

1 CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
2 BOARD OF SANITARY COMMISSIONERS

3 BOARD MEMBERS

4 Miguel (Mike) Rivera, President
5 Anthony Galindo, Vice President
6 Tia Cauley, Member
7 Loreto Gonzalez, Member
8 Alojzy (Ben) Moricz, Member

9 Regular Meeting Minutes
10 Thursday, August 15, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m.
11 Reported for Fissinger & Associates
12 By: Lisa Pena

13 CALL TO ORDER: 4:30 p.m.

14 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

15 ROLL CALL: Present: Miguel Rivera, Loreto Gonzalez, Tia
16 Cauley, Alojzy Moricz.
17 Also Present: Keith Selvie, Anthony Herrera, Winna Guzman,
18 Dr. Abdul Zehraoui, Bill Biller.

19 APPROVAL OF CHECK WARRANTS:

20 Sanitary District, Wastewater Division

21 MR. RIVERA: Warrant Number 081519 SW for the amount of
22 \$108,790.47.

23 Motion to approve Check Warrant 081519 SW made by Loreto
24 Gonzalez. Second by Alojzy Moricz.

25 Questions/Comments: None.

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

MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 081519 SR for the
amount of \$9,023.95.

Motion to approve Check Warrant 081519 SR made by Loreto
Gonzalez. Second by Alojzy Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

2 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 083019 SW for the
3 amount of \$78,717.71.

4 Motion to approve Check Warrant 083019 SW made by Loreto
Gonzalez. Second by Tia Cauley.

5 Questions/Comments: None.

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

8 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 080919 Sanitary
Board Payroll 7/20/19 to 8/2/19.

9 Motion to approve Check Warrant 080919 Sanitary Board Payroll
10 7/20/19 to 8/2/19 made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Alojzy
Moricz.

11 Questions/Comments: None.

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

14 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 080919 Utilities
Board Payroll 7/20/19 to 8/2/19.

15 Motion to approve Check Warrant 080919 Utilities Board
16 Payroll 7/20/19 to 8/2/19 made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by
Alojzy Moricz.

17 Questions/Comments: None.

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

20 MR. RIVERA: Next is 080919 Wastewater Payroll 7/20/19
to 8/2/19.

21 Motion to approve Check Warrant 080919 Wastewater Payroll
22 7/20/19 to 8/2/19 made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Alojzy
Moricz.

23 Questions/Comments: None.

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

1 Sanitary District, Solid Waste Division

2 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 081519 SS for the
amount of \$82,386.19.

3
4 Motion to approve Check Warrant 081519 SS made by Loreto
Gonzalez. Second by Alojzy Moricz.

5 Questions/Comments: None.

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

Opposed: None Motion Carries.

7
8 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 080919 Solids
Payroll 7/20/19 to 8/2/19.

9 Motion to approve Check Warrant 080919 Solids Payroll 7/20/19
to 8/2/19 made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by Alojzy Moricz.

10 Questions/Comments: None.

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

12 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

13 REPORT FROM WASTEWATER DIVISION: None.

14 REPORT FROM UTILITY DIVISION MATTERS:

15 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Report from Director of
Utilities Dr. Zehraoui.

16
17 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Good afternoon. The roof at the pump
station has been replaced. The pumping station has been
repaired. We called Mechanical Concepts for \$2,760.

18 Actually repaired the Michigan Avenue Pumping Station.

19 Then we are still on the third phase for cleaning.
20 So every year we have to take one down clean it, inspect it.
We have to do before rain season. Then we are working on
getting scents for the filters. So we are still waiting for
21 proposals.

22 Then we are done with the first phase of Gary Road
storm sewer inspection. This is a very long channel that is
23 108 by 66 inch storm sewer. It's like 9,000. It has never
been inspected for maybe more than 50 years. So we are
24 dealing with it right now. And we completed the first 3,000
feet.

25

1 We found many cracks and fractures. But we can't
2 replace all for the budget. But this one, the storm sewer
3 should be replaced or at least fixed from now on five years.
4 And we installed like warning signals around this like 9,000
5 feet.

6 But now we inspected. We fixed the cracks. But we
7 can't do because to replace it is like \$10 million. We
8 cannot do it.

