

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

August 27, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS:	STAFF:
Anthony Serna, President	Courtnee Dinkins
Rick Rodriguez, Vice President	Dawn Dawkins-Legal
Valda Lewis, Secretary	Mayra Acosta
Alberto Cantu	
Eugene Austin	

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
Valda Lewis, Gilberto Cantu,
Eugene Austin

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

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

MR. SERNA: I would entertain a motion to
approve meeting minutes of August 13, 2019.

Motion to approve minutes of August 13, 2019 made by
Rick Rodriguez. Second by Gilberto Cantu.

Comments/Questions: None

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

MR. SERNA: Approval of payroll dated
August 23, 2019. Entertain a motion to approve payroll.
Motion to approve payroll dated August 23, 2019 made by
Rick Rodriguez. Second by Valda Lewis.

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

MR. SERNA: Approval and signing of

1 Warrant 082719PB, in the amount of \$27,942.89. I will
entertain a motion for approval.

2

Motion to approve Warrant 082719 PB made by Valda Lewis.

3 Second by Rick Rodriguez.

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

Opposed: None Motion carries.

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6 MR. SERNA: Old Business. Agreement-ATM
Terminal. Counselor?

7

8 MS. DAWKINS: I hit a snag and was trying
to find it so I could show you where it was; the
contract is not ready. I found a provision that was
saying basically you couldn't modify the contract.

9

10 MR. SERNA: Mayra, the ATM is for the
golf course?

11 MS. ACOSTA: Correct.

12 MR. SERNA: When is the golf course
closing?

13

14 MS. ACOSTA: Closing at the end of
October.

15 MS. DAWKINS: Didn't we have another
company also, what happened to them?

16

17 MS. ACOSTA: We used them for Fusic and
they didn't get enough money, so they decided it was
wasn't worth their time

18

19 MS. DAWKINS: That's the issues I have
with this contract. Basically if we are not meeting
what their expectations are, we can still be liable up
to 90 percent. And so there is another provision which
I was looking for, but I couldn't find. We have to make
20 sure that the person that is actually signing this
contract is not an independent contractor/employer
21 because they can't bind the company. So I am trying to
determine what is needed in the addendum if the person
22 signing it on behalf of the company doesn't have the
authority to sign it, and then we are stuck with this
23 contract anyway.

24

25 MR. SERNA: That makes no sense, someone

1 can sign that isn't authorized.

2 MS. DAWKINS: They specifically say it
3 and I thought I marked it on here, but I don't think
4 that I did.

5 MR. SERNA: Is this something, Mayra, we
6 still need to work on? I know you have it under Old
7 Business, but is this something we can do for the next
8 meeting.

9 MS. ACOSTA: I'm hoping.

10 MS. DAWKINS: Well, have you ever talked
11 to any other company?

12 MS. ACOSTA: We have tried. We tried to
13 go to banks and they just can't.

14 MS. DAWKINS: We just don't make enough
15 money. A lot of people are not in the business of
16 supplying ATMs. They are the ones that suggested this
17 person. Every time the bank has an event or needs
18 repairs of the ATM, that's who they use.

19 MS. LEWIS: Every time we have an event
20 they will bring the ATM, and that's the only time it
21 will be there?

22 MS. ACOSTA: Yes.

23 MS. DAWKINS: I didn't know that it's not
24 going to be a permanent situation.

25 MS. ACOSTA: This is for a different
board. That's for the Board of Works. This is for the
golf course. That's the same company.

MR. SERNA: It's the same company --
that's what she is saying -- same company that provides
for special events. However, I heard you say that the
company did Fusic and they are not with us anymore?

MS. ACOSTA: That's an old company.

MR. SERNA: So this is a new one. We are
still trying to get it for the golf course. I know
we've been trying for a couple of months now.

25

1 MR. AUSTIN: I have one thing to say,
2 didn't our attorney say who was signing for this, that
3 they had problems with it.

4 MR. SERNA: Could you explain that to Mr.
5 Austin, Counsel?

6 MS. DAWKINS: I'm looking for the actual
7 language and still haven't found it. I have been
8 looking for it before I came in, Chief. I was
9 explaining that I drove in the rain all day yesterday
10 and I had no idea how old I was until today.

11 MR. SERNA: You are young to us. I will
12 entertain a motion to table the ATM-Terminal agreement.

13 MS. DAWKINS: Thank you.
14 Motion to table ATM-Terminal agreement made by Rick
15 Rodriguez. Second by Valda Lewis.

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

18 MR. SERNA: Madame Secretary, keep that
19 on the agenda under Old Business.

20 Nipsco claim. What is the latest we
21 have heard from Nipsco?

22 MS. DAWKINS: Of course, nothing. But,
23 let's please leave it on the agenda.

24 MR. SERNA: Good news is that we are
25 talking again and maybe we'll get some resolution.

I'll entertain a motion to table the
Nipsco claim until next meeting.

