

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF WATERWORKS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS:

John Bakota, President
Henry Ventura, Vice-President
Joseph Ochoa, Member
Anthony Askounis, Member
Ray Lopez, Member

STAFF:

Joseph Allegretti
Winna Guzman
Allan Lee
Ateria Allen
Rebecca Sliger

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

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present in Chambers: John Bakota, Henry
Ventura, Joseph Ochoa, Anthony Askounis,
Ray Lopez

STAFF Present in Chambers: Ateria Allen,
Rebecca Sliger

STAFF Present via Zoom: Joseph Allegretti

MR. BAKOTA: I would call to order the
meeting of the Water Board for October 16, 2023. We'll
move on to approval of minutes of October 2nd, 2023 as
written.

MR. LOPEZ: Make a motion to approve.

MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Next approval of Warrants. Payroll:
Warrant 101323, \$12,859.65, Utilities Payroll, dates of
9-23-23 to 10-6-23.

MR. ASKOUNIS: Motion to accept.

MR. VENTURA: Second.

1 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

2 (All signify aye.)

3 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
4 Warrant 101323, amount of
\$48,364.75, payroll dates of 9-23-23 to 10-6-23.

5 MR. VENTURA: Motion to approve.

6 MR. OCHOA: Second.

7 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

8 (All signify aye.)

9 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
Accounts Payroll: Warrant 101023
WU, amount \$27,114.15.

10 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

11 MR. OCHOA: Second.

12 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

13 (All signify aye.)

14 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
Warrant 101323 WB, amount
\$135,629.69.

15 MR. ASKOUNIS: Make a motion to accept.

16 MR. VENTURA: Second.

17 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

18 (All signify aye.)

19 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
Warrant 101623 WB, amount
\$59,641.06.

20 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

21 MR. VENTURA: Second.

22 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

23 (All signify aye.)

24 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
Warrant 101623 WT, amount \$562.16.
25

1 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

2 MR. OCHOA: Second.

3 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?

(None) All in favor?

4 (All signify aye.)

5 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Warrant 101623 CD, amount \$902.41.

6 MR. OCHOA: Motion to approve.

7 MR. VENTURA: Second.

8 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?

(None) All in favor?

9 (All signify aye.)

10 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Warrant 103123 WB, amount of
\$8,400.00.

11 MR. OCHOA: Motion to approve.

12 MR. LOPEZ: Second.

13 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?

14 (None) All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

15 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

16 Filtration Report: Jose Cisneros.

Report in packet.

17 Water Report: Winna Guzman. Report

in packet.

18 Distribution Report: Allan Lee.

Report in packet

19 Legal Counsel: Joseph Allegretti.

20 MR. ALLEGRETTI: There is a resolution to
approve, Resolution 23-27, which is an amendment to our
21 bond resolution. These amendments are modifications to
our current bond resolution which were made at the
22 request of the IRLF, that is the State Revolving Loan
Fund, to comply with some current protocol. The changes
23 from this one, the amended one, to the original bond
resolution that the Board has already passed are kind of
24 superficial. There's no significant changes. Bringing
the gross amount allowed of \$30,000,000 down to what is
25 approved by the State Revolving by the IURC,
\$24,000,000. So it's nothing earth shaking, just kind

1 of a housekeeping item.

2 MR. BAKOTA: On that, Joe, I notice it
3 says not-to-exceed \$24,720,000 and that's the only limit
4 that they have?

5 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Yeah, that's the limit
6 that'S approved by the IURC as part of our rate case.
7 There is some other superficial changes I will send
8 along. There is a copy, but there is nothing to change,
9 you know, the basic authorization to issue bonds. It's
10 just changing some of the wording around to accommodate
11 the current legal staff of the State Revolving Loan
12 Fund. No significant changes.

13 MR. BAKOTA: Thank you.

14 MR. ALLEGRETTI: Of course, staff
15 recommends that the Board adopt it.

16 MR. BAKOTA: Okay, thank you.
17 Financial Report: William
18 Biller/Rebecca Sliger.

19 MS. SLIGER: No report at this time.

20 MR. BAKOTA: New Business: Resolution WD
21 23-27, an amended and restated resolution authorizing
22 the acquisition, construction, installation and
23 equipping by the Department of Waterworks of the City of
24 East Chicago, Indiana, certain improvements and
25 extension of the City's Waterworks, the issuance and
sale of revenue bonds to provide funds for the bond
anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and
sale of such bonds, and the collection, segregation, and
distribution of revenues of such Waterworks and other
related matters.

MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Resolution WD 23-28, A resolution of
the Board of Directors of the East Chicago Department of
Waterworks authorizing the disposal of surplus

1 property. There's a list in your packet.

2 MR. ASKOUNIS: Make a motion.

3 MR. LOPEZ: Second.

4 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
5 (None) All in favor?

6 (All signify aye.)

7 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

8 Next we have Proposals. Calumet
9 City Plumbing, Inc., 16-inch water main repair at
10 Indianapolis Boulevard and McShane Avenue, \$14,000 to
11 \$18,000. That's an approximate cost?