9 So this is what we have right now if you have any
10 questions.

11 MS. CAULEY: I have a question. Dr. Zehraoui, on
12 Michigan Avenue we happened to be riding over there on Sunday
13 and someone was running a hose. And the Mayor said there is
14 no meter on that fire hydrant. So he wanted to know who is
15 getting the water from the fire hydrant on Michigan Avenue
16 right by the firehouse.

17 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Which?

18 MS. CAULEY: Right there on Michigan Avenue in the
19 Harbor by the Fire Station like you're going towards the
20 Marina.

21 MR. SELVIE: Fire Station Number 2.

22 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Okay.

23 MR. RIVERA: Anymore questions? Thank you.

24 MS. CAULEY: Excuse me. I'm sorry. Dr. Zehraoui, I
25 have another question for you. Nancy Almason who lives on
26 Michigan Avenue, she has -- this is for someone. I don't
27 know if it's for you or Keith. But there is a manhole that
28 every time they ride past it coming down Michigan Avenue the
29 trucks go by and they're making a ton of noise.

30 I thought John Martinez was going to be here. But
31 she reached out to him several times and he has not returned
32 her call.

33 DR. ZEHRAOUI: So this is Michigan Avenue?

34 MS. CAULEY: It's Michigan Avenue. The manhole I guess
35 is unlevel over there. It needs to be straightened out.
36 I'll text him the information. Like I said I thought he was
37 going to be here personally. So that way they can get that

1 fixed.

2 DR. ZEHRAOUI: That's fine.

3 REPORT OF FIELD OPERATIONS: None.

4 REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE:

5 MR. RIVERA: Report from Solid Waste.

6 MS. CAULEY: Excuse me. Let's make a correction, Tony.
Rene Cid is the Foreman or Supervisor.

7

MR. RIVERA: Supervisor.

8

MS. CAULEY: Keith Selvie is the Director. So can we
9 correct that. We said it three times. Make sure that
Mr. Selvie gets his rightfully so title and what he's doing.

10

MR. SELVIE: Thank you. Good afternoon. Keith Selvie,
11 Director of Public Works. I just have a quick announcement
to the Board. We will be beginning our fall clean which
12 basically means that we'll be going throughout the districts
again just actually cleaning up the streets and actually
13 sweeping.

14

We will also be posting no parking in these areas
that we're going to be traveling in. I do have the dates as
15 well posted on our social media sites.

16

But as of Monday August 19 we will be in District 2
17 through August 22. And August 23 we will be in District 6
through August 28. District 1, we will be in that area on
the 29th through September 4. District 3, we will be in that
18 area from September 5 through September 10. District 4
September 11 through September 16. As well we'll be
19 finishing up in District 5. And that clean will start
September 17 through the 20th.

20

We definitely will be posting the day signs.
21 Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. there will
be no parking on the street.

22

It's just an opportunity for us to get back through
23 and quickly to pick up the summer trash that has not been
collected. If anyone is listening that's a resident, we're
24 asking for your assistance.

25

Public Works, one of our main goals of course is to

1 clean the City. But we're only as good as the residents. So
2 we ask the residents to please pick up in front of your
3 property as well as in back of your property. It doesn't
4 matter if you're a renter or a homeowner. It will assist
5 us in making sure the City looks proper.

6 Any big items this is an opportunity for you to put
7 those in the alleyway. If you don't have an alleyway, just
8 put it in the front during this district time.

9 Again this is posted on our website as well. And
10 it's just an opportunity for us to kind of spruce up a little
11 bit. We've gotten some additional trash and things from some
12 of the holidays as well as some of the festivals that we
13 would like to go through again.

14 Any questions?

15 MS. CAULEY: I have one. Can you please make sure we
16 start getting this in our packets like the flier because
17 you're reading off dates?

18 MR. SELVIE: I'm sorry. I thought I actually provided
19 it. But yes.

20 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Question. Is there a program for leaves?

21 MR. SELVIE: Leaves are later on in the season. We do
22 something very similar to leaves in the fall once leaves
23 fall.

24 DR. ZEHRAOUI: November, December, this is the area
25 when?

MR. SELVIE: Exactly. We do that as well. Very similar
program. We'll be going through blowing into the street and
sweep it. And that will be announced. And we'll make sure
everyone gets a packet.

