

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEMBERS

Val Gomez, President  
William Allen, Vice-President  
Winna Guzman, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Reported by Fissinger & Associates, Ltd.

By: Peggy S. LaLonde

Staff Present: Richard Morrisroe  
Olga Cosme

Call to Order: 4:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Val Gomez, William Allen,  
Winna Guzman

MR. GOMEZ: Good afternoon everyone. I'd like to call to order the regular meeting of the Board of Public Works for February 9, 2023.

First I'd make a motion to approve minutes of meeting from Thursday, January 26, 2023, as written.

MR. ALLEN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: Any comments or questions on the motion? (None) All in favor say aye?

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next, first item under New Business, Recommendation from the Building Department, 4214 Ivy Street. They are recommending from the bid tabulations that Northwest Indiana Environmental Inc., be awarded the bid in the amount of \$2800.00.

I just spoke to James before the meeting and he asked if I could speak for him since he has another engagement. Are there any questions or comments on the recommendation? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to accept the recommendation of the Building Commissioner and award the bid to Northwest Indiana Environmental. Do I have a

1 second?

2 MR. ALLEN: Second.

3 MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?  
(All signify aye.)

4 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

5 Next we have from the Police  
6 Department, ShotSpotter, one year renewal subscription.  
7 Funding has been secured within the police general  
8 budget contractual account. Renewal is for \$180,915.00.  
9 Actually this is for three units, the units are each  
10 \$60,305.00. Agreement is from January to December 31,  
11 '23. Any questions or comments on this proposal with  
12 ShotSpotter? (None)

13 There being no further questions or  
14 comments, I'd make a motion to approve the Police  
15 Department's agreement with ShotSpotter for the year  
16 2023.

17 MR. ALLEN: Second.

18 MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?  
(All signify aye.)

19 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

20 Next we have Hoosier Fire from the  
21 Fire Department. We have a quotation for bucket gear,  
22 turnout coat and the pants system for the turnout gear.  
23 It's for ten sets. The cost of the coat is \$1,715.00.  
24 The pants are \$1,407.00. Total amount is \$31,220.00.  
25 This is for new hires and for replacing some old gear.  
He couldn't make it today so I said I would speak for  
him.

Any questions or comments on this  
proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or  
comments, I'd like to make a motion we approve the  
proposal from Hoosier Fire Equipment for East Chicago  
Fire Department.

MR. ALLEN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?  
(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have outstanding invoices.  
First is Fire Department from WS Darley. We have one  
late invoice dated 11-15-22, amount of \$1,688.97. The  
reason for nonpayment was the invoice was never received

1 be the Fire Department. Are there any questions or  
2 comments on this invoice? (None)

3 We'll move on to the next one and do  
4 one motion for all when we get done with late invoices.  
5 Next one is also Fire Department. Federal Protection  
6 Agency, late invoice dated 6-21-22, amount of \$233.64.  
7 Explanation is the issues with the late charges and the  
8 vendor's communication. Any questions or comments on  
9 this one? (None)

10 Next we have Rieth Riley,  
11 Engineering. We have a late invoice dated 3-21-22,  
12 amount of \$87,700.28. The reason is Engineering  
13 Department received invoices on time, however the EEOC  
14 had to be approved prior to processing. Services have  
15 been rendered and invoice should be processed. Any  
16 questions or comments on this late invoice from Rieth  
17 Riley? (None)

18 Next is Imaging Essentials, from  
19 Planning Department. Invoice is dated 7-18-22. The  
20 reason is it was misplaced and was recently found. They  
21 had changes in personnel in the department, that's what  
22 accounted for the missing invoice. Any questions or  
23 comments on this late invoice? (None).

24 Next one is Performance Auto. This  
25 is with Public Works. The late invoice is dated  
11-29-22 for \$537.50. The explanation is that '22 PO  
was closed too early and they had to wait on 2023 to  
process. Any questions or comments on this late  
invoice? (None)

The final one we have from Short  
Elliott Hendrickson, from Engineering Department. We  
have two late invoices dated 11-18-22 and 11-22-22, for  
total amount of \$23,318.11. The reason given,  
Engineering Department received the invoices late from  
contractors. Services have been rendered and invoices  
should be processed. Any questions or comments on this  
invoice? (None)

There being no further questions or  
comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the  
payment of the aforementioned late invoices. Can I have  
a second?