Motion to table Nipsco claim made by Rick Rodriguez.
Second by Gilberto Cantu.

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

MR. SERNA: Keep that on the agenda also.
Next is the FOP agreement.

MS. DAWKINS: I finished it and it needs
to be signed.

1 MR. SERNA: We need to vote and approve
2 this. Everybody had it in their packet for this
3 meeting. So, I'll entertain a motion to approve the FOP
4 agreement for the basketball league.

5 Motion to approve FOP agreement made by Gilberto Cantu.
6 Second by Rick Rodriguez.
7 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None
8 Opposed: None Motion carries.

9 MR. SERNA: New Business. Mayra?

10 MS. ACOSTA: So previously the Board had
11 approved the Winter Wonderland over at the golf course.
12 We are going to be changing locations. We are going to
13 be changing it over to Washington Park and it will be
14 free to everyone.

15 MR. SERNA: Okay. So two things, there
16 is a change in location and it's going to be free.

17 MS. ACOSTA: Yes. There is the new
18 agreement with the new location that we need the Board
19 to approve.

20 MR. SERNA: I'll entertain a motion to
21 approve the revised new location of Winter Wonderland.

22 Motion to approve new location of Winter Wonderland,
23 which will be free, made by Valda Lewis. Second by Rick
24 Rodriguez.

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

27 MR. SERNA: Next, we have invoice for
28 Koski pool repair.

29 MS. ACOSTA: I need the dollar amount
30 approved.

31 MR. SERNA: Koski pool repair done by
32 Hasse, performed at the end of July.

33 MS. ACOSTA: Yes, this was for a water
34 line break.

35 MR. SERNA: Water line break repair, in

1 the amount of \$12,681.03?

2 MS. ACOSTA: Correct.

3 MR. SERNA: I'll entertain a motion to
4 approve payment to Hasse, for the emergency repair at
5 Koski Park pool, in the amount of \$12,681.03.
6 Motion to approve payment to Hasse for repairs made by
7 Gilberto Cantu. Second by Rick Rodriguez.

6

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

7 Opposed: None Motion carries.

8 MR. SERNA: Next, approval of electrical
9 rates from R & B.

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10 MS. ACOSTA: So, every time we need
11 something repaired, these are the rates, in case we call
12 them for service.

11

12 MR. SERNA: So, Board members, you have
13 the rate schedule in front of you. If there are no
14 questions, I will entertain a motion to approve the rate
15 schedule for electrical with R & B Construction.
16 Motion to approve rate schedule of R & B Construction
17 made by Valda Lewis. Second by Rick Rodriguez.

15

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

16 Opposed: None Motion carries.

17 MR. SERNA: Next, we have quotes for
18 Veterans Park Gazebo Roof replacement.

18

19 MS. ACOSTA: This is the gazebo here, in
20 Veterans Park, right on the corner. We want to change
21 it over to a metal roof to match the rest of the
22 shelters. We have two quotes.

23 MR. SERNA: The gazebo has been around
24 for a long time. I can't even say how many years, maybe
25 20.

26 MS. ACOSTA: I don't know. They don't
27 have a record of it. I called, they couldn't find it in
28 the records.

29 MR. SERNA: It's been around a long time,

1 and it's been a shingled roof. What are the colors of
2 the roofs at City Hall Park or Veterans Park?

3 MS. ACOSTA: Green.

4 MR. SERNA: So that would be a matching
5 green roof. So the quotes are from G Carpet
6 Construction; is that correct?

7 MS. ACOSTA: Yes.

8 MR. SERNA: One of the quotes. And total
9 cost for the roof at \$31,500. And then we have a quote
10 from Gluth Brothers for the same thing, metal roofing,
11 material and labor, \$47,600. That's quite a bit of
12 difference there. I always get worried when I see such
13 a big difference between quotes, often makes you wonder.
14 Were you able to review these and who do you recommend?

15 MS. ACOSTA: The lowest quote.

16 MR. SERNA: The lowest quote, which is G
17 Carpet Construction. Any questions Board members?

18 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Have you dealt with G
19 Carpet before?

20 MS. ACOSTA: They are going to be doing
21 the garages over at Washington.

22 MR. SERNA: Last meeting they bid on some
23 of the work at Washington Park. Any other questions?
24 (Pause) I'll entertain a motion approve the quote for
25 the Gazebo roof replacement with G Carpet Construction,
in the amount of \$31,500.