Like I said before it's actually listed on our
website as well as our social media site. And I do
apologize, Board, for not giving you guys a copy.

DR. ZEHRAOUI: So it should be on the site?

MR. SELVIE: I haven't set a date yet. But it will be
forthcoming.

REPORT FROM FINANCIAL CONSULTANT:

1 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Report from Financial
Consultant Bill Biller.

2
3 MR. BILLER: Good evening. You have the Report in your
4 packet. Just a couple highlights, our collections in July
rebounded pretty good mainly in industrial. It jumped up to
358,000.

5 If you'll notice residential collections have kind
6 of bounced up and down the last couple of months. And this
7 ties back to there was problems in the transmission of the
information from Sanitary to Water so that the industrial
8 users could be billed. April and June was delayed being
invoiced. But we think that has been worked out. So
9 hopefully we won't be seeing that in the future.

10 And revenue collections continue to be lower than
what we did last year. On the expenditure side this month in
11 July the only large thing was the utility bills. NIPSCO
amounted to \$150,000. That's almost two to three months, two
12 months worth of payments that were processed in July. Other
than that it was a normal month.

13 Ending cash balance \$1-million-9. We're
forecasting cash balance ending December to be 500,000. Last
14 half of the year we have large payments. Second, third and
fourth quarter payments of taxes 484,000.

15 Contribution to the Utility Fund for the Sanitary
share of those expenses another about 550,000 for the year.

16
17 So most of our expenses are in the last half of the
year.

18 Any questions?

19 MR. RIVERA: Any questions? Thank you.

20 REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL: None.

21 NEW BUSINESS:

22 MR. RIVERA: We have an agreement here with Mechanical
23 Concepts for the amount of \$2,760. The scope of the work
recover refrigerant from existing unit, remove the failed
compressor, provide installation one new compressor, install
24 new filter, dryer and contactor, connect to existing pipe and
perform leak test, evacuate and recharge system, start up and
25 checkup unit operation.

1 The price like I said before is \$2,760.

2 DR. ZEHRAOUI: This is for Michigan Avenue Pumping
3 Station AC. It's not working. So they fixed.

4 MS. CAULEY: What do you mean it's not working,
5 Dr. Zehraoui? The Pump Station is not working?

6 DR. ZEHRAOUI: Yeah. It's not working. So we need some
7 parts that should be coming. This 2,700 is plus labor.

8 MR. HERRERA: The air conditioner.

9 MS. CAULEY: Okay. Tell me what's not working.

10 DR. ZEHRAOUI: I said AC.

11 Motion to approve Mechanical Concepts Agreement made by Tia
12 Cauley. Second by Loreto Gonzalez.

13 Questions/Comments: None.

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

15 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

16

17 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Past Due Invoice. Actually
18 two. One for 513.66 and the other one is \$13.78 for the
19 total amount of \$527.44. And it states here that the
20 delinquency reason is received invoices from Maintenance
21 7/31/19.

22

23 This Past Due I forgot to mention is for G & J.

24

25 Motion to approve G & J Past Due Invoices made by Loreto
Gonzalez. Second by Alojzy Moricz.

Questions/Comments: None.

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

Opposed: None Motion Carries.

26

27 MR. RIVERA: The next item is the matter that we had at
28 the last meeting for 3730 Drummond. Miss Guzman, I know we
29 have paperwork.

30

31 MS. GUZMAN: Good afternoon, Board Members. Winna
32 Guzman, Water Department Director. Miss Laura Thomas reached
33 out to me and asked if she can present this matter before
34 this Board for consideration on adjusting her sewer charges
35

1 for the period of March 15, 2019 through April 8, 2019. The
2 amount of the sewer charge was \$1,129.40.

3 There was a leak. I provided the Board with a
4 report, various reports actually. The one that I am looking
5 at is the Harmony. And as you can see there's 26 days of
6 leak alerts or alarm that was set. And she did I'm looking
7 at about probably 7 to 8,000 per day of gallons used.

8 The first, March 23, was actually 12,439 gallons
9 that went through her meter.

10 So as far as the water and the taxes, that is not
11 going to be adjusted. She was advised of that. But she did
12 request that if we can bring it before this Board for
13 consideration again.

