

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO  
PLAN COMMISSION MEETING  
September 20, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS:	STAFF:
Valeriano Gomez, President	Ateria Allen, Secretary
Anthony Serna, Vice-President	Richard Morrisroe
Lilia Ramos, Secretary	Douglas Powers
Joanne Moricz, Commissioner	
Chanthini Fowler, Commissioner	
Douglas Sloss, Commissioner	
William Allen, Commissioner	
Lydia Lopez, Commissioner	
Stacy Winfield, Commissioner	

Reported for Fissinger & Associates, Ltd.

By: Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR RPR

Call to Order: 4:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Roll Call: Present in Chambers: Valeriano Gomez,  
Anthony Serna, William Allen  
Present Via Telephone Confererence: Lilia  
Ramos, Joanne Moricz, Douglas Sloss, Lydia  
Lopez, Stacy Winfield, Chanthini Fowler

STAFF: Present in Chambers: Ateria Allen,  
Richard Morrisroe, Douglas Powers

MR. GOMEZ: We have approval of minutes  
of the regular meeting, Monday, September 1, 2021.  
Entertain a motion to approve as written.

MR. ALLEN: So moved.

MS. RAMOS: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

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

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Let the record show that our member,  
Anthony Serna, has joined the meeting.

Move on to New Business. We have  
City Planner's report. Mr. Powers, you have the floor.

1 MR. POWERS: Thank you, Commissioners.  
2 So earlier last week I met with the president of the  
3 Planning Commission, Val Gomez, as well as our attorney,  
4 Richard Morrisroe. We had received a report from the  
5 Whiting Economic Development Commission concerning the  
6 proposed financing of certain pollution controls,  
7 sewage, and solid waste disposal facilities. The  
8 document that we had received currently is what we have  
9 been able to acquire in regards to information about  
10 this. We have yet to receive any additional documents.

11 Mr. Morrisroe, would you like to  
12 speak more about this?

13 MR. MORRISROE: Just briefly. Richard  
14 Morrisroe, Assistant City Attorney. You notice there  
15 was a change in the packet you received. What you  
16 originally received was an education program for Chapter  
17 4. After discussion with the President and with the  
18 Planner, we sent to you, or included for you a copy of  
19 the Whiting Economic Development Commission 600  
20 million dollar -- which is not small change -- which is  
21 to be spent on pollution control, sewage, and solid  
22 waste disposal facilities.

23 I sent an e-mail to the Whiting City  
24 Planner, Denise Seja, who I have known on and off  
25 through the years. She did not receive any more  
information than what we sent to you.

Now, there is a public hearing  
scheduled for tomorrow evening. Mr. Powers and I are  
planning on attending that public hearing, at 5:30, at  
Whiting City Hall. We hope to find out more about this.  
The sewage disposal facility, which primarily concerns  
water and the use of Lake Michigan, is not so much a  
concern to us as the City of East Chicago and citizens  
of Northwest Indiana, but the solid waste disposal  
facility is.

They mention in here the heavier  
Canadian crude oil. This has been a primary producer of  
petco. You recall the issue of shipping petco and  
possibly even setting up a special rail yard, the  
Canadian National was proposing that in our Superfund  
Zone 3, to have three rails so that they could ship  
petco from the BP plant, in Whiting, down to New Orleans  
and to be shipped to overseas markets.

We don't know for sure what their  
planning is, we just want to monitor it. They had a  
legal duty to send us this notice of a hearing.  
However, it is very, very short change, if you will, as  
far as what they were planning on doing and how it

1 effects or may effect East Chicago. So we'll try to  
2 report. We simply wanted to share this with you. It  
3 will be on our agenda for next time and hopefully we  
4 will have more information.

5 MR. GOMEZ: Any questions or comments of  
6 Mr. Morrisroe or Mr. Powers?

7 MS. WINFIELD: I'm glad to hear what he's  
8 saying, because like I said once before, it's something  
9 mailed out to us during the day. If I can receive a  
10 phone call because I do not access my e-mail during the  
11 day because I do work. So I really don't -- just by  
12 listening to what he said -- know what is going on.

13 MR. GOMEZ: Okay, we'll have Ateria do  
14 that if we have anything new.

15 Any other questions or comments?  
16 (None) Thank you, Mr. Morrisroe.

17 That concludes the City Planner's  
18 report. We'll move on to Old Business. We have no Old  
19 Business. Commissioner comments: (None) We have no  
20 public before us.

21 Our next meeting will be Monday,  
22 October 4th, at 4:30 p.m.. That concludes our agenda  
23 for today. Entertain a motion for adjournment.

24 MR. SERNA: So moved.

25 MR. ALLEN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: Roll call.

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

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries. Meeting  
adjourned.

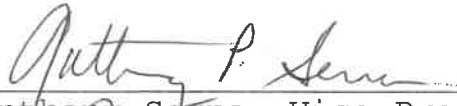
\*\*\* Meeting adjourned \*\*\*

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of Monday  
September 1, 2021

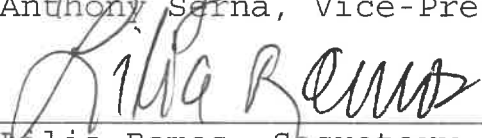
Approved and signed October 4, 2021



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Valeriano Gomez, President



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Anthony Sarna, Vice-President



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Lilia Ramos, Secretary

Joanne Moricz / Zoom

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Joanne Moricz, Commissioner

Chanthini Fowler / Zoom

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Chanthini Fowler

Douglass Sloss / Zoom

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William Allen

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Lydia Lopez

Stacy Winfield / Zoom

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Stacy Winfield



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Ateria Allen, 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 Munster, Indiana, this 25th day of September, 2021.

*Peggy S. LaLonde*

Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR



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