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 24, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.

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

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

Call to Order: 4:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Val Gomez
Frank Rivera
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 24th, 2026. We do have a quorum.

First item is the approval of minutes of the regular meeting of Thursday, September 10th, 2026. I'd like to make a motion to approve as written.

MR. RIVERA: 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 Dream Builders, Public Works intercom from the IT Department. We have a statement from Kevin Klocek, our IT Administrator.

"This proposal is to install a new intercom intercom system for admission to the

newly constructed secured entrance at Public Works. The proposal provided is quoted based on the Dream Builders approved rate schedule. (Which the Board approved on 2/2/26.) The total proposal amount is $18,887.30."

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

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

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next on the agenda is from KRONOS, timekeeping annual support and hosting. This is also from IT Department. We have a statement from Kevin Klocek, our IT Administrator.

"This agreement is for the renewal of the 2026-2027 Annual KORNOS hosting and support services for our KRONOS UKG Pro timekeeping solution managed by Rob Johnson as part of processing payroll for the City. The 12 month renewal total cost of the hosting services is $59,963.90."

Are there any questions? This is a recurring proposal we get every year. Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve the KRONOS proposal for the timekeeping support for IT Department.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have a donation check. This is for the Fire Department from Tradebe, at 4343 Kennedy Avenue, for $500.00. We do have a statement from Chief Escebedo.

"Dear Board Members, Tradebe has awarded the East Chicago Fire Department a $500.00 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 accepting these funds."

Any questions or comments on this donation check? (None)

There being no questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve the donation to East Chicago Fire Department of $500.00 from Tradebe.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from Calumet Waste & Recycling. This is a proposal from Calumet Waste & Recycling to remove eight evergreen trees and stumps at the police station and also lay sod. They did get a second quote from Devine Landscaping. Calumet Waste's proposal is $6,800.00 and Devine Landscaping is for $7,060.00. So Calumet Waste is the lowest most responsive.

Any questions or comments on this project for removal of trees? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Calumet Waste & Recycling's proposal for East Chicago Police Department tree removal project.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have Steiner Electric, battery replacement at ECPD. This proposal is from Public Works. The proposal is from Steiner and the service for Eaton battery replacement service to ECPD. It's removing 108 old batteries and replacing with new, and checking the system. According to the UPS module, the warranty runs from 10/1/26 through 9/30/2028. And the amount is $13,513.25.

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

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

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have from Public Works three auction items. I'll go through each one and then make a motion.

First one is for East Chicago Public Works auction item per paining to the Public Works Perkins garbage attachments. We do have a letter from Jaylen Johnson, Vehicle Maintenance Manager.

"Dear Mr. President, Attached you will find a description of three attachments previously used to collect garbage. These 3 attachments were previously installed on 3 pickup trucks and were used to collect trash from parks and other areas around the City. Recently Public Works has obtained a more efficient way of collecting trash from these areas which has left the 3 attachments unused and no longer needed. We ask that the listed equipment be deemed surplus for auction in the near future."

And as I said before, that's from Jaylen Johnson. All the details on the attachments are listed, and there's quite a number of pictures on them.

Any questions or comments on this request? (None)

The second one is also from Public Works and concerns East Chicago Marina vehicle number 3431.

"Dear Mr. President, Attached you will find a description and photos of a 2006 Chevy Impala formerly belonging to the East Chicago Marina. The vehicle is in poor condition with the underbody rusting and signs of rust in various placed on the outer body of the vehicle. The vehicle also has a recent history of electrical and mechanical issues that are typical for this make and model as it currently sits at 21 years of use by the City of East Chicago. With obtained approval from the Mayor's office, we ask this vehicle be deemed surplus and auctioned off in the near future. Jaylen Johnson"

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

The final one is for East Chicago

Public Works vehicles number 611, 614, 615.

"Dear Mr. President, Attached you will find a description and photos of 3 Ford Explorers (611, 614, 615) formerly belonging to the East Chicago Police Department and currently the Public Works Department. The vehicle are in poor condition with the underbody rusting and signs of rust in various places on the outer body of the vehicles. The vehicles also have mechanical issues that are typical for these make and models as the oldest currently sits at almost 13 years of use by the City of East Chicago. With obtained approval from the Mayor's office we ask that the listed vehicles be deemed surplus and auctioned off in the near future."

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving auction items from Public Works: The Perkins garbage attachments; the Marina vehicle number 3431, and Public Works vehicles 611, 614, and 615.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next item we have outstanding invoices. We have three. First one for Public Works. The vendor is Pittsburgh Paints Company. Past due invoice dated 3/6/026, amount of $9,075.00. Explanation: Invoice was received late by our department.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

The next one is from Primo Brands from the Building Department. Vendor is Primo Brands. Late invoice dated 4/26/26, in the amount of $78.94. Explanation: The company name changed from Hinckley to Primo Brands and new PO needed to be obtained.

