CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
February 13, 2024

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

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, Joseph Fernandez, Jaylan Robinson

Staff Present: Genesis Gary
Hunter Balzco, Attorney

MR. GORDON: I would call to order the Board of Parks and Recreation meeting for Tuesday, February 13th, 2024.

We'll move on to Administrative matters. First on the agenda is approval of the minutes of the January 23, 2024 meeting as written. Can I get a motion?

MR. HOPKINS: Make a motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

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

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Next, approval and signing of payroll dated February 2, 2024. Can I get a motion?

MR. HOPKINS: Motion.

MR. AUSTIN: Second.

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

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Approval and signing ofF Warrant 021324 PB, in the amount of $13,567.82.

MR. ROBINSON: Make a motion.

MR. HOPKINS: Second.

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

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Is there any old business, Madame Secretary?

MS. GARY: No.

MR. GORDON: We'll move forward to New Business with our Manager of Parks and Recreation, Genesis Gary.

MS. GARY: Good evening, Board. First I want to say for the record, Mr. Marino is out of the country right now, so I will be running the Board meetings for maybe the next two weeks, this one and the next one.

So first item, we have past due invoice for East Chicago Water Department in the amount of $40,993.02. This invoice is from last year. We had ran out of funds toward the end of the year for our water bills and the water bills just kept adding up. We didn't have funds from different accounts so this carried over. So this year we had to use first PO to pay water.

MR. GORDON: So you're seeking approval for payment?

MS. GARY: Yes, the $40,993.02.

MR. GORDON: Do I have a motion to pay the past due invoice to the Water Department?

MR. ROBINSON: Motion.

MR. HOPKINS: Second.

MR. GORDON: All in favor signify by

saying aye. (All signify aye.)
MR. GORDON: Motion carries.
So we ran out of money to pay the water bill. Did we foresee that?

MS. GARY: Well, it's a setback from last year's budget. Possibly we will be bringing this thing back to you come January or February if they don't figure out how to raise or increase our water bill account amount.

MR. GORDON: They are not going to rotate funds?
MS. GARY: We can. It was just last minute that we didn't have enough time to do that. Things got away from us, transferring funds from one account to the next.

MR. GORDON: Any other questions? (None) We'll move on.
MS. GARY: Next is a service contract for Maxine Simpson. She currently hosts line dance classes for our community at Heritage and Unity on Tuesday and Thursday. It's free to the community until, I think, the end of March. So we are just seeking approval for the service contract. Our lawyer did propose the contract, so we just added the instructor's name.
MR. GORDON: Can I get approval for the contract for the line dance instructor?

MR. HOPKINS: So moved.

MR. ROBINSON: Second.

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

MS. GARY: Next you see a service contract for Sergio Flores, Xtreme Hip-Hop Aerobics. That's another instructor holding classes at the community centers. His class is on Saturday and that's only for paid members for the City of East Chicago.

MR. GORDON: Can we get a motion for the instructor for Xtreme Hip-Hop Aerobics?

MR. ROBINSON: Make a motion.

MR. HOPKINS: Second.

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

MR. GORDON: Motion carries. Motion carries.

MS. GARY: And the last item is the invoice for payment for Marino Solorio. This is just a formality and must be brought before the Board at every Board meeting.

MR. GORDON: Can I get a motion for the Director's pay?

MR. HOPKINS: Motion.

MR. AUSTEN: Second.

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

MR. GORDON: Motion carries.

Public Comments: None

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 27th, right here at City Hall Council Chambers, 4525 Indianapolis Boulevard, at the appointed time of 5:00 p.m.

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

MR. ROBINSON: Make a motion.

MR. GORDON: I will second that motion. All in favor signify by saying aye. (All signify aye.) Motion carries.

We are adjourned.

* * * * Meeting adjourned * * * *

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Tuesday
February 13th, 2024

Approved and signed _____

Grayling Gordon, President

Eugene Austin, Secretary

Anthony Hopkins, Member

Joseph Fernandez, Member

Jaylan Robinson, Member

Genesis Gary, Recording 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 Valparaiso, Indiana, this 16th day of February, 2024.



Peggy S. LaLonde

Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR