

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEMBERS

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

Thursday, August 25, 2022, at 4:30 p.m.

Reporter 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

MR. GOMEZ: Good afternoon everyone. I'd like to call to order the regular meeting of the Board of Public Works for August 25, 2022. Winna is absent, but we do have a quorum.

We have the minutes for the Regular Meeting of August 11, 2022. I would make a motion to approve as written.

MR. ALLEN: Second

MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
Opposed: None

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

There is no correspondence, so we'll move on to New Business. First item on the agenda is the bid openings for 2022 Phase 2 Board of Safety Demolition of Unsafe Structures.

MR. ALLEN: First one is from Actin Inc., located at 1102 East Columbus Drive, PO Box 518, East Chicago, Indiana. Is there just one group?

MR. PORTALATIN: Yes.

MR. ALLEN: Okay. 4833 McCook, rear

1 building/garage, \$16,200; 1117 138th Street, \$7,950;  
2 3815 Alder, \$8,200; 3921 Fern, \$17,300; 3435 Fir,  
3 \$20,400; 3912 Grace, \$19,700; 608 West 143 Street,  
4 \$5,000; 4857 Wegg, \$4,500; 3610 Grand, \$4,500. Total  
5 for all groups, \$103,750.00. No alternates, right?

6 MR. PORTALATIN: No.

7 MR. ALLEN: Second bid is JM Industrial  
8 Services Inc., located at PO Box 6288, Hammond, Indiana.  
9 Okay. 4833 McCook, \$29,900; 1117 138th Street, \$9,900;  
10 3815 Alder, \$8,700; 3921 Fern, \$13,900; 3435 Fir,  
11 \$19,500; 3912 Grace, \$13,200; 608 West 143rd Street,  
12 \$7,800; 4857 Wegg \$4,800; 3610 Grand, \$4,200. Total  
13 cost is \$111,900.00.

14 Last bid we received from Richardson  
15 Disposal, located at 620 East 10th Place, Gary, Indiana.  
16 4833 McCook, \$13,110; 1117 138th Street, \$13,675; 3815  
17 Alder, \$10,888; 3921 Fern, \$16,250; 3435 Fir, \$25,850;  
18 3912 Grace, \$15,850; 608 West 143rd Street, \$6,110; 4857  
19 Wegg, \$4,275; 3610 Grand, \$5,280. Total amount  
20 \$111,288.00.

21 MR. PORTALATIN: If I can have those.

22 MR. GOMEZ: You'll review and come back  
23 tonight?

24 MR. PORTALATIN: Yes. I would like to  
25 state, as the Building Commissioner, I wanted to notify  
the Board that the following properties were also bid  
out, and the following bids were previously awarded.  
507 Grove Street for the amount of \$6,800; 514 West  
148th Street, amount of \$11,400; and 3915 James for the  
amount of \$32,875. The owners and anyone with  
substantial property interest were notified by regular  
and certified mail, publication and posting on the  
property. No action is necessary or needed by the  
Board.

MR. GOMEZ: Okay. Thank you. Just  
informational only.

MR. PORTALATIN: Yes.

MR. GOMEZ: Okay. Thank you. Moving  
along. Next is Items Deemed Surplus by the Fire  
Department. We have a letter from the Chief to the  
Board of Public Works. "Boards members, I would declare

1 the following items surplus. These items are obsolete  
2 and non repairable." And he has included two pages of  
3 items. There is electrical, radios, radio gear, air  
4 packs, kitchen appliances, cabinets, mattresses, beds,  
5 springs and various cutting tools. I imagine they are  
6 going to try to auction them off or sell them as is.  
7 Any other questions or comments?

8 MR. ALLEN: None.

9 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
10 questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion that we  
11 approve the Fire Chief's request for declaring these  
12 items obsolete and irreparable, and as surplus.

13 MR. ALLEN: Second

14 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

15 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
16 Opposed: None

17 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

18 Next we come to outstanding  
19 invoices. The first one is from Cintas from the Fire  
20 Department. They have two late invoices. One is for  
21 \$79.32 and one for \$84.89. The explanation for  
22 delinquency, received two invoices from April 22nd on  
23 August 10, '22. So I imagine the company sent the  
24 invoices late.