MR. ALLEN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have Police Department  
Maintenance Plan with Public Works. This is the Police

1 Department's maintenance plan with Bosak Ford. We do  
2 have a letter from Jalan Johnson, East Chicago  
3 Maintenance Manager, attached with the price. He's  
4 asking that we approve the Premium Maintenance Plan for  
5 the Ford Explorers listed in the attached documents.  
6 This maintenance plan is something that we have adopted  
7 for all of our newer vehicles in order to keep them in  
8 good running shape because they are used during their  
9 lifespan with the City of East Chicago. You have the  
10 information. He also has the VIN numbers, the make and  
11 model, and the total of \$73,780.00. Any questions or  
12 comments on this maintenance plan for the Police  
13 Department with Bosak Motors? (None)

14 There being no further questions or  
15 comments, I'd make a motion we approve the Police  
16 Department maintenance program for nine vehicles with  
17 Bosak Ford.

18 MR. ALLEN: Second.

19 MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

20 (All signify aye.)

21 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

22 Next we have Seal Master, Public  
23 Works. It's the rate table for Seal Master, and there  
24 is also a proposal quote for the repair of a Grayco 3900  
25 paint stripper and Grayco line driver on the sheet.  
26 Seal Master cannot do repairs on these two pieces of  
27 equipment until they perform an inspection. The  
28 inspection charge will be \$95.00. Once the inspection  
29 process is completed, Seal Master will provide a repair  
30 quote for each individual machine. Labor rate for the  
31 service is \$95.00 for parts quoted before the work is  
32 started.

33 So their proposal is to do the  
34 inspection, and they have a not-to-exceed of \$10,000.00.  
35 Any questions or comments on this proposal from Seal  
36 Master from Public Works? (None)

37 There being no further questions or  
38 comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve Seal  
39 Master's proposal for Public Works, not-to-exceed  
40 \$10,000.00.

41 MR. ALLEN: Second.

42 MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

43 (All signify aye.)

44 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

45 Next we have 2023 rate schedules

1 from Public Works. I'll go through each one and make a  
2 motion at the end. The first one is from Adam Signs.  
3 This is for 2023 vehicle lettering price quotes. This  
4 is their rate schedule for '23 and has not-to-exceed of  
5 \$10,000.00 for Police Department and \$10,000.00 for  
6 other departments.

7 Next is Chicago Tire. We have their  
8 rates for 2023 and they have a not-to-exceed for the  
9 Police Department \$10,000.00 and not-to-exceed for other  
10 departments for \$20,000.00.

11 Next is Steel City Tire, their rate  
12 schedule for '23, and they have not-to-exceed for the  
13 Police Department for \$5,000.00 and not-to-exceed for  
14 other departments for \$10,000.00.

15 Are there any questions or comments  
16 on the rate schedules for 2023? (None)

17 There being no further questions or  
18 comments, I'd like to make a motion we accept the rate  
19 schedules for the aforementioned three companies from  
20 Public Works.

21 MR. ALLEN: Second.

22 MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?  
23 (All signify aye.)

24 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

25 Next we have a proposal from Bryte  
Car Collision. There are actually four proposals and  
I'll read off all four and make a motion. The first one  
is for repair estimate for Police Department, Vehicle  
K9-119. Estimated repair needed on the Police  
Department squad in the amount of \$3,749.35. Asking for  
approval of this estimate so this vehicle can be  
repaired and accessible. Any questions or comments on  
this estimate for vehicle 119? (None)

Next one is for Police Department  
Vehicle 42. The same verbiage, estimate and photos, and  
the amount is \$2,032.97. Any questions other comments  
on Vehicle 42? (None)

Next Police Department Vehicle 31.  
We have estimates, photos, verbiage same as the first.  
The amount is \$2,195.40 to repair. Any questions or  
comments on this vehicle? (None)

The last one is the Public Works  
Vehicle 219, estimate and photos, pickup truck, in the  
amount of \$1,778.90.

