CITY OF EAST CHICAGO BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEMBERS
Val Gomez, President
Winna Guzman, Vice-President
Frank Rivera, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Olga Cosme, Recording Secretary
Shana Levinson, Attorney

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Val Gomez
Winna Guzman
Frank Rivera

MR. GOMEZ: Good afternoon everyone. I'd like to call to order the regular meeting of the Board of Public Works for February 26th, 2026. We do have a quorum.

I'd like to make a motion to approve the minutes for the February 12th, 2026 meeting, as written.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

We have no correspondence, we'll move on to New Business.

For the record, the first item on the agenda is bid opening for Olcott Reconstruction. Bids are set to be opened at 4:30, so we'll come back to that at exactly 4:30. We'll start with our regular items under new business.

First item on the agenda is IT from Frank O. Carlson. We do have a description from our IT Director, Kevin Klocek. This is actually from Multi

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Media. This agreement is a rate schedule for Frank O. Carlson to produce bus advertisements, 4 x 8 signs and signs for events. This agreement has a not-to-exceed of $40,000.00, which is the amount that has been approved by the Mayor's financial advisor, Mr. Bennett to budget for 2026. The approved budget forms are attached to the rate schedule. Frank O. Carlson is to invoice upon completion of projects that have been submitted by the City.

And he does have a rate schedule for 2026 here and list of different events. Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting the proposal for Frank O. Carlson & Company from IT Department and Multi Media.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have another item from IT Department, and this is Zoom licensing. Per Kevin Klocek, this agreement is to extend our 24 Zoom client licensing for 24 months. The cost of the licensing for 24 months is $10,555.20.

Any questions or comments on this item? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the aforementioned proposal from IT Department.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have also from IT Department, we have two rate schedules. The first one is from Midwestern Electric. This is for fiber and electric repair rate schedule, the not-to-exceed and agreement. Description: Kevin Klocek is requesting the Board approve Midwestern Electrical 2026 rate schedule and agreement for time and material work, not-to-exceed $80,000.00. The rate schedule is attached to the agreement for approval.

The second one is an agreement from Dream Builders of America. It's also a rate schedule

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and not-to-exceed agreement. Description: Requesting Board approval of Dream Builders of America 2026 rate schedule and agreement for the time and material, not-to-exceed of $70,000.00. The rate schedule is attached to the agreement for approval.

Are there any questions or comments on these two proposals from Midwestern Electric and Dream Builders of America? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make motion approving Midwestern Electric and Dream Builders of America rate schedule and not-to-exceed agreements.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from IT, Xerox for their IT solutions. The first one is IT Department, IT Savvy exchange migration to Office 365 and additional network support if needed. Per our Director Kevin Klocek, I'm requesting the Board approval for the IT Savvy proposal, which is to migrate our existing e-mail server to Office 365. This migration has been mandated since our version of the Exchange Mail Server is no longer supported by Microsoft. I previously purchased the licenses for Office 365 for IT Savvy, and they have added the proposal to complete the migration. The entire scope of work has been reviewed and I am providing my recommendation for IT Savvy to complete the migration at their earliest opportunity. This migration also has an effect on our current policy guidelines. The cost of the migration is $35,543.73.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

The next one is related from IT Department - Xerox IT Solutions Sanitary District IDEM mandated SCADA vulnerability study. The Sanitary District is mandated by IDEM to complete and submit a SCADA system vulnerability study by December 2026. As this study will involve working within the City network, I have acquired a proposal from Xerox IT Solutions to complete the study for the City. The cost to complete is $6,325.00.

Any questions or comments on this proposal?

MR. RIVERA: I just want to know whether

there's going to be any down time for this. When they do this sometimes we have outages that occur. If he is going to downturn, let us know ahead of time so all the departments know.

MR. GOMEZ: If it's down, then we have down time and we'll call them. We'll bring the question to him, but I would expect because of the updates we've had in just the last few months, we were down.

MR. RIVERA: The thing is, a lot of staff is asking, what is going, what is going on. Like he always does, if he sends out an e-mail that there might be some potential down time and I want you all to know about it.

MR. GOMEZ: I'll check with Kevin. I know he wasn't in today because I called him for another question and he wasn't there.

The final one from IT Director is, also attached is a quote for IT network to provide additional network assistance to assist during migration. The cost of network engineering is $2,525.00, and according to as needed and requested by the City during the migration. So I think he's preparing for the extras.

