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, September 10, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Olga Cosme, Secretary
Shana D. Levinson, Legal Counsel

Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Val Gomez
Winna Guzman

MR. GOMEZ: Good afternoon everyone. I'd like to call to order the regular meeting of the Board of Public Works for September 10th, 2026. We do have a quorum.

First item is the approval of minutes of the regular meeting of Thursday, August 27th, 2026. I'd like to make a motion to approve as written.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Now, we have no correspondence, we'll move on to New Business.

First item on the agenda is from Public Works. It's the proposal from Indiana Salt Supply, their 2026-27 Road Salt Proposal for $129.00 per ton, with a not-to-exceed of $100,000.00.

Just for information, the proposal has a figure of $270,000.00 I spoke with Jaylan Robinson, our Public Works Director. He said, if you look on number 3, this is a quantity. That's an

estimated total that they could purchase up to. So he does have a not-to-exceed of $100,000.00 for this company, with the agreement they could go up to $270,000.00 with higher tonnage, if they do need it. That way if we have a bad winter, this allows them -- this quantity is reserved. That's if anybody has any questions on why it's at 270.

Any other questions or comments on this?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting the proposal from Indiana Salt Supply with the not-to-exceed of $100,000.00 for 2026-27 Winter season.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Krooswyk Trucking & Excavating. This is also from Public Works. It's also the 2026-27 winter road salt proposal and this has a not-to-exceed of $100,000.00 also. Here they have approximate 22 tons at $129.00.

Any questions or comments on Krooswyk's proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting the proposal for road salt with Krooswyk Trucking.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have Highland Body Shop, this is also from Public Works. It's Highland Body Shop's rate table for December 2026 through December 2027, their body labor, refinish labor, paint/material rates, structure/frame labor, mechanical labor. There's a not-to-exceed of $70,000.00 for Public Works, $70,000.00 for the Police Department, and

$70,000.00 for other departments.

Are there any questions or comments on this rate schedule?

MS. GUZMAN: Just to note, Times/Rates are subject to change for heavy duty and specialty vehicles.

MR. GOMEZ: Okay. Any other questions or comments?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Highland Body Shop's rate schedule for 2026 to 2027.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Precision Painting, it's from Public Works also. It's for painting the Police Department interior. The amount is $9,330.00. They do have a second quote from Martinez Construction for $16,750.00. The proposal has the details, includes the police department offices and conference room for that total.

Any questions or comments on this proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the proposal with Precision Painting for Public Works.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we come to Government Fixed Asset Services, Inc. This is a proposal regarding the annual capital asset reporting for the City for the coming fiscal year end for 2026. Mr. Nielsen has been

doing this, providing this service for the City for, as far as I know, over ten years. And the proposal is in regard to the City Capital Assets, including the General Fixed Asset Account, the general infrastructure, and the assets of the Water Utility and Sanitary District, and also updating Capital Asset information maintained by the City for the fiscal year 2026.

As I mentioned, he has been doing this for several years and he's pretty good at it. It also instructs different people on the account.

Any questions or comments on this proposal? It's for the amount of $4,950.00.

MS. GUZMAN: And that's plus expenses, including local community expenses. I'll second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we come to Legacy Fire Apparatus for the Fire Department. This is part of the City of East Chicago's Fire Department emergency apparatus service, which we approved. That's the service policy that we approved in January of 2026. What they are asking for is an additional $20,000.00 not-to-exceed. They have already used their first not-to-exceed of $20,000.00, so they are asking for another 20,000.

Any questions or comments on this proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: None.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the Fire Department's request for an increase of $20,000.00 not-to-exceed with Legacy Fire Apparatus.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next item is also from the Fire Department. It's a donation check from the Refractory Service Corp., for $150.00. We do have a statement from Ron Bergen, Deputy Chief of the Fire Department.

"Board Members, Refractory Service Company has awarded the East Chicago Fire

Department a $150.00 donation in support for our annual programs this year. These funds will be used for services for our future fire programs. Please let this submission show a record of the East Chicago Fire Department's acceptance of these funds."

Any questions or comments on this donation check?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions are comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting the donation check of $150.00 for the Fire Department.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Service Sanitation, this is for payment for porta potties at Fusic Fest. They paid Service Sanitation for porta potties at Fusic Fest and with the changes made by Special Events, the price increased $4,000.00 from the original quote. The total is now $10,480.00.

Any questions or comments on this proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Service Sanitation's proposal for Fusic Fest, in the amount of $10,480.00.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Federal Protection, also for Special Events. It's a proposal to pay Federal Protection for security services for Fusic Fest, in the amount of $15,463.04.

Any questions or comments on this proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: None.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion accepting the proposal from Federal Protection for Fusic Fest.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have from Crown Rentals, Seniors Flower Show. This was for a tent for the Flower Show, which was 40 by 100-foot tent, also for 230 additional chairs. It's to reimburse the City's credit card for the Crown Rental amount of $7,195.22.
So, for the record, they needed the City's credit card to pay for the chairs and they were getting reimbursed.
Any questions or comments on this proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: None.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Special Events request to reimburse the credit card amount of $7,195.22.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have also from Special Events. This is from Iglesia Del Dios, Seniors on the Lake event. This is -- apparently they needed 20 additional plates that were requested at the Seniors on the Lake event for the band and the dancers. This is to pay for their lunches in the amount -- for the extra 20 plates -- $720.00.
Any questions or comments on this proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion

approving the amount of $720.00 for additional plates to Iglesia Del Dios, Seniors on the Lake event.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have City of East Chicago, Board of Public Works, Resolution No. 2026-12. A Resolution of the East Chicago Board of Public Works authorizing a modification of the City's contract for legal services for Attorney Ricardo Hall.