12 MS. SLIGER: If I might, the two
13 proposals that you are seeing, they are actually
14 presented for the exact same project. The
15 recommendation to the Board is that we sign off on the
16 Hasse proposal as they have the equipment necessary to
17 do this project readily at their disposal and their
18 quote is actually lower than what CCP is.

19 MR. BAKOTA: I thought that was just a
20 spread of the cost for Calumet City Plumbing.

21 MS. SLIGER: Well, that's what they are
22 offering for that job, that's the 16-inch water main.
23 But Hasse is the one that's right below for that exact
24 same project. Those are the exact same locations. They
25 were suppose to be the ones that were both for Canal
Street. They are for Canal Street. It's actually the
canal that's on the Boulevard and McShane, where the
canal meets. Those two proposals are that exact same
project. It's a pipe in the canal that can only be
accessed by boat right now while the water level is low
enough.

So, the two were sent in together
because we needed to have two quotes for this job. We
are recommending that the Hasse quote be the one that's
accepted.

MR. BAKOTA: All right. So Calumet City
Plumbing is just a quote?

MS. SLIGER: Right. You are looking at
Calumet City Plumbing first, but the next one that you
are going to read is Hasse Construction. It's for the
same job. They are two bids for the same job. They

1 should have been put together with the recommendation
2 that we accept Hasse, but they are kind of separated on
3 the agenda.

4 MR. BAKOTA: We should disregard Calumet
5 City?

6 MS. SLIGER: You can disregard it. It's
7 there for informational purposes only.

8 MR. BAKOTA: We are going to disregard
9 that Calumet City quote. We are going with Hasse
10 Construction, remove and replace repair band at Canal
11 and Indianapolis Boulevard, amount of \$13,806.00.

12 MR. LOPEZ: Motion to approve.

13 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

14 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
15 (None) All in favor?

16 (All signify aye.)

17 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
18 Next, Adjustments. Raymond Mital,
19 4848 Baring Avenue. This is matter of late fees he was
20 charged and reconsidered. The recommendation will have
21 to be three percent water late fee for \$.50 be removed.
22 The total is \$40.99.

23 MR. VENTURA: Make a motion to approve.

24 MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

25 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.
Rate Sheet: Allen Landscape, in
Highland, 2024 item price list, not-to-exceed
\$150,000.00.

MS. SLIGER: These are going to be for
the supplies and things Distribution is going to need to
do some of their own repair work. This is going to be
like the rock and soil and things like that for them to
be able to buy in bulk.

MR. BAKOTA: That's at any location
within the Water Department?

1 MS. SLIGER: What we will do, remember
2 those containment walls that we were getting and having
3 them installed by the old conventional plant? What we
4 were doing is making little areas to be able to store
5 dump trucks full of rock and soil and things like that.
6 That's what this price list is referring to. It's going
7 to be for those types of materials.

8 MR. BAKOTA: Do I have a motion?

9 MR. VENTURA: Motion to accept.

10 MR. OCHOA: Second.

11 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
12 (None) All in favor?

13 (All signify aye.)

14 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

15 Next is Change Order, Calumet City
16 Plumbing, change order #1 for 1221 Kosciusko Boulevard
17 project. Original amount was \$4,625.00. There is an
18 add on of \$140.00. So the change order will bring the
19 total to \$4,765.00.

20 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

21 MR. VENTURA: Second the motion.

22 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
23 (None) All in favor?

24 (All signify aye.)

25 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Next Past Due invoice. Granger, \$533.45
from Filtration. This says, just received these
invoices, two of the invoices were sent but not to me.
Had to reach out to the company to find out do we have
any past due invoices.

MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

MR. ASKOUNIS: Second.

MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Next is Hasse Construction,
\$8,052.00. Reason, invoice was received at the time of
completion of the emergency. However, funds were not

1 available at the time for processing of the claim.

2 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to approve.

3 MR. VENTURA: Second.

4 MR. BAKOTA: Any comments or questions?
(None) All in favor?

5 (All signify aye.)

6 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

7 Next is other. FYI, Redline version
of bond resolution. And that's the stack of paper you
have in your packet and that's just for your
information.

8
9 MS. SLIGER: That's referring to that
Resolution 23-27, that's showing what the actual changes
were that they made if you want to look at that.

10
11 MR. BAKOTA: All right, thank you.
Unfinished Business: None
Public Comment: None
12 Our next meeting is Monday,
November 6, 2023, here in Council Chambers at
13 5:00 o'clock.

14 Do I have a motion for adjournment?

15 MR. OCHOA: Make a motion to adjourn.

16 MR. VENTURA: Second.

17 MR. BAKOTA: All in favor?

(All signify aye.)

18 MR. BAKOTA: Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned. Thank you.

19 ***** Meeting adjourned *****
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Approval of the Meeting Minutes of
October 16, 2023

Approved and signed November 6, 2023

John Bakota

John Bakota, President

Henry Ventura

Henry Ventura, Vice-President

Joseph Lopez

Joseph Lopez, Member

Anthony Askounis

Anthony Askounis, Member

Ray Lopez

Ray Lopez, Member

Ateria Allen

Ateria Allen, 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 20th day of October, 2023.

Peggy S. LaLonde



Peggy S. LaLonde, CSR, RPR