Any questions or comments on these three proposals from IT and Xerox? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the three items from Xerox, three proposals from Xerox for IT Department.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have also from IT, we have a contract and rate schedule. This is for Midwestern Electric 2026 fiber locates agreement for city owned fiber optics based on the 2026 rates, time and material rate schedule, not to exceed $50,000.00. So we have the agreement, which basically says this is set right now, and have the rate schedule for 2026.

Are there any questions or comments on this? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Midwestern

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Electric's proposal for fiber optic locates for our IT Department.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have another proposal from IT Department and also Multi Media. According to Kevin Klocek, our IT Department Administrator, he received items from the South Shore per Multi Media's request, for advertisement in their book and rental of the big screen for movie nights and events. South Shore is requesting approved rate sheets to be returned by February 27th. Here's the description for the agenda. These rates are to be applied for all 2026 South Shore advertising and large screen extreme video rentals. The cost of the project is $4,325.00.

I did talk to Kevin and asked if there was a not-to-exceed. He didn't think there would be, but he told me to put $4,500.00 as the not-to-exceed.

And just for the record, IT is assisting Multi Media. As you know, during the past few meetings, Multi Media lost basically all their staff, so the IT Department has been assisting with all their paperwork.

MS. GUZMAN: I would make a note that we have used this entity in the past.

MR. GOMEZ: As a matte of fact, I did speak with Kevin and he's familiar with them and he could do a sole proprietor and make it a lot easier.

Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting South Shore's proposal for Multi Media Department and IT.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Public Works, we have a proposal from Martinez Construction. It's a ceiling replacement and to paint grids at Fire Station

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#1. The amount is $13,925.00. They do have a second quote from AMG Construction for $17,800.00.

Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting Martinez Construction proposal for Public Works for work at Fire Station #1.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have, also from Public Works, Korellis System Control 2026 rate schedule. The rate schedule includes, standard workday, overtime calls, holiday pay, not-to-exceed $50,000.00 for Public Works and $50,000.00 for other departments.

Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Korellis's proposal for Public Works.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next item is also from Public Works. It's from Thomas Irrigation. There are two items. One is the 2026 contract and rates to main the sprinkler systems throughout the City, and that's for ten locations, and that is $16,890.00. It's for start up and for winterizing, $10,000.00 not-to-exceed on their rate schedule. I see on their worksheet they put $16,890.00. This should be separated in the rate schedule and proposal.

Any questions or comments on this? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Thomas Irrigation's rate schedule and their proposal for the winterization and start up at ten different locations throughout the City.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

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MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have also from Public Works from Fence Masters. We have their 2026 gate operator rate. We have not-to-exceed of $25,000.00 for Public Works and $25,000.00 for other departments.
I notice that Public Works put in an amount of $5,000.00. I don't know if that's suppose to be a separate project, but there is no paperwork accompanying the $5,000.00. We are just going to address the rate schedule for 2026 and not-to-exceed of $25,000.00.
Any questions or comments? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting Fence Masters 2026 gate operator rates.
MR. RIVERA: Second.
MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next also from Public Works, it's from ServiScape. There are two projects. The first one is for the Marina. Here on the worksheet it says service for nine pots with flowers, but if you look at the proposal it's quite a bit more than that. At the offices and entrances they have a total of 11 planters, and then the next item is at the Event Centers, they have 38 planters, and at Jeorse Beach they have 14 planters, and then they also have landscaping. So it's not just for nine pots, it's for quite a bit more work and that would account for the $14,257.00, the cost for the project.
The next project is for also ServiScape for service for raised beds at the Marina to be maintained throughout the Summer for 5 locations and 6 visits. And this amount is for $6,000.00.
Are there any questions or comments on these two projects for the Marina with ServiScape? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like make a motion approving the aforementioned two projects with the Marina with ServiScape.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

