: That concludes our new  
 13 business. We have no old business. Other business?  
 14 (None) Our next regular meeting, Wednesday, July 24,  
 15 2019, at 4:30 p.m.

16 Motion to adjourn meeting made by Val Gomez. Second by  
 17 Winna Guzman.

18 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None

19 Opposed: None Motion carries.

20 \*\*\*\* Meeting Adjourned \*\*\*\*

21 Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of  
 22 July 10, 2019

23 Approved and Signed July 10, 2019.

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
 25 Val Gomez, President

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William Allen, Vice President

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Winna Guzman

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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 16th day of July, 2019.

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Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR