

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
BOARD OF STORM WATER COMMISSIONERS

BOARD MEMBERS

Miguel (Mike) Rivera, President
Steve Flowers, Vice-President
Alojzy (Ben) Moricz, Member
Tia Cauley, Member
Jawann Jones, Member

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 16, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m.
Reported for Fissinger & Associates
By: Lisa Pena

CALL TO ORDER: 4:41 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL: Present in Chambers: Miguel Rivera, Steve
Flowers, Ben Moricz, Jawann Jones.

Staff Present: Present in Chambers: Lilia Ramos,
Ken Myers.

MR. JONES: She said she is trying to get on Zoom. But she can't get on.

MS. RAMOS: Mr. President, just a quick comment just to let you know. I did do the conference. But we are getting calls from Attorney Allegretti saying that he can't get through. So that might be the reason why the other Board Member isn't getting through.

So I did try. My apologies. I'm trying to see if we can get them on cell.

MR. FLOWERS: Commissioner Cauley had surgery. She's on bed restriction. She had surgery. But she is trying to call in.

MR. RIVERA: I'm just told to call them out. And if they don't answer, they don't answer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 2, 2022.

1 Motion to approve June 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes made by Steve
2 Flowers. Second by Jawann Jones.

3 Questions/Comments: None.

4 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
5 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

6 CHECK WARRANTS:

7 MR. RIVERA: Next item is Check Warrants. This one also
8 has the wrong number on the agenda. It should read 061622 ST
9 for the amount of \$23,433.79.

10 Motion to approve Check Warrant 061622 ST made by Jawann
11 Jones. Second by Steve Flowers.

12 Questions/Comments: None.

13 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
14 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

15 PAYROLL WARRANTS:

16 MR. RIVERA: Next is Warrant Number 061022 Storm Water
17 Payroll 5/21/22 to 6/3/22.

18 Motion to approve Payroll Warrant 061022 Storm Water Payroll
19 5/21/22 to 6/3/22 made by Steve Flowers. Second by Ben
20 Moricz.

21 Questions/Comments: None.

22 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
23 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

24 REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL: None.

25 REPORT FROM FINANCIALS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

MR. RIVERA: New Business. We have Resolution ST 22-02.
A Resolution of the Storm Water Board of Commissioners of the
City of East Chicago authorizing a temporary transfer to a
depleted fund.

Whereas authorizes the Storm Water Board of
Commissioners to permit the transfer of a prescribed amount

1 for a prescribed period to a depleted fund in need of money
2 for cash flow purposes from another fund of the Political
Subdivision upon the following conditions.

3 Number 1, that it must be necessary to borrow money
4 to enhance the depleted fund that is in need of money for
cash flow purposes.

5 Number 2, there will be sufficient money on deposit
6 to the credit of the other fund that can be temporarily
transferred.

7 Number 3, that the prescribed period of the loan
8 must end during the budget year of the year in which the
transfer occurred.

9 And Number 4, that the amount transferred must be
10 returned to the other fund at the end of the prescribed
period.

11 MR. FLOWERS: What fund needs movement? Is it indicated
12 in your agenda?

13 Mine says East Chicago authorizing the temporary
14 transfer to a depleted fund. Does it indicate what fund
needs money?

15 MR MYERS: I believe it's in the packet. Storm Water is
16 lending money, transferring money to the Water Department.
This is a routine step that is done on an annual basis.

17 MR. RIVERA: Every year.

18 MR. FLOWERS: That's fine. I'm just trying to
familiarize myself.

19 MR. MYERS: It should say the amount and how much is
20 going to the Water Department. I mean it's more of an
accounting step that we take each year.

21 MR. FLOWERS: What is the amount, Mr. President? I'm
22 just curious. I am not trying to be an obstructionist. I'm
just curious.

23 MR. RIVERA: Would you like to read it?

24 MR. FLOWERS: I'm just curious what the amount being
25 transferred over is. That's all. To the depleted fund.
Does it indicate it in the package?

1 MR. MYERS: Do you have the --

2 MR. FLOWERS: I'm not trying to be an obstructionist.
3 I'm just curious.

4 MR. MYERS: It's a valid question. I just don't have
5 the packet in front of me.

6 MR. RIVERA: Every year. This happens every year.

7 MR. FLOWERS: Okay.

8 Motion to approve Resolution ST 22-02 made by Steve Flowers.
9 Second by Jawann Jones.

10 Questions/Comments: None.

11 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.

12 Opposed: None Motion Carries.

13 UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

14 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Tia and I were waiting in the waiting
15 room. We never got in.

16 MS. RAMOS: You're on conference right now for the Storm
17 Meeting. We're ending now.

18 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Good. Was there a question for me?