14 And I provided also just to note the charge of the
15 payments. Apparently it appears that this property is
16 vacant. And she does live at, I provided the address on
17 Euclid Avenue, another location. So that is what we have
18 listed within our billing system.

19 Her total amount that was assessed for that month
20 or that period was \$1,766.07 which includes the water, taxes
21 and sewer. And she did enter into a payment plan on June 21.
22 And her monthly payment is \$571.73 which is due on the 21st
23 of each month after that date.

24 So she has July, August, September basically to pay
25 the charges assessed in water, sewer and taxes and any
penalties that come about.

MR. RIVERA: What did you state the amount was for the
sewer?

MS. GUZMAN: The sewer is \$1,129.40.

MR. RIVERA: Is that how much she has got to pay?

MS. GUZMAN: That is for only the sewer charges. The
total amount for everything is \$1,766.07.

MS. CAULEY: Mr. President, I have a question. Is she
registered as a landlord?

MS. GUZMAN: I am not sure. But I can look into that.
Currently her balance as of today is \$1,164.81.

1 MR. RIVERA: Any questions?

2 Next item is Unfinished Business.

3 MS. CAULEY: Mr. President, don't we have to vote on
4 this?

5 MR. BILLER: That's my question. Are you going to take
6 any action or just tabling it?

7 MR. RIVERA: I'm sorry.

8 MS. GUZMAN: Just to note the owner is not present. I
9 thought she would be here today.

10 MS. CAULEY: It doesn't matter.

11 MR. RIVERA: This comes from the Water Department, from
12 you?

13 MS. GUZMAN: Yes. That comes from us. That is the
14 billing records for that account or for that address.

15 MR. RIVERA: According to what I had read here I
16 understand the sewer should be the average charge for the 12
17 months which was 9.35 per month for the two months. It
18 should have been 18.70. I don't understand why you said it
19 was a thousand something?

20 MS. GUZMAN: Because she had a leak. She had a leak
21 within that period of time. So when she had that leak, that
22 water was running. And of course because of the high usage
23 with the water, the consumption of water the sewer obviously
24 is going to be more than what the water charges are.

25 MR. RIVERA: So there's actually no adjustment really.

MS. GUZMAN: I don't recommend any adjustments on my
part. But I don't know if Dr. Abdul would like to elaborate
on that. But I would say if anything maybe give her a couple
more months to pay the amount. That would be my
recommendation. She would have to pay the full amount.

MS. CAULEY: No offense. But okay. We get it. Let's
vote on it, guys.

MR. RIVERA: Someone has to make a motion.

MS. CAULEY: I vote no. I don't know what you all are

1 voting on.

2 MR. RIVERA: To accept the --

3 MS. CAULEY: I said no changes.

4 MS. GUZMAN: She has three months to pay.

5 MS. CAULEY: Give her six.

6 MS. GUZMAN: That would be my recommendation, not make
an adjustment.

7

MS. CAULEY: Director Guzman, we just had this happen a
8 couple of months back. You all weren't here. Neither was
Dr. Zehraoui. But previously when Mr. Markovich came up here
9 with a resident we didn't adjust that one.

10 We need to be consistent with this because we're
going to end up in a lawsuit on top of other things.

11

The Housing Authority had a horrible leak. We
12 paid. We paid thousands of dollars. We didn't even know.
So what I am saying is either we're going to be consistent or
13 we're going to go across and make adjustments.

14 But even if you give them a year to pay it off then
at that point if something happens to them you know you're
15 going to slap a lien on the property.

16 But I don't feel like we should keep making all
these adjustments on these water bills. I mean if they don't
17 have a real legitimate excuse.

18 That's a rental property. She's making money
either way as far as I'm concerned. That's just my opinion.

19

MS. GUZMAN: So I do recommend that her payment plan be
20 extended and no adjustments to the account. That would be my
recommendation. I would say to six months.

21

MS. CAULEY: It doesn't matter. You can make it for 12.
22 But as long as she keeps up with it because either you know
you're going to slap a lien on it if she doesn't pay it,
23 right?