25 Any questions or comments on this  
late invoice?

MR. ALLEN: None.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no questions or  
comments, I'd make a motion we approve payment to Cintas  
for invoices with the Fire Department.

MR. ALLEN: Second

MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
Opposed: None

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have the late invoice from  
Biometrics. This is with the Police Department and late

1 invoice dated 3-1-22, in the amount of 2480.  
2 Explanation is these late invoices were e-mailed to the  
3 wrong person and service was not aware of this until  
4 8-15-22. The Police Department did tell me that  
5 services were provided.

6 Any questions or comments on this  
7 late invoice?

8 MR. ALLEN: None.

9 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
10 questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion we  
11 approve Biometrics late invoice to the Police Department  
12 for late payment.

13 MR. ALLEN: Second

14 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

15 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
16 Opposed: None

17 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

18 Next we have from Multi Media, this  
19 is from Northwest Industrial, electrical box. Proposal  
20 for decorative electrical boxes, four color process on  
21 white. This is for 20 boxes in the amount of \$5,500 and  
22 installation would be an additional \$4,500, for total of  
23 \$10,000. Any questions or comments on this? He does  
24 have a second quote from Creative Graphic, which is for  
25 13,200. Any questions or comments?

MR. ALLEN: None.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
questions or comments, I'd make a motion we approve  
Northwest Industrials proposal to Multi Media in the  
amount of \$10,000.

MR. ALLEN: Second

MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
Opposed: None

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have proposal from  
Government Fixed Asset Services. This is from the

1 controller's office. This is Mr. Nielson, who's the  
2 gentleman who assisted the controller's office in our  
3 fixed assets report. He's done this for the past  
4 several years. The proposal is to assist us in 2022 in  
5 doing the City's capital asset report, along with the  
6 Water, Sanitary, Parks, and Marina. The amount of his  
7 proposal is for \$2,400. Are there any questions or  
8 comments?

9 MR. ALLEN: None.

10 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
11 questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion we  
12 approve Government Fixed Asset Services proposal for  
13 City of East Chicago controller's office in the amount  
14 of \$2,400.00.

15 MR. ALLEN: Second

16 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

17 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
18 Opposed: None

19 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

20 Next we have two proposal from  
21 Chicago Communication LLC for Public Works, and these, I  
22 believe, are for the police department.

23 MR. ROBINSON: Yes, this is for the  
24 equipment to be installed in the two Durangos that the  
25 Police Department is receiving.

MR. GOMEZ: One is \$11,770 and the other  
is for \$18,355.08, and this is to install police cars  
with radios.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes. Squad 44 is going to  
be the Intel unit, that's why it's a little bit more.  
The Police Department is experimenting with a command  
center that they are going to run out of that vehicle,  
that's why it's more than the other one. Unit 48 is the  
basic lights and siren.

MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments on  
these two proposals from East Chicago Communication?

MR. ALLEN: None.

1 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
2 questions or comments, I would make a motion to approve  
3 the two proposals for East Chicago Communication for the  
4 East Chicago Police Department.

5 MR. ALLEN: Second

6 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

7 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
8 Opposed: None

9 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

10 Next we have rate tables from Public  
11 Works. We have a rate table from Adam Signs with  
12 not-to-exceed of \$10,000, rate table for Overhead Door  
13 not-to-exceed \$20,000, and rate table from TransChicago  
14 Truck Group, not-to-exceed \$30,000, and rate table from  
15 Standard Equipment not-to-exceed of \$25,000. These are  
16 the rate schedules for 2022. Any questions or comments  
17 on these four rate schedules?

18 MR. ALLEN: None.

19 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
20 questions or comments, I make a motion we accept the  
21 aforementioned rate schedules for Public Works for 2022.

22 MR. ALLEN: Second

23 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

24 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
25 Opposed: None

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have proposal from Overhead  
Door Company of Northwest Indiana, Public Works. We  
have one for East Chicago Police Department, this one is  
for \$12,500. Remove and dispose of existing door and  
install new door.

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, that's for the Police  
Department.

MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments on  
this proposal for the Police Department?

MR. ALLEN: None.