19 MR. FLOWERS: I had a question, Mr. Allegretti. And I
20 figured something came up because you're always present in
21 our meetings.

22 I am curious about the directors of each department
23 like Rene Cid, Bill Biller and all those people. I notice
24 that in many cases they don't show up for these meetings.

25 Is it mandatory that they're here or just totally
at their discretion?

MR. ALLEGRETTI: I am sorry. You mean Commissioners not
appearing at the meeting?

MR. FLOWERS: Not Commissioners. I am just curious of
the department people like Rene Cid to give an overview of
his department to bring us up to speed on what's going on.

MR. ALLEGRETTI: All staff including me work for you,

1 work for the Board.

2 MR. FLOWERS: Oh, giving us some power.

3 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Yeah. That's not a surprise. And you
4 can direct that you would like your consultants.

5 And like I told Lilia Tia and I were in the Zoom
6 waiting room. And apparently there's a secret button that
7 nobody knows how to push. We didn't know how to do it.

8 So we did try to participate, but could not.

9 MR. FLOWERS: The question is not directed to you,
10 Mr. Allegretti or Commissioner Cauley.

11 I am just curious about what's going on in the
12 departments with Rene Cid. And I just think we should be
13 brought up to speed if anything is going on and so forth so
14 they can make us aware of what's happening. That's all.

15 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Well, to answer your question you, you
16 meaning the Board of Sanitary Commissioners, control -- are
17 we live? Is the court reporter taking this down?

18 MS. RAMOS: Yes.

19 MR. ALLEGRETTI: The answer to the question is that the
20 Sanitary District provides 85 percent of the Public Works'
21 budget through the Solids Division which is a branch of the
22 Sanitary District controlled by the Board of Sanitary
23 Commissioners.

24 So it's certainly within your power, within the
25 power of the Board to request that the Director of Public
26 Works appear and be helpful at these meetings along with all
27 of your consultants including yours truly.

28 MR. FLOWERS: Like I said I was just curious what the
29 procedures are.

30 And again my question is not directed to you,
31 Mr. Allegretti or Commissioner Cauley. I was just curious
32 about what's going on in each department. And I was asking
33 the President shouldn't he be here to just update us on
34 what's going on. That's all.

35 MR. ALLEGRETTI: May I suggest I will unofficially or we
36 can have Alysia who is missing today. I think there's a

1 family emergency. But I will send an e-mail to Cid and all
2 of our consultants, everybody listed on the agenda from whom
3 you expect a report that their physical presence is
4 requested. And then that will probably solve the problem.

5 MR. FLOWERS: Thank you.

6 MR. ALLEGRETTI: And our technology failed us to today
7 for reasons unknown. But if something happens preventing
8 their physical appearance, they can zoom in. But otherwise
9 you expect them to appear.

10 And I will be happy, Commissioner Flowers, to send
11 that out right now as soon as we hang up.

12 MR. FLOWERS: Thanks for your leadership.

13 Commissioners, shouldn't we be updated on what's
14 going on in his department and things like that? I mean is
15 it just me? What's your feelings, Commissioners?

16 MR. RIVERA: They should come even if there's no report
17 to be made. He had no report and he is here. I believe they
18 should be here always.

19 MS. RAMOS: Commissioners, it may be because of the
20 zoom. For this meeting I do apologize. I do not have
21 Alysia's password to her zoom and account number.

22 I thought it was a conference call number. And
23 that's what I used. But that may be the reason why they're
24 not here.

25 MR. FLOWERS: He is never here. Not just for zoom. We
had zoom last time online.

I was just curious. Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

* Next Regular Meeting Date: Thursday, July 7,
2022 @ 4:30 p.m.

1 Motion to adjourn made by Steve Flowers. Second by Jawann
2 Jones.

3 Questions/Comments: None.

4 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None.
5 Opposed: None Motion Carries.


6 * Meeting ended at 4:55 p.m.

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1 Approval of the Meeting Minutes of
2 Thursday, June 16, 2022


3 Approved and Signed July 21, 2022

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6 Miguel (Mike) Rivera, President

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9 Steve Flowers, Vice-President

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13 Alojzy (Ben) Moricz, Member

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15 _____
16 Tia Cauley, Member

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19 _____
20 Javann Jones, Member


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23 _____
24 Alysia Dunbar, Board Secretary
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Lisa Pena, 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 said proceedings taken at said time and place, so ordered to be transcribed.

Dated at Portage, Indiana, this 30th day of June, 2022.



Lisa Pena
Notary Public Porter County
Certified Shorthand Reporter
License Number 084-003483