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MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have another proposal from Public Works from Midwestern Electric. It's a project to remove existing light fixtures and install new LED dimmable fixtures at Fire Station #1. The amount is $10,690.00. They do have a second quote for $13,054.00.
I'd like to make a motion approving this with the additional comment, that they give us the paperwork for the quotes since the one is quite a bit lower. Any questions or comments? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting Midwestern's proposal to Public Works for Fire Station #1, in the amount of $10,690.00, with the one request that we receive the information for the second quote, which amount was $13,400.00.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Our next one is Public Works Auction item, the Controller's office vehicle. Attached you will find a description and photos of a 2014 Ford Interceptor Utility #9732 belonging to the East Chicago Controller's Office. This vehicle was used by the Police Department before being passed down to the Controller's Office for use. The vehicle also has cosmetic and mechanical issues and is no longer needed by the City. With around 15 years of use by the City of East Chicago and approval obtained by the Mayor's Office, I would ask that the attached vehicle be deemed surplus for auction in the new future.
He did provide quite a bit of photographs and that was in the Controller's Office. I called it my undercover SUV. The police car has 77,000 miles and it was running good, had a good engine. They replaced it with a car that has the exact same milage. I let the Mayor know I prefer to keep the other car, but he disagreed.
Any questions or comments on this request for auction item of vehicle 9732? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the request from Public Works to declare this vehicle surplus.

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MR. RIVERA: Second.
MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we come to request from the Police Department. Approval of Agreement with Power DMS. We do have a letter from the Police Chief of the East Chicago Police Department. The East Chicago Police Department requests approval of the attached Power DMS contract. The subscription is utilized by all ECPD Field Training Officers while they train new hires. With this software, the FTO's log their trainee's progress for recordkeeping and legal purposes. Also attached is a detailed explanation of the software. The cost is $3,922.21. They had used this for several years and the Mayor is satisfied with this.
This is another case where the Police Department could put a sole proprietorship because they have been using the software for a couple years.
Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd make a motion to approve Power DMS contract for training software for the Police Department.
MR. RIVERA: Second.
MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we come to, from the Fire Department, we have City of East Chicago Fire Department Emergency Apparatus Service Policy. We approved this policy in January of 2026. The reason it's before us now, they wish to give a not-to-exceed amount to Legacy Fire Apparatus, who is one of the original vendors when the policy went into effect. The not-to-exceed is for $10,000.00.
Are there any questions or comments on this request to implement the not-to-exceed of $10,000.00? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the Fire Department's request for Legacy Fire Apparatus.
MR. RIVERA: Second.

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MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have another one from the Fire Department. This is a similar request for repairs to Engine 2713. Interstate Power Systems has identified several issues regarding Engine 2713. Attached you will find an estimate which may increase due to further issues. We have located available funds in the Vehicle Repair and Maintenance budget. That's in their own budget. Respectfully Marcus Escobedo, Fire Chief. The amount is $6,355.00, with a not-to-exceed of $10,000.00.
Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)
There being none, I'd like to make a motion to approve the request from the Fire Department with Interstate Power Systems for repair of Engine 2713.
MR. RIVERA: Second.
MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we also have another one from the Fire Department. This is a proposal from Jacquelyn Augustine Psych & Associates. It's for services. The rates for different services per hour is listed.
Our practice provides a wide range of mental health services in person or via telehealth through a compliant and confidential platform, which includes individual/group therapy, psychological testing, crisis intervention, individual and group critical incident debriefing and psychoeducation, trauma support, consultation and training.
This is similar to what we passed for the Police Department. This is to provide services to the Fire Department in case they have an event that comes to them.
Any questions or comments? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the aforementioned proposal to the Fire Department.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have, also from the Fire

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Department, a proposal from Hastings Air Energy Control. This is sole proprietor. I talked to the Fire Chief and he forgot to include the paperwork. This is for Central Station. It's for service maintenance of their Emergency Vehicle Exhaust System. This is a system that attaches to all vehicles at Central station,, and what it does, it clears the fumes so it doesn't get into the living quarters within the building. And they have had this for quite a few years, I think going back to 2021. I actually got that for them. The amount is $1,500.00, not-to-exceed of $5,000.00, I believe.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting Hastings Air Energy Control's proposal for EC Fire Department.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have also from the Fire Department, we have a letter from the Chief.

Dear Board members, please consider my request to approve repairs for Engine 2713. When the purchase order was made in 2024, it was only open for the amount of $19,663.25 because it was the agreed upon amount. Since then there have been multiple additional repairs that we were not informed of. Repairs took over a year and the final invoice indicating the total repairs was not received until November 2025. Attached you will find the new cost, which is $15,901.00. We have located available funds in our Vehicle Repair and Maintenance budget. The amount is $15,901.00.

