CITY OF EAST CHICAGO BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEMBERS

Milton Reed, President
Richard Trembczynski, Vice-President
Frank Smith, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 26, 2026, at 5:00 p.m

Reported by Fissinger & Associates, Ltd.
By: Peggy S. LaLonde

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present: Milton Reed, Frank Smith

Staff Present: Olga Cosme, Secretary
Shana Levinson, Counsel for Board
James Portalatin, Building Commissioner

MR. REED: Call to order the regular meeting of the Board of Public Safety, January 26th, 2026.

May we have a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 8th, 2025 as written?

MR. SMITH: I'll make a motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries.

There is no correspondence.

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We need to conduct our Election of Officers. And if there are no nominations, I would like to keep the existing officers as we had in 2025. Are there any nominations? (None)

I would ask for a motion to keep the existing officers; Milton Reed as President and Richard Trembczynski as Vice-President for 2026.

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries.

There is no correspondence.

Next we have the East Chicago Police Department Election for Merit Commissioner (Democrat). As far as I understand, I just need to read the notice into the record. There is no action to be taken.

So, the City of East Chicago Board of Public Safety, important notice for all active duty members of East Chicago Police Department, Election for Merit Commissioner (Democrat) has been ordered to take place February 18, 2026 at 5:00 p.m., in the Public Safety Building gymnasium by the East Chicago Board of Public Safety according to 36-8-3.5-8 and East Chicago City Ordinance number 34.080, according to code 36-8-3.5-8. This notice will be posted in locations within ECPD station for three weeks prior to the date on which election is to be held and notice must be read at roll call.

The proposed candidates must submit candidate clarification forms to the East Chicago Law Department by 2:00 p.m., on Wednesday, February 4, 2026. Forms available at the ECPD, Human Resources, EC Law Department, or from the Office of the City Clerk. The names of persons who have submitted such forms being announced February 9, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., at Board of Public Safety meeting, held in the Common Council Chambers in City Hall. I think that's good for that.

Moving down, is there a motion to accept the Fire Department reports? This is for Absentee Report for December 2025; Inspection Bureau

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Report for December 2025; Equipment Report for December 2025; Training Report for November and December 2025.

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries.

Now we would like to receive a motion to approve and accept the following promotions for Chauffeurs to Captains. They have all passed their exams as of January 1st, 2026. That is promotions for Justin Abascal, Casey Brandon; and Nickolas Melendez. Is there a motion?

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries.

Now we'll take a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-01 and Release of Lien for 5033 Melville.

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

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MR. REED: Motion carries. Resolution 2026-02, and Release of Lien 4728 Magoun.

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries. Resolution 2026-03, and Release of Lien 604 West 151st Street.

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries. Resolution 2026-04, and Release of Lien 3830 Deal Street. Is there a motion to approve?

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries. We'll move down for the orders to rescind. And the orders are for 4859 Drummond, 4902-04 Ivy, 4001 Fir Street, 514 Spring Street, 509 West

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Columbus Drive. Is there a motion?

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries.

James, do you need to make any comment on these or are you good?

MR. PORTALATIN: No, I'm good.

MR. REED: Motion to approve Demolition Lien for 5014 Indianapolis Boulevard. Is there a motion?

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries.

Rehab extensions. Do you want to speak to those?

MR. PORTALATIN: No.

MR. REED: We have an extension for 3516 Grand and 3917 Main Street. Is there a motion?

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

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MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries.

Now we need a motion to approve the order to vacate at 4005 Drummond Street. Is there a motion?

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second. Any questions?

MR. SMITH: I have none.

MR. REED: Hearing no questions, we'll take a vote. All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. REED: Motion carries.

All right. There is no audience participation. I did skip over the correspondence. We can go back to the correspondence.

We have an appeal of termination for an employee of the City. I will acknowledge that this is an HR matter which we generally handle in Executive Session. But in this particular case, I would ask the Board Counsel, by common consent, that we refer this to Counsel to investigate and advise what our next step should be. Is that appropriate?

MS. LEVINSON: Yes.

MR. REED: Thank you. We'll consider referring to Counsel for the next steps.

There is no audience here for participation.

Our next meeting will be Monday, February 12th, at 5:00 p.m..

If there is nothing else in front of us, I'll take a motion to adjourn.

MR. SMITH: I'll make that motion.

MR. REED: I will second the motion. Motion has been properly moved and second.

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MR. REED: All in favor?
(All signify aye.)
MR. REED: Motion carries.
Thank you everyone. Meeting adjourned.

* * * Meeting adjourned * * *

Approval of the Public Safety Minutes
of January 26th, 2026
Approved and Signed, Monday, January 26th, 2026.

_____
Milton Reed, President

_____
Richard Trembczynski, Vice President

_____
Frank Smith, Member

_____
Olga Cosme, Secretary

* * * * *

Electronically signed by Peggy LaLonde (301-364-327-3860) 539f2333-a2e6-4fd3-93d9-0fee12c2c30f

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 28th day of January, 2026.



Peggy S. LaLonde

Electronically signed by Peggy LaLonde (301-364-327-3860) 539f2333-a2e6-4fd3-93d9-0fee12c2c30f