

**CITY OF NILES**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY, June 22, 2015, 6:00PM**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael McCauslin in the City Council Chambers, 1345 East Main Street, at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Michael McCauslin.

**PRESENT:** Georgia Boggs, Scott Clark, Robert Durm, David Mann, Tim Skalla, William Weimer, Mayor Michael McCauslin

**ABSENT:** Gretchen Bertschy and Daniel VandenHeede

**STAFF:** Casperson, Dunlap, Huff, Lamb, Landgraf, Millin, Ray, Wise

**MEDIA:** Niles Daily Star

**AUDIENCE:** 20

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

Jan Personette encouraged the community to attend the Fort St. Joseph Archeology Open House this weekend. Judy Truesdall and Terry Truesdall introduced Dr. Paul Clements, professor of political science at Western Michigan University to the Niles City Council. Dr. Clements ran for congress in 2014.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Approval of the Minutes of June 8, 2015.
2. Approval of the Bills.
3. Consideration of approving a request to recognize the Niles Education Foundation as a non-profit organization for the purpose of obtaining a charitable gaming license.
4. Consideration of approving a request from the Greater Four Flags Area Chamber of Commerce to help sponsor the Fireworks Display & Family Fun Fest with a contribution of \$2,000.00.
5. Consideration of approving a request from the Greater Four Flags Area Chamber of Commerce to conduct the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Display and Family Funfest on Thursday, July 2, 2015 at the Apple Festival grounds and consideration of waiving all City fees or costs for the event.
6. Consideration of approving the use of Riverfront Park & the Riverfront Amphitheater for the 2015 Niles Burn Run beginning July 10<sup>th</sup> through July 12<sup>th</sup> and consideration of approving street closures, golf cart use, reserve officers, river rescue, waive all fees & costs and various other requests.

**Council Member Weimer** moved, **Council Member Boggs** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve Items 1-6 as submitted.

**ROLL CALL:** **AYES:** Boggs, Clark, Durm, Mann, Skalla, Weimer

**NAY:** None      **ABSENT:** Bertschy, VandenHeede      **ABSTAIN:** None

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

**Introduction of Items for Discussion**

**Items for Council Action**

7. Consideration of approving the city administrator's appointment of Sanya Phillips to the position of Community Development Director.

**Council Member Skalla** moved, **Council Member Clark** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the city administrator's appointment of Sanya Phillips to the position of Community Development Director.

**ROLL CALL:** **AYES:** Boggs, Clark, Durm, Mann, Skalla, Weimer  
**NAY:** None **ABSENT:** Bertschy, VandenHeede **ABSTAIN:** None

8. Consideration of approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Dowagiac to set forth provisions and support for ongoing collaboration, coordination, and mutual aid services to provide drinking water and wastewater system assistance and consideration of authorizing the city administrator to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

**Council Member Mann** moved, **Council Member Weimer** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Dowagiac to set forth provisions and support for ongoing collaboration, coordination, and mutual aid services to provide drinking water and wastewater system assistance and consideration of authorizing the city administrator to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

**ROLL CALL:** **AYES:** Boggs, Clark, Durm, Mann, Skalla, Weimer  
**NAY:** None **ABSENT:** Bertschy, VandenHeede **ABSTAIN:** None

9. Consideration of approving the renewal of a surcharge, not to exceed \$1, to customers' electric bills in accordance with Michigan's Low Income Energy Assistance Program.

**Council Member Weimer** moved, **Council Member Mann** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the renewal of a surcharge, not to exceed \$1, to customers' electric bills in accordance with Michigan's Low Income Energy Assistance Program.

**ROLL CALL:** **AYES:** Boggs, Clark, Durm, Mann, Skalla, Weimer  
**NAY:** None **ABSENT:** Bertschy, VandenHeede **ABSTAIN:** None

10. Consideration of approving a request to renew membership with the Southwestern Michigan Economic Growth Alliance and thereby approve payment of membership dues in the amount of \$14,000.00.

**Council Member Durm** moved, **Council Member Mann** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve a request to renew membership with the Southwestern Michigan Economic Growth Alliance and thereby approve payment of membership dues in the amount of \$14,000.00.

**ROLL CALL:** **AYES:** Boggs, Clark, Durm, Mann, Skalla, Weimer  
**NAY:** None **ABSENT:** Bertschy, VandenHeede **ABSTAIN:** None

11. Consideration of approving the revised Schedule of Fees to comply with new changes to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

**Council Member Weimer** moved, **Council Member Mann** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the revised Schedule of Fees to comply with new changes to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

**ROLL CALL:** **AYES:** Boggs, Clark, Durm, Mann, Skalla, Weimer  
**NAY:** None **ABSENT:** Bertschy, VandenHeede **ABSTAIN:** None

12. Consideration of approving the attached FOIA Procedures and Guidelines, Public Summary Procedures and Guidelines, and Re-designate the City Attorney as the FOIA Coordinator and designate the City Clerk and Police Records Supervisor as FOIA Assistants.

**Council Member Weimer** moved, **Council Member Skalla** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the attached FOIA Procedures and Guidelines, Public Summary Procedures and Guidelines, and Re-designate the City Attorney as the FOIA Coordinator and designate the City Clerk and Police Records Supervisor as FOIA Assistants.

**ROLL CALL:** **AYES:** Boggs, Clark, Durm, Mann, Skalla, Weimer  
**NAY:** None **ABSENT:** Bertschy, VandenHeede **ABSTAIN:** None

- 12A. Consideration to agree to contribute the budgeted \$9,000.00 and continue to participate in the community based summer park program.

**Council Member Clark** moved, **Council Member Weimer** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to agree to contribute the budgeted \$9,000.00 and continue to participate in the community based summer park program.

**ROLL CALL:** **AYES:** Boggs, Clark, Durm, Mann, Skalla, Weimer  
**NAY:** None **ABSENT:** Bertschy, VandenHeede **ABSTAIN:** None

**APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS:** None

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** None

**COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT:**

Council Member Boggs reported on the trip to Lansing to gain support from legislators to bring back State human services to Niles. She thanked everyone that helped and supported her quest. She also announced that the law enforcement agencies will be meeting with the public at the Council Chambers on July 20 to encourage unity within our community.

Council Member Durm moved, Council Member Mann supported, **MOTION CARRIED**, to excuse Council Member VandenHeede from tonight's meeting. Voice vote: AYES: 6 NAYS: 0

Council Member Skalla reported that the Chapin Mansion Art/Crafts and Antique fair went well.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Fort St. Joseph Archeology Open House will begin June 25<sup>th</sup> and encouraged the community to partake in the educational event. The Mayor also congratulated Sanya Phillips on her new position as Community Development Director.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Council Member Weimer moved to adjourn at 6:22pm.

---

Linda Casperson, Niles City Clerk

---

Date