"Whereas, the Board previously authorized the and approved its contract with Attorney Ricardo Hall for calendar year 2026, which, established a cap for fees in the amount of $75,000.00, and

Whereas, the Board now desires to extend the cap contained in that contract by an amount not-to-exceed $25,000.00.

Therefore be it resolved by the East Chicago Board of Public Works that the Ricardo Hall contract be modified so as to allow for payment for those services for an additional amount of $25,000.00, subject to the submission of itemized statements approved by the City Controller and the Common Council.

Certified and adopted by the Board of Public Works of the City of East Chicago, on this 10th day of September, 2026."

Any questions or comments?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Resolution number 2026-12.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Now we come to outstanding invoices. We have only have one today. So we have one outstanding invoice from IT Department for Vermillion Systems. It's dated 6/1/26, in the amount of $524.86. Explanation:

The Alta Camera software 2026 renewal is past due because of a misplaced invoice. The total amount is $524.86.

Any questions or comments on this invoice?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the late invoice to Vermillion Systems.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Miranda's Concrete, this is from Engineering Department. Miranda's will be replacing sidewalk and curbs on 151st/McCook. So it's 5025 McCook sidewalk and curb, 4800-block McCook sidewalk, 4800-block McCook curb only, 4029 Melville sidewalk, for amount of $55,027.50.

Any questions or comments on this proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Engineering's request for Miranda's Concrete replacing sidewalks and curbs for McCook and Melville Streets.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from INDOT. We have a change order for Rieth Riley, the Marquette Trail. The change order is for $14,840.12. However, the City only pays 20 percent and that amount is $2,968.02. The remaining 80 percent is paid by INDOT. So change order is only for $2,968.02. That's our share.

Any questions or comments on this change order from Rieth Riley?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd make a motion approving the change order with Rieth-Riley, from INDOT, in the amount of $2,968.02.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have also from Engineering Department, the vendor is IKIO LED lighting, Demonstration Authorization and Agreement. This is for LED street lighting project. The demonstration will be on 1601 East 144th Street and 3044 Pine Avenue. The demonstration price will be $3,200.00 per location, for a total of $6,400.00.
The purpose is the City wishes to observe LED street lighting fixtures and installation in the field at two City locations as part of the City's evaluation of a potential city-wide LED street lighting project. This is a federal project and demonstration is not a phase of, and is not conditioned on any city-wide project. Neither party is obligated by this Authorization to proceed with, negotiate, or award any further work.
A separate document for any city-wide LED street lighting project will be required, that separate document signed by both parties following all required City approvals.
The total for this Demonstration Authorization Agreement, field demonstration, is that $6,400.00.
Any questions or comments on this proposal?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the Demonstration Authorization between the City of East Chicago and IKIO Led lighting.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have from CSX

Transportation, this is a Quiet Zone proposal from the Engineering Department, Agreement with the CXS and City of East Chicago.

Tf you recall, previously we brought this up before the Board and we have been following the agreement with different phases. And this phase is for the Engineering Agreement for the City's Quiet Zone.

The scope of work for this proposal is to be done by CSXT under the Agreement shall consist to establish a new Quiet Zone in the City of East Chicago. That will consist of the following: The preparation or review and approval of preliminary and final engineering and design plans, specifications, drawings, agreements and other documents pertaining to the project to establish this Quiet Zone. The cost is $53,735.00, and that's an estimate. If the cost exceeds the estimate, CSX will provide the City with a revised estimate or provided cost for the City.

Are there any questions or comments on this preliminary Engineering Agreement?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving CSX Transportation's Quiet Zone services for our City of East Chicago Quiet Zone project.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Hasse Construction amended Change Order #1 for Olcott Reconstruction. This pertains to a change order we approved previously by the Board of Works. It's being amended again. The amended change order for Hasse Construction for the Olcott Reconstruction, the previous change order was from $25,122.00 and changed to $18,702.00. This new change order changes that amount to a zero amount. So that will be taken out of a line item already included in the Agreement. So it started at 25, went to 18, to zero. So that's pretty good. No cost to the City.

Any questions or comments on this change order from Hasse?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve Change Order -- the latest change order from Hasse Construction for the Olcott Reconstruction Project.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we come to right-of-way applications from Engineering. We have four before us. We have Board of Public Works permit application number 26-05556 to 26-05559.
Any questions or comments on these four permit applications?

MS. GUZMAN: No.

MR. GOMEZ: There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve the aforementioned Board of Public Works permit applications.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
That concludes our New Business. We have no other business.
Our next regular scheduled meeting will be September 24th, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.
That concludes all items on the agenda, I would make a motion for adjournment.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

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

Meeting adjourned.

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Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of
September 10, 2026
Approved and Signed September 10, 2026.

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Val Gomez, President

_____
Winna Guzman, Vice President

_____
Frank Rivera, member

_____
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 September, 2026.

Peggy S. LaLonde

Peggy S LaLonde
Notary Public Seal State of Indiana
Porter County
Commission Number NP0710216
My Commission Expires 2/6/2034