Those are the proposals for repair  
of these four vehicles. Any questions or comments on  
these four vehicles and estimates? (None)

1                   There being no further questions or  
2 comments, I'd like to make a motion we accept from Bryte  
3 Car Collision these four estimates and proposals for  
4 repair of these aforementioned vehicles.

5                   MR. ALLEN:    Second.

6                   MR. GOMEZ:   All in favor say aye?  
7                   (All signify aye.)

8                   MR. GOMEZ:    Motion carries.

9                   Next we have Zoom Licensing, from  
10 IT, 36-month renewal City-wide. Cost is \$14,392.80.  
11 This says for three years. The description is from  
12 Kevin Klocek, IT Administrator. Any questions or  
13 comments on this proposal? (None)

14                   There being no further questions or  
15 comments, I'd like to make a motion we approve the  
16 proposal for Zoom for three-year contract in the amount  
17 of \$14,392.80.

18                   MR. ALLEN:    Second.

19                   MR. GOMEZ:   All in favor say aye?  
20                   (All signify aye.)

21                   MR. GOMEZ:    Motion carries.

22                   Next, Midwestern Electric, from IT,  
23 fiber locates. Provide fiber locates for City fiber  
24 network. These locates are performed within a 48-hour  
25 limit within the time that the locate request has been  
issued by the Engineering Department. The locate  
service is billed at the 2023 time and material rate  
schedule. This agreement has a not-to-exceed of  
\$150,000.00, which was determined by the total cost of  
City fiber locates in 2022.

Any questions on this proposal and  
the accompanying contract? (None)

There being no further questions,  
I'd like to make a motion that we accept the IT proposal  
for Midwestern Electric fiber locates proposal.

MR. ALLEN:    Second.

MR. GOMEZ:   All in favor say aye?  
(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ:    Motion carries.

Next we have from Amereco,  
professional service procurement. This is for the  
duplex at West Calumet Neighborhood.

1 MR. ALLEN: This is the duplex that was  
2 getting constructed on Kennedy Avenue. I guess the  
3 contractor and City couldn't come to an agreement on the  
4 contract, so they are rescinding the contract. So the  
5 project has to go out to bid again, this is the cost of  
6 doing that, re-publicizing, changing the plans, and  
7 going out to bid. The cost is \$3,478.00

8 MR. GOMEZ: Any further questions or  
9 comments on this proposal? (None)

10 There being no further questions or  
11 comments, I'd make a motion we approve Amereco's  
12 proposal for the Duplex West Calumet Neighborhood  
13 procurement work.

14 MR. ALLEN: Second.

15 MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?  
16 (All signify aye.)

17 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

18 Next we have SEH preparation of  
19 project IDDC application from Engineering Department.

20 MR. ALLEN: This is just another grant  
21 opportunity and SEH's assistance to acquire the money.  
22 It's going to cost us \$5,750.00 and this is grant money  
23 going towards beautification or murals or artwork  
24 throughout the City.

25 MR. GOMEZ: This is for all the grant  
work and the application process?

MR. ALLEN: Correct. They'll be helping  
us acquire the money.

MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments on  
this proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: No, it's a good thing.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
questions or comments, I'd make a motion we approve the  
agreement for proposal of services with SEH.

MR. ALLEN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?  
(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

1                   Next we have Midwestern Electric,  
2 139th and Euclid, knock downed pole proposal. We do  
3 have a letter. This is for 139th and Euclid, knocked  
4 down street light. There were temporary repairs made to  
5 secure the site. Invoice was attached. They submitted  
6 a cost to install a new street light, the existing one  
7 had been knocked down. Materials will be provided.  
8 Total cost of this project is \$5,123.00.

9                   Any questions or comments on this  
10 proposal from Midwestern Electric from the Engineering  
11 Department? (None)

12                   There being no further questions or  
13 comments, I'd like to make a motion we approve the  
14 proposal from Midwestern Electric.