Motion to approve quote from G Carpet Construction made
by Gilberto Cantu. Second by Rick Rodriguez.

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

MR. SERNA: Next we have MOU, Prospect
League Baseball LLC and the City of East Chicago. I'll
take this one.

This is a Memorandum of
Understanding between the Prospect League, which is a
college wooden bat league, that is one of the top three
in the country. That is who the City is desiring to

1 contract with, to provide a baseball team for Block
2 Stadium. All the investment we have put in Block
3 Stadium, upwards of \$4 million investment, the Mayor
4 would look to see a quality league to play in there.

5 This agreement is for 2020, for
6 that baseball league to get started. So, this MOU is
7 the agreement made between the Prospect Collegiate
8 Baseball LLC and the City of East Chicago, refers to the
9 franchise that Prospect League play in East Chicago at
10 Block Stadium.

11 (Memorandum of Understanding attached.)

12 So, basically this MOU is agreeing
13 -- it's not a lease agreement for Block Stadium. That
14 will be reached at a later time between the City and the
15 Prospect League and the ownership group of the team.
16 But basically the Prospect League is working with an
17 ownership group to be the franchise for the Prospect
18 League here, in East Chicago.

19 What this MOU basically is doing,
20 saying we agree that the Prospect League will be our
21 league of choice for 2020, and the MOU is just outlining
22 some of the particulars when it comes to that. It's an
23 18-month term. However, the City is looking forward to
24 having the team start in May of 2020. So with any
25 unforeseen circumstances that may push that back, it's
an 18-month term. So it's just the first step.

First step is MOU. Next step will
be lease agreement with the franchise ownership group
and the City of East Chicago. Are there any questions
from Board members?

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Is Mr. Flores involved in
this, Ralph Flores?

MS. ACOSTA: Mr. Flores is part owner,
yes. He is one of the owners, but he no longer works
for the City.

MS. LEWIS: Is this the same people that
came before us some time ago, year or more ago, about
the league, baseball team that's in Whiting?

MR. SERNA: No. That was called Midwest
Collegiate League. This is Prospect League. The teams
are from Ohio, all the way up to Indiana, Wisconsin,
Illinois. It's bigger than that league that came before
us before. I'll entertain a motion to approve the MOU
with City of East Chicago.

1 Motion to approve MOU for Prospect League Basement LLC
and the City of East Chicago made by Rick Rodriguez.
2 Second by Gilberto Cantu.

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

5 MR. SERNA: Next, we have a suggestion
for private event rental fees for golf course. I have
an e-mail here and we have this on the agenda, that
6 private event rental fee for the golf course should be
the same as for other parks, \$1,000 rental fee and \$500
7 deposit, for our parks, such as Washington, Tod. If
someone wants to rent the entire park for a festival,
8 it's \$1,000 rental fee, with \$500 deposit. Now that we
have our golf course being so attractive as it is, and
9 we had a Summer Festival this year, the Spirits of
MacArthur, on the first day of summer. But now we are
10 having events and people are noticing MacArthur Golf
Course is a viable place for events. We would like to
11 entertain the idea of having an event rental fee. Is
that correct?

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

13 MR. SERNA: So, this would be adding
14 MacArthur Golf Course in line with the other parks for
rental fees. If there are no questions from Board
15 members, I will entertain a motion to add MacArthur Golf
Course to the list of parks and locations that can be
16 rented for private events, amount of \$1,000, with \$500
deposit.

17 Motion to approve adding MacArthur Golf Course as a
18 location that may be rented for private events made by
Valda Lewis. Second by Rick Rodriguez.

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

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

22 MR. SERNA: All right. Public Comments?

(None)

23 Next meeting date is Tuesday,
September 10th, right here at City Hall Council
24 Chambers, 5:00 p.m. I will entertain a motion to
adjourn.

25

1 Motion to adjourn meeting made by Rick Rodriguez.
2 Second by Gilberto Cantu.

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


5 ***** Meeting Adjourned *****

6
7 Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday

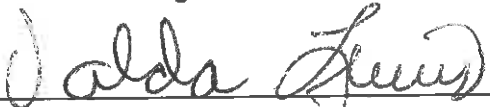
8 August 27, 2019

9 Approved and signed


10 September 10th, 2019

11 
12 _____
13 Anthony Serna, President

14 Rick Rodriguez, Vice-President

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16 _____
17 Valda Lewis, Secretary

18 Gilberto Cantu, Member

19 
20 _____
21 Eugene Austin, Member

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23 _____
24 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 3rd day of September

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