The extra cost, just so everybody understands, this was taken from Public Works by the Fire Department and was taken to one vendor for repairs under the previous chief and the vehicle was left there for over a year. No one claimed it. When the new chief came in and found out about it, he presented this to the Administration and explained what happened. Since that time we have removed the rig from that vendor and took it to another one. This vendor is finishing the work that should have been done, just for the record.

I believe the Mayor might be taking this to the Legal Department. We'll find out more about that.

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Any questions or comments on this request from the Fire Department? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the Fire Department's request for repair of Engine 2713.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have also from the Fire Department, we have them requesting the following items surplus. These items are non-repairable or have expired. He has a short list of items; furniture, exercise equipment, night stands, metal filing cabinet, T.V., microwave, another microwave. I think the only thing of value is the MSA SCBA masks and they are going to be retired. They will be donated to Central America, which we have been donating things. Even though they are outdated, they can use them.

Any questions or comments on this aforementioned proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting the Fire Department's proposal for items to be declared surplus.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have late invoices, but I think we better halt right here and go to the bid process. It's close enough to 4:30.

MR. PRUITT: Good evening, Scott Pruitt with First Group. I'm the RPL for the project for the City of East Chicago. We have a total of six bids. This is for the Olcott Avenue project, from 151st to 148th.

The first bid is from Milestone Contractors Construction, 1700 East Main, Griffith, Indiana.

MS. GUZMAN: What was the name of the contractor again?

MR. PRUITT: Milestone Contractors.

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The total base bid is $4,176,626.00.
The second bid is from Rieth-Riley Construction, 7500 West 5th Avenue, Gary, Indiana. The total base bid is $4,127,868.00.
The third bid is from Hasse Construction, 10 Lincoln Avenue, Calumet City, Illinois. The total base bid is $3,980,440.00.
The fourth bid is from Grimmer Construction, 2619 Main Street, Highland, Indiana. Total base bid is $5,658,856.00.
The fifth bid is from LGS Plumbing, 1110 East Summit Street, Crown Point, Indiana. The total base bid is $7,638,567.00.
And the last bid is from H & G Underground Utility, 7 Berkel Drive, LaPorte, Indiana. The total base bid is $5,425,574.12.
That concludes the bid opening. I'll return these to you and then --

MR. GOMEZ: You'll review them?

MR. PRUITT: I'll review and evaluate the bids and make a recommendation next meeting.
There is a minor caveat that just came out today. INDOT is going to announce an additional round of Community Crossing Funding and this project was originally applied for under Community Crossing Grant, that would be up to one million dollars. They have advised us to hold -- if the contractors would hold on until an award can be made -- the recommendation is to hold off the award until we determine if funding is available from INDOT.

MR. GOMEZ: Okay, thank you.
I will continue with our regular schedule. I believe we are at outstanding invoices. We have nine items. I'll go through each one and make a motion at the end.
The first one is from the Fire Department. Fire Service invoice dated 5/30/24, amount of $19,643.25. The reason is purchase order was made in 2024. It was only open for the amount of $19,653.25 because it was the agreed upon amount. Since then, there have been multiple additional repairs that we were not informed of. Repairs took over a year and the final invoice indicating the total repairs was not received until November 2025.
Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

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Next from the Fire Department. W.S. Darley, they have two late invoices, 12/22/25 and 12/9/25, amount of $137.52. Explanation: Shipping was not included in the original PO.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

Next one is also from the Fire Department. It's Chicago Communication, one late invoice dated 12/23/25, amount is $40.50. Explanation: Missed in the paperwork.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

Next is Uline from the Fire Department. One late invoice dated 12/14/25, amount of $401.69. Explanation: Not enough funds left in the previous year's PO.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

Next is also Fire Department. It's from G & J Auto Parts. Invoice is dated 12/8/25, amount of $136.06. Explanation: Not enough funds left in the previous year's PO.