15                   MR. ALLEN: Second.

16                   MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?  
17 (All signify aye.)

18                   MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

19                   Next we have DLZ Indiana, Inc., LPA  
20 Consulting contract for Indianapolis Boulevard widening  
21 project, from Engineering.

22                   MR. ALLEN: So INDOT is administering the  
23 project on behalf of East Chicago for Indianapolis  
24 Boulevard. Right now what we are doing is just  
25 replacing all underground infrastructure as a local  
project. This project is pretty much replacing  
everything on top of our utilities. So all surface  
level related work, sidewalks, curbs, lighting, etcetera  
will be included in this package. INDOT is holding the  
money. We have LPA consulting contract that has to be  
signed by the local government and the engineering  
company, that's providing oversight for the job. Once  
this gets signed and approved and sent back to INDOT,  
they release the funds. We have approximately \$5  
million set aside for this project. So this is just,  
you know, housekeeping items.

MR. GOMEZ: The contract is how much?

MR. ALLEN: \$696,600.00.

MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments?  
(None) There being no further questions or comments,  
I'd like to a make a motion we accept DLZ's consulting  
contract with Engineering.



1 MR. ALLEN: Second.

2 MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

3 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

4 Next we have from US Department of  
5 Housing Urban Development, computation of payments in  
6 lieu of taxes. This matter came before us because we  
7 received a letter to the Controller's office from the  
8 East Chicago Housing Authority, which said they overpaid  
9 us in their payments. It's a computation of payments in  
10 lieu of taxes for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021. The  
11 check amount of \$167,839.66, and they informed us that  
12 it should have been for \$85,844.57, and they are asking  
13 for repayment of \$81,995.09.

14 We had some concern because in my  
15 office we had no documentation or any Board reports  
16 submitted from their Department of Housing on how their  
17 computations were reached. We did speak with the Law  
18 Department and Attorney Allegretti informed us he would  
19 speak with East Chicago Housing Attorney Snow to insure  
20 that we receive all the documents. Not that we are  
21 saying that their calculation is wrong, we want to check  
22 that. We are going to return the money, but want to  
23 make sure we are returning what is suppose to be sent  
24 back. They did send a number of pages of forms that  
25 they use for the computation, and to be on the safe  
side, Attorney Allegretti indicated we should bring it  
before the Board and we make a motion approving the  
payment, subject to -- we'll send the payment -- but we  
also want to get the documentation from East Chicago  
Housing.

Are there any questions or comments?

(None) There being no further questions or comments,  
I'd like to make a motion approving the repayment to  
East Chicago Housing and also request for any documents  
on this subject.

MR. ALLEN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Last we have the right-of-way  
applications. We have the Board of Public Works permit  
applications number 23-04423 to 23-04431. Any questions  
or comments on this permit applications? (None)

Since there are no questions or  
comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve the

1      aforementioned permit applications.

2                   MR. ALLEN:    Second.

3                   MR. GOMEZ:   All in favor say aye?  
                                  (All signify aye.)

4                   MR. GOMEZ:    Motion carries.

5                   I believe we have no other business.  
6      Our next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 23,  
7      2023, at 4:30.

8                   That concludes all our items on the  
9      agenda.  I'd like to make a motion for adjournment.

10                   MR. ALLEN:    Second.

11                   MR. GOMEZ:   All in favor say aye?  
12                                   (All signify aye.)

13                   MR. GOMEZ:    Motion carries.  
14                   Meeting adjourned.

15                                   \*   \*   \*   \*   \*

16                                   Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of  
17   February 9, 2023

18                                   Approved and Signed February 9, 2023.

19  
20      \_\_\_\_\_  
21      Val Gomez, President

22  
23      \_\_\_\_\_  
24      William Allen, Vice President

25      \_\_\_\_\_  
26      Winna Guzman, member

27      \_\_\_\_\_  
28      Olga Cosme, Secretary

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 14th day of February, 2023.

*Peggy S. LaLonde*

Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR



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