Any questions or comments on this late invoice? (None)

The third and final one is from the Police Department. It's from Casa Lupita restaurant. They have submitted, looks like five late invoices dated 8/26/26. Even though invoice is dated 8/26/26, it's for

October 2025 services. That one was for $362.50. The next one is -- I believe these are all in the same invoice -- but the second one from November of 2025 is for $1,080.25. And the next one is from December 2025 for $406.00. Then May 2026 for $978.75. And the final one was from June 2026 for $1,058.50. The grand total is $3,886.00. Explanation: The invoices were submitted late by e-mail. That's over a year almost.

Any questions or comments on this one? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving for payment the three aforementioned late invoices from Pittsburgh Paints, Primo Brands, and Casa Lupita.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have from the Police Department a proposal from Best Technology Systems. We have do a statement from the department.

"The East Chicago Police Department requests the approval of the attached Best Technology Systems agreement. This agreement will allow the necessary maintenance for ECPD gun range."

That's ECPD requesting proposal approval of Best Technology Systems proposal items 1 through 8, and the paperwork, they have included the total for 1 through 8, which is $17,730.00.

Any questions or comments on this proposal for the police department? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving the proposal from Best Technology Systems for the ECPD gun range.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we also have from the Police Department, a proposal from Jacqueline Augustine & Associates for the ECPD. The police department is requesting approval of the attached agreement for psychological services for the Police personnel as

needed.

This is ongoing. I think they have been using this firm for, or this Doctor -- I know we had a different one before, but this one has been used for awhile. The main part is everything is confidential for police officers and I believe this is also the same firm that does it for the fire department. They do have their rates on here for different sessions and different types of therapy. I'm trying to see if they put a not-to-exceed. I don't think they did.

MS. LEVINSON: Just the cost of the actual services.

MR. GOMEZ: Cost of the sessions. I'll have to check with the Police Chief on the not-to-exceed.

Any other questions or comments? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve the proposal for psychological services for ECPD with Jacqueline Augustine & Associates and my inquiring from the Police Chief on the not-to-exceed.

MS. GUZMAN: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next, also from the Police Department, we have a proposal from ShotSpotter.

"The East Chicago Police Department requests the approval of the attached SoundThinking ShotSpotter agreement. ShotSpotter is an acoustic gunfire detection system that alerts law enforcement to gunfire incidents in real time, enabling rapid and precise police response.

If approved, this invoice will not be paid until January 2027. Funds are available within the 2027 Police Department's general budget."

This proposal is from 1st of January 2027 to 31st of December 2027, in the amount of $219,903.00.

Any questions or comments on this proposal? (None)

There being no further questions or

comments, I would make a motion to approve the agreement for SpotShotter with the ECPD.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we come to a proposal for Special Events. It's from a company called Around the Town Entertainment LLC, and it's for two events. The first one is for Santa and Mrs. Claus for the Toy Drive, amount of $1,295.00. And the second one is for Santa and Mrs. Claus again, for the Christmas Party, at a cost of $648.00. The total on that is $1,940.00.
Are there any questions or comments on the Santa Claus proposal for the two events? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion to approve the proposal from -- I think the company name is Around the Town Entertainment -- for Santa and Mrs. Claus for the Toy Drive and Christmas Party, for the amount of $1,940.00.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we come to Resolution 2026-13, Board of Public Works.
"City of East Chicago Board of Public Works, Resolution 2026-13. A Resolution from the Board of Public Works establishing terms and conditions for the transfer of certain property owned by the City of East Chicago to East Chicago Department of Redevelopment, which property is to commonly known as Exchange and Indianapolis Boulevard, East Chicago Indiana, (parcel No. 45-03-29-407-002.000-024) and 4603 Indianapolis Boulevard, Suite B, East Chicago Indiana. (Parcel No. 45-03-29-407-005.000-024.
Whereas, the City of East Chicago owns property within the City of East Chicago listed in the title of this resolution commonly known address and parcel numbers; and

Whereas, I.C. 36-1-11 prescribed the manner of disposal and conveyance of real property by political subdivision; and

Whereas, I.C. 36-1-11-8 provides that such entities may transfer or exchange property on terms and conditions and for such consideration as evidenced by adopting of substantially identical resolutions by such entities; and

Whereas, the City of East Chicago acting through the Board of Public Works, desires to convey and transfer the subject property without monetary consideration to the East Chicago Department of Redevelopment.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City of East Chicago that it shall convey and transfer, without consideration, the above described real estate, as particularly described on the attached quitclaim deed, to the East Chicago Department of Redevelopment who shall accept said property acting through its commission.

