CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
January 9, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS:
Grayling Gordon, President
Joseph Fernandez
Eugene Austin, Secretary
Anthony Hopkins

STAFF:
Genesis Gary
Marino Solorio
Jewell Harris

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

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Present in Chambers: Grayling Gordon, Eugene Austin, Anthony Hopkins
Present via Zoom: Joseph Fernandez

Staff Present: Genesis Gary
Hunter Balzco, Attorney

MR. GORDON: I would call to order the Board of Parks and Recreation meeting for Tuesday, January 9th, 2024. I would like to acknowledge our newest Board member, Anthony Hopkins.

We'll move on to Administrative matters. First on the agenda is approval of the minutes of December 27, 2023 as written. Can I get a motion?

MR. FERNANDEZ: Make a motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye. (All signify aye.)

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Next we have approval and signing of payroll dated, January 5, 2024. I need a motion.

MR. HOPKINS: Motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by

saying aye. (All signify aye.)
MR. GORDON: Motion carries.
There is no old business, so we'll move on to our new business, that would be from our Manager of Parks and Recreation, Miss Genesis Gary.
MS. GARY: Hello, Board, Happy New Year. I bring in front of you a few items. We are going to start first with Fissinger Court Reporters, 2024 Service Agreement for the services this young lady provides at our Board meetings. We do need contract approved so we can pay them.

MR. GORDON: Can I get a motion to approve the service agreement with Fissinger & Associates?

MR. HOPKINS: Motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye. (All signify aye.)
MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

MS. GARY: Next we have Balance Holdings 2024 service agreement. This service agreement is for the food and chemicals and things they bring in for our fish in the Greenhouse that we need to keep them going for 2024. Balance Holdings is the company who actually provided the City of East Chicago with the ACIA system and we continue to work with them with the food they provide and the chemicals.
MR. GORDON: Can I get a motion for Balance Holdings 2024 service agreement?

MR. HOPKINS: Motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye. (All signify aye.)
MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

MS. GARY: Next I have Luke's 2024 service agreement. This service agreement is given to all of the City departments in East Chicago for all of our vehicles to be washed at Luke's on Indianapolis

Boulevard. We just need approval for the service agreement from our Board, even though it was approved by the other boards as well.

MR. GORDON: Can I get a motion for continuation of Luke's service agreement?

MR. HOPKINS: Motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye. (All signify aye.)

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

MS. GARY: Next I have Mechanical Concepts 2024 service rates. That's just service rate for them coming out to fix different things that Public Works cannot or will not fix inside the Greenhouse, or electrical issues around the community center or things of that sort. They have given us service rates for 2024 and we would like to seek approval for that.

MR. GORDON: We want to continue the agreement with Mechanical Concepts for 2024. Can I get a motion to continue this contract?

MR. HOPKINS: Motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye. (All signify aye.)

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

MS. GARY: Last but not least, we have the invoice for the Director, Mr. Marino Solorio. Since he's contractual, you must approve every invoice he has every month for him to get paid. So pretty much every Board meeting you will approve the recurring invoice for services he's done for the Parks Department in the last couple of weeks.

MR. GORDON: Can I get a motion to pay the Parks Directors, Marino Solorio?

MR. HOPKINS: Motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye. (All signify aye.)

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

MR. AUSTIN: Is this invoice how much he gets paid?

MS. GARY: Well, we do pay him biweekly for being director, for his services. Since he's not on payroll with the City of East Chicago, we have to get approval to receive any payment, otherwise we can lose him as a standing director.

MR. GORDON: All right. Are there any comments from the public? (None)

Any comments from the Board? (None)

Once again welcome or newest member, Anthony Hopkins. We look forward to meeting again at our next meeting, which is Tuesday, January 23, 2024, right here at City Hall Council Chambers at the appointed time of 5:00 p.m.

If there's nothing else, can I get a motion for adjournment?

MR. FERNANDEZ: Motion to adjourn.

MR. HOPKINS: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by saying aye. (All signify aye.) Motion carries.

We are adjourned.

* * * * Meeting adjourned * * * *

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 Valparaiso, Indiana, this 11th day of January, 2024.



Peggy S. LaLonde

Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday
January 9, 2024

Approved and signed _____

Grayling Gordon, President

Eugene Austin, Secretary

Anthony Hopkins, Member

Joseph Fernandez, Member

Genesis Gary, Recording Secretary