1 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
2 questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion we  
3 approve Overhead Door Company of Northwest Indiana's  
4 proposal for the Police Department in the amount of  
5 \$12,500.

6 MR. ALLEN: Second

7 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

8 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
9 Opposed: None

10 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

11 The second proposal is from  
12 Northwest Indiana Property Preservation for a roof.  
13 This is a different one. This is from Northwest Indiana  
14 Property Preservation LLC, and this is for the Mayor's  
15 office roof. This proposal is the roof replacement in  
16 the amount is \$31,960. There is a second quote from  
17 Gluth for \$31,158. So is this basically the entire roof  
18 that needs to be done?

19 MR. ROBINSON: Yes, and they are going to  
20 make it where the Christmas lights can be permanently  
21 attached to the gutters like here in this building.

22 MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments on  
23 NWI Property Preservation's proposal for the Mayor's  
24 office roof?

25 MR. ALLEN: None.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
questions, I'd like to make a motion we approve NWI  
Property Preservation's proposal.

MR. ALLEN: Second

MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
Opposed: None

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have Auction for August,  
from Public Works. Is the auction going to be in  
August?

1 MR. ROBINSON: Yes.

2 MR. GOMEZ: First item is from Park  
3 Department. These are all -- actually it's Park  
4 Department, Building Department, Water Department; these  
5 are vehicles, right?

6 MR. ROBINSON: Yes, all vehicles.

7 MR. GOMEZ: And all three are deemed  
8 surplus or damaged? I believe one is damaged.

9 MR. ROBINSON: Yes, one has unfixable  
10 damage.

11 MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments on  
12 these three vehicles that we approve them as being  
13 surplus or un-repairable?

14 MR. ALLEN: No questions.

15 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
16 questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion we  
17 approve the request from Public Works for the vehicles  
18 from the Park Department, Building Department, and Water  
19 Department to be declared unusable and un-repairable,  
20 and so they will be ready for auction.

21 MR. ALLEN: Second

22 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

23 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
24 Opposed: None

25 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

For the record, Public Works did  
submit pictures of the vehicles and the VIN numbers.  
Okay.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you.

MR. GOMEZ: Next we have from Milestone  
Contractors, Change Order #4, for Kennedy Avenue  
reconstruction.

MR. ALLEN: This is Change Order number  
4, this is recommendation from Robinson Engineering, for  
the amount of \$34,450.00 to install jersey barriers at



1 the intersection of 151st to make it more safe. This is  
2 where two railroad tracks intersect, cross each other.  
3 And, again, this is just to make the intersection more  
4 safe.

5 MR. GOMEZ: Any other comments?

6 MR. ALLEN: None.

7 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
8 comments or questions, I'd like to make motion Change  
9 Order #4, based on the recommendation from Robinson  
10 Engineering, in the amount of \$34,450.00 for Kennedy  
11 Avenue Railway Improvement, Michigan Street to Chicago  
12 Avenue.

13 MR. ALLEN: Second

14 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

15 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
16 Opposed: None

17 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

18 Next, Milestone Contractors, Change  
19 Order #1 and #2, for milling and paving of East Chicago  
20 Calumet neighborhood.

21 MR. ALLEN: Same contractor, different  
22 project. Change order #1 is for landscaping. They went  
23 through and removed trees, grind down the tree stumps,  
24 some of the grass was disturbed, and they replaced  
25 concrete sidewalks. So this is to address that, to  
remedy the area affected by the construction work, in  
the amount of \$15,520.00.

And the second change order is in  
the amount of \$14,000, is just to replace the existing  
speed bumps on Graciela. We priced out the street for  
simple milling and paving, but we forgot to account for  
the speed humps that were installed, I think, about two  
years ago. So this takes care of replacing those and  
the necessary striping that goes along with them.

MR. GOMEZ: For the record, this  
recommendation is from the First Group Engineering. Any  
other comments?

MR. ALLEN: No.

1 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
2 comments or questions, I'd like to make a motion we  
3 approve Change Orders #1, and #2 for the milling and  
4 paving of East Chicago Calumet neighborhood.