24 MS. GUZMAN: Yes.

25

1 Motion to approve Water Department Recommendation for 3730
2 Drummond made by Tia Cauley. Second by Loreto Gonzalez.

3 Questions/Comments: None.

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

5 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

6 MR. RIVERA: Thank you very much.

7 UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

8 MR. RIVERA: Next item here is Unfinished Business.
9 The matter was tabled last meeting, Resolution SD 19-09.

10 DR. ZEHRAOUI: So they don't have any tie to our sewers.
11 So they would like toilet and shower to be tied to our sewer.
12 They did their study and we verified the study. And because
13 the level of the sewer is not adequate, then they did have to
14 pump. So they are making pump station that can be connected
15 to our sewers.

16 So the total charge is like 80,000 to the
17 connection. This is like 6 or 8 inches forced main from
18 their property to our line.

19 We discussed many issues. But this is the best way
20 for them and for us. So we share the construction cost. We
21 have to pay 40,000 and they pay 40,000. Then the Sanitary
22 District will be keeping the infrastructure as ours and not
23 for theirs.

24 But for the pumping station it is in their private
25 property. So they will keep it and maintain it for
26 themselves. We don't have an issue with that.

27 And we are asking if you can approve this
28 Resolution so we can go forward with it. So we pay half and
29 they pay half.

30 MR. RIVERA: Does this scenario exist with other
31 clients or is this the only one?

32 DR. ZEHRAOUI: This is the only one. Then for future if
33 we have industrial or some commercial that's going to connect
34 to this it can be connected too.

35 MR. RIVERA: What do you want to do Board?

1 MS. CAULEY: I have a question.

2 MR. RIVERA: Do you need more explanation?

3 MS. CAULEY: Yes. Dr. Z, why is it costing us 18,000?

4 DR. ZEHRAOUI: 80,000. Because there is a forced main.
And this is maybe 1,000 to 2,000 feet. So this is for dig up
5 and installation.

6 MS. CAULEY: So our guys are not able to do that?

7 DR. ZEHRAOUI: No. We can't do it. They cannot do it
themselves. It's not their property also. So we are common
8 on this point. But we should check. Otherwise we can no
longer be connected to ourselves.

9

MS. CAULEY: So when another company comes along and
10 wants to connect?

11 DR. ZEHRAOUI: It can.

12 MS. CAULEY: But is this going to cost them money?

13 DR. ZEHRAOUI: For connection, yes.

14 MS. CAULEY: And are we going to benefit in the long
run?

15

DR. ZEHRAOUI: Yes.

16

Motion to approve Resolution SD 19-09 made by Tia Cauley.

17 Second by Loreto Gonzalez.

18 Questions/Comments: None.

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

Opposed: None Motion Carries.

20

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

21

* Next Regular Meeting Date: Thursday, September
22 5, 2019 @ 4:30 p.m.

23 Motion to adjourn was made by Loreto Gonzalez. Second by
Alojzy Moricz.

24


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

25 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

* Meeting ended at 5:03 p.m.

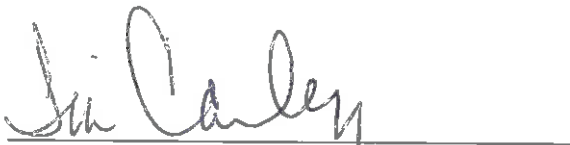
Approval of the Meeting Minutes of
Thursday, August 15, 2019

Approved and Signed _____

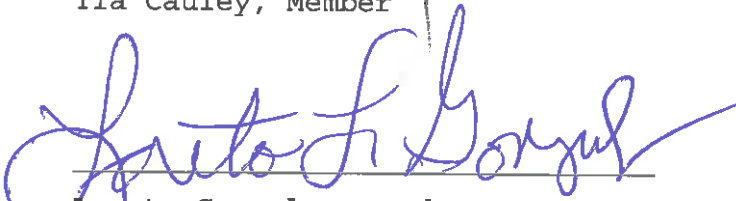


Miguel Rivera, President

Anthony Galindo, Vice President



Tia Cauley, Member



Loreto Gonzalez, Member



Alojzy Mozicz, Member



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 27th day of August, 2019.

Lisa Pena
Notary Public Porter County
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 084-003483