Be it further resolved that the Redevelopment Commission President once approved by the Commission, shall be authorized to receive a deed substantially conforming to the document attached, conveying such property the East Chicago Department of Redevelopment along with appropriate sales disclosure forms.

Certified and adopted by the Board of Public Works, City of East Chicago, Indiana on the 24th day of September, 2026."

We do have the quitclaim deed signed by the President of this Board and also the Sales Disclosure Form, which I signed.

Any questions or comments on this resolution? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Resolution number 2026-13.

MR. RIVERA: 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 2026-14.

"A Resolution of the East Chicago Board of Public Works establishing terms and conditions for the transfer of certain property owned by the City of East Chicago, to the East Chicago Department of Redevelopment, which property is commonly known as 4942 Melville Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana 46312 (Parcel No. 45-03-33-128-040.000- 024.

Whereas, The City of East Chicago owns property within the City of East Chicago listed in the title of this resolution by commonly known address and parcel number; and

Whereas, I.C. 36-1-11 prescribes the manner of disposal and conveyance of real property by political subdivision; and

Whereas, I.C. 36-1-11-8 provides that such entities may transfer or exchange property on terms and conditions, and for such consideration as evidenced by adopting of substantially identical resolutions by such entities; and

Whereas, the City of East Chicago, acting through Board of Public Works, desires to convey and transfer the subject property without monetary considerations to East Chicago Department of Redevelopment.

Now, Therefore, be it resolved by the City of East Chicago that it shall convey and transfer, without consideration, the above described real estate, as particularly described on the attached quitclaim deed to the East Chicago Department of Redevelopment who shall accept said property acting through its commission.

Be it further resolved, that the Redevelopment Commission President once approved by the Commission shall be authorized to receive a deed substantially conforming to the document attached, conveying such property the East Chicago Department of Redevelopment, along with the appropriate Sales Disclosure Forms.

Certified and adopted by the Board of Public Works of the City of East Chicago, Lake County, Indiana on this 24th day of September, 2026."

Any questions on this? (None)

There being no further questions or

comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Resolution 2026-14.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have Resolution 2026-15.
"A Resolution of the East Chicago Board of Public Works authorizing a modification of the City's contract for legal services with Smith Sersic.
Whereas, the Board previously authorized and approved the contract with Smith Sersic LLC for fund calendar year 2026, which, among other things, established a cap for fees in the amount of $65,000.00; and
Whereas, the Board now desires to extend the cap contained in that contract by an amount not-to-exceed of $30,000.00.
Now, therefore be it resolved by the East Chicago Board of Public Works that the Smith Sersic contract be modified so as to allow payment for those services for an additional $30,000.00, subject to the submission of itemized statement approved by the City Controller and the Common Council.
Certified and adopted by the Board of Public Works of the City of East Chicago, Indiana on this 24th day of September, 2026."
Any questions or comments on this resolution? (None)
There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving Resolution 2026-15.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?
(All signify aye.)
MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.
Next we have from Short Elliott Hendrickson, we have two proposals. This is from the Engineering Department. The first one is a supplemental letter of agreement with Short Elliott Hendrickson for an amendment for construction inspection and engineering services for the Magoun Avenue Project due to extension in time for the contractor. This is for RPR, Resident

Project Representative services. They have a not-to-exceed of $50,000.00.

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

I'd like to make a motion approving the SEH amendment for the Magoun Avenue Project.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next one is also from Engineering Department. This one is also from Short Elliott Hendrickson, an agreement for professional services for inspection services for the Sophia Street new construction project. Not-to-exceed for this one is $95,000.00.

Any questions or comments on this agreement for professional services? (None)

There being no further questions or comments, I'd like to make a motion approving SEH's proposal for the Sophia Street Project.

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

Next we have the right-of-way applications. We have right-of-way Board of Public Works permit application number 26-05560 through 26-05575. That's 15 Public Works permit applications.

Are there any questions or comments on these permit applications? (None)

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

MR. RIVERA: Second.

MR. GOMEZ: All in favor say aye?

(All signify aye.)

MR. GOMEZ: Motion carries.

We have no other business. Our next regular meeting will be Thursday, October 8, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.

That concludes all items on the agenda, I'd like to make a motion for adjournment.

MR. RIVERA: 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 24, 2026
Approved and Signed September 24, 2026.

_____
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 28th day of September, 2026.

Peggy S. LaLonde

Peggy S. LaLonde

Peggy S LaLonde
Notary Public Seal State of Indiana
Porter County
Commission Number NP0710218
My Commission Expires 2/6/2034