Any questions or comments? (None)

Next from the Fire Department, vendor is Calumet Electric, invoice dated 12/17/25, amount is $40.80. Explanation: It was missed in the paperwork.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

Next we have from the Police Department. This is for LexisNexis, late invoice of 8/31/25, amount of $11,520.00. Explanation: Please excuse the attached late invoice. It was e-mailed to the wrong division and not forwarded to the Service Division in a timely manner. PO 251255 was on hand for this invoice.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

Next we have from Engineering Department, First Group Engineering. We have invoice dated from -- one invoice dated 9/30/25, amount of $1,280.00; invoice dated 9/30/25, amount of $383.21; and final invoice dated 10/31/25, amount of $2,789.05; total of $4,452.26. Explanation: Invoices were missed until brought to our attention by contractor. Services have been rendered and invoices should be processed.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

The final one is also from

Engineering Department. It's Midwestern Electric. So we have invoices -- we have 42 invoices dated 10/24/25, in the amount of $13,294.00. We have 30 invoices dated 11/7/25 to 11/28/25, in the amount of $6,289.75. We have 56 invoices dated 11/21/25 to 11/28/25, in the amount of $8,019.00. We have 27 invoices dates 11/28/25, in the amount of $8,387.58. And we have 34 invoices dated 12/12/25, in the amount of $5,008.28. Explanation: Invoices were received on time, but by the time we went to process they were over 60 days old.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving payment of the aforementioned late invoices with the Fire Department, Police Department, and Engineering Department.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have a proposal from the Parks Department. It's for Sportsfields. This is material, labor and equipment for Block Stadium, Kenny Lofton Complex, Tod Park, and Koski Park, at a cost of $61,695.00. There is also a not-to-exceed. I have contacted the Park Department and I told them we were going to make a motion to approve the funding, but the Park Department Board would have to approve the proposals. I actually put it on the signature sheet because I think last meeting we had a similar thing and the Park Department failed to take it to the Board. From now on I am going to request it from their Department and it's actually going to be put on there that we are only signing for the funding, not approving the proposal. Okay.

So with this one I'd like to make a motion to approve the funding for the aforementioned proposal for $61,695.00 and for the Controller's Office to look to see where the funding comes from the Administration.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

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Next we have from Gateway, we have a copier maintenance agreement for the Konica/Minolta copier 360. This is from the Planning Department. This is their service agreement. They will be billed monthly on the actual usage. The cost is point 005 for black and white, and point 054 for color copies. This is the basic customer service agreement that all the departments have agreed to.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Planning Department's Customer Service Maintenance Agreement with Gateway.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have Ricardo Hall contract for 2026. This is the City of East Chicago contract with Attorney Ricardo Hall for legal services for 2026.

Whereas, the Department of Law feels it necessary to engage an attorney on a contractual basis to assist the Corporation Counsel and the City Attorney, and provide legal services and represent the City, its officials, agents or employees in certain litigation as assigned by the Corporation Counsel and/or the City Attorney, to advise the City departments, and other related tasks assigned by the Department of Law.

The hourly rate and billing for legal services on this contract shall be invoiced monthly at the rate of $225.00 per hour for services performed in connection with matters in litigation, in which the City, its officials, employees or instrumentalities or privies are a party. The total amount of services for January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026, shall not exceed $75,000.00. And the rest is our basic contract for attorneys.

Any questions or comments on this contract? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the contract for legal services with Attorney Ricardo Hall and the City of East Chicago.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

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MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we come to City of East Chicago Board of Public Works permit applications. We have permit applications number 26-05340 through 26-05352.
Are there any questions or comments on the aforementioned permit applications? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the aforementioned permit applications.
MR. RIVERA: Second.
MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
I believe that concludes all our new business. We have no other business before us.
Our next regular meeting will be Thursday, March 12, 2026.
MS. LEVINSON: We do have a high school student here observing and curious as to what we are doing here. You want to introduce yourself.
STUDENT: I go to Munster High School. We have this government project where we go to different meetings and we have to basically see what you do.
MS. GUZMAN: Thank you for coming.
MR. GOMEZ: This is basically the Board of Works where we approve agreements and contracts with the civil City. You need us to sign something?
STUDENT: No, I just have to take a picture.
MS. LEVINSON: Anything having to do with construction and maintenance of the City, the streets and parks and all of those things; this Board oversees that to make sure the contracts are done in a certain manner and approve those contracts to help run the City efficiently.
STUDENT: Thank you.
MS. LEVINSON: And I'm the attorney for

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this Board.

MR. GOMEZ: That concludes all our items on the agenda for tonight.

I'd like to make a motion for adjournment at this time.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned.

* * * * *

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of
February 26, 2026
Approved and Signed February 26, 2026.

_____
Val Gomez, President

_____
Winna Guzman, Vice President

_____
Frank Rivera, member

_____
Olga Cosme, 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 27th day of February, 2026.



Peggy S. LaLonde

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