5 MR. ALLEN: Second

6 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

7 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
8 Opposed: None

9 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

10 Next we have from First Group  
11 Engineering, engineering and coordination meetings  
12 proposal.

13 MR. ALLEN: In the beginning of the year  
14 we approved an agreement with First Group that they  
15 would just tag along in the construction progress  
16 meetings and offer input when needed. It all actually  
17 turns out that we thought we needed the service from  
18 them, but we kind of don't now. So we are trying to  
19 adjust the scope. We are not asking for any additional  
20 funds. We are asking to change the scope and apply this  
21 to pretty much general engineering services that we may  
22 need throughout the City, rather than just have it be  
23 tailored specifically to coordination meetings with  
24 their exchange since those are no longer needed. We  
25 wanted to use the existing PO but for a different scope.

MR. GOMEZ: Okay. This is not-to-exceed  
\$10,000.

MR. ALLEN: Correct, similar to what the  
original coordination agreement was.

MR. GOMEZ: Okay. Appendix D also has  
their rate schedule here. Any other comments or  
questions?

MR. ALLEN: None.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion we  
approve First Group Engineering, engineering and  
coordination proposal with our Engineering Department.

MR. ALLEN: Second

1 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

2 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
3 Opposed: None

4 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

5 Next we have right-of-way  
6 applications. We have from the Board of Public Works  
7 permit applications 22-041269 to 22-04282. Any  
8 questions or comments on the aforementioned permit  
9 applications?

10 MR. ALLEN: None.

11 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
12 questions, I'd like to make a motion we approve the  
13 aforementioned Public Works permit applications.

14 MR. ALLEN: Second

15 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

16 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
17 Opposed: None

18 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

19 We can come back to James. Do you  
20 have your recommendation for us?

21 MR. PORTALATIN: Yes, I will make my  
22 recommendation per contractor. So Actin Incorporated  
23 was the lowest most responsive bidder for 1117 138th  
24 Street, in the amount of \$7,950.00; 3815 Alder Street,  
25 in the amount of \$8,200.00; and 608 West 143rd, in the  
amount of \$5,000.00; for a total of \$21,150.00.

MR. GOMEZ: Your recommendation will be  
at the end?

MR. PORTALATIN: Yes. JM Industrial  
Services Incorporated was the lowest most responsive  
bidder for 3921 Fern Street, in the amount of  
\$13,900.00; 3435 Fir, in the amount of \$19,500.00; 3912  
Grace, in the amount of \$13,200.00; and 3610 Grand,  
garage and pad \$4,200.00; for total of \$50,800.00.

Richardson Disposal was the lowest  
most responsive bidder for 4833 McCook Avenue, rear  
building and garage \$13,110.00; and 3610 Grant, garage  
-- I'm sorry, I messed that up. 4857 Wegg, garage. So

it was 4838 McCook and 4857 Wegg, and the total amount

1 of \$17,385.00. I recommend that these be awarded as  
2 such.

3 MR. GOMEZ: Are there any questions or  
4 comments on the recommendation from our Building  
5 Department Commissioner?

6 MR. ALLEN: None.

7 MR. GOMEZ: There being no further  
8 questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to  
9 approve aforementioned recommendation from our Building  
10 Commissioner for the 2022 Phase 2 Board of Safety  
11 Demolition of Unsafe Structure Buildings.

12 MR. ALLEN: Second

13 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

14 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
15 Opposed: None

16 MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

17 MR. PORTALATIN: Thank you.

18 MR. GOMEZ: We have no other business.  
19 Our next regular meeting will be September 8, 2022, at  
20 4:30 p.m.

21 That concludes all items on the  
22 agenda. I would make a motion to adjourn.

23 MR. ALLEN: Second

24 MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

25 Roll Call: "All in Favor": All Abstain: None  
Opposed: None

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries. Meeting  
adjourned.

\*\*\*\* Meeting Adjourned \*\*\*\*

1  
2 Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of  
3 August 25, 2022  
4 Approved and Signed August 25, 2022.

5 \_\_\_\_\_  
6 Val Gomez, President

7 \_\_\_\_\_  
8 William Allen, Vice President

9 \_\_\_\_\_  
10 Winna Guzman, member

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12 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 30th day of August, 2022.

*Peggy S. LaLonde*

Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR



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