

CITY OF NILES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINIUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Mayor McCauslin in the City Council Chambers, 1345 East Main Street, Niles, Michigan at 6:00 p.m., February 8, 2016. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor McCauslin.

PRESENT: Gretchen Bertschy, Georgia Boggs, John DiCostanzo, Robert Durm, David Mann, Tim Skalla, Daniel VandenHeede, William Weimer, Mayor McCauslin

ABSENT: None

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

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Mary Ellen Drolet requested that the council remove the appointment to the Fort St. Joseph Archaeology Advisory Committee until the issues with Handbook for Boards and Committee have been resolved.

Tammy Frame questioned the time limit on the grants that were received to remove the Pucker Street Dam. She also questioned if the dam is not removed; will the ratepayers be given the money back that was collected. Utilities Manager Jeff Dunlap stated that an extension on the grants has been submitted to the State and the Mayor explained that funds will continue to be collected to stabilize the dam with the intension of removal. If removal is not obtainable, they would look at returning the funds back to the ratepayers. The funds that have been collected are set aside for this project.

Family Division Judge Hon. Brian Berger introduced himself to the Niles City Council.

PRESENTATION: Paul Ryan presented Police Chief James R. Millin and the City of Niles with the ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve) Patriot Award for their support and recognition of military officers. Sgt. 1st Class/ Niles Police Officer Scott Swanson submitted a letter of recognition to the ESGR that merited the Patriot Award.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Consideration of approving the City Council Minutes of February 8, 2016.
2. Consideration of approving the Bills.
3. Consideration of scheduling a public hearing for 5:50 pm on March 14, 2016 to receive comments on the proposed new Five-Year Parks & Recreation Plan.
4. Consideration of scheduling a public hearing for 5:55 pm on March 14, 2016 to receive comments on the proposed installation of an expansion to the IN-MI River Valley Trail.
5. Consideration of approving a request from the Pregnancy Care Center to hold a LifeWalk/Super-Hero 5K fundraising event in the city along with use of the Riverfront Park Amphitheatre on June 18, 2016 from 6:00 am to 2:00 pm.
6. Consideration of accepting a quote of \$2,844.24 from DLT Solutions, LLC of Atlanta, GA for the purchase of Autodesk Software Licenses and renewal and upgrade of our AutoCAD Software.
7. Consideration of accepting the quote of \$5,700.00 for the purchase of a replacement 10' Truck Dump Body for use by the Street Division.
8. Consideration of accepting the bid of \$8,360.00 from Data Strategy, LLC of Grand Rapids, MI for the purchase of a Dell Server Direct Attached Storage unit.

Council Member Weimer moved, **Council Member Mann** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve Items 1-8 as

submitted.

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

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Introduction of Items for Discussion

Items for Council Action

9. Consideration of adopting a resolution that authorizes staff to submit the FY2017 MDOT Regular Services Program Application for capital and operating funds for DART and consideration of authorizing the mayor to sign the necessary forms, clauses, certifications, and assurances.

**FY2017 RESOLUTION OF INTENT
DIAL-A-RIDE TRANSPORTATION
PROPOSED STATE AND FEDERAL APPLICATION
FOR OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE
RESOLUTION 2016/02-1978**

Council Member Gretchen Bertschy offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption, seconded by **Council Member Georgia Boggs**.

RESOLVED BY: City Council, City of Niles, Michigan,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended (Act 51), it is necessary for the City of Niles, (hereby known as THE APPLICANT) established under Act 279, to provide a local transportation program for the state fiscal year of 2017 and, therefore, apply for state financial assistance under provisions of Act 51; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the governing body, to name an official representative for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to certify that no changes in eligibility documentation have occurred during the past state fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the performance indicators have been reviewed and approved by the governing body

WHEREAS, THE APPLICANT, has reviewed and approved the proposed balanced (surplus) budget, and funding sources of estimated federal funds \$291,048, estimated state funds \$172,695, estimated local funds \$98,650, estimated fare box \$71,500, estimated other funds \$1,300, with total estimated expenses of \$556,124.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that THE APPLICANT hereby makes its intentions known to provide public transportation services and to apply for state financial assistance with this annual plan, in accordance with Act 51;

HEREBY, appoints Kelly Getman-Dissette as the Transportation Coordinator, for all public transportation matters, who is authorized to provide such information as deemed necessary by the State Transportation Commission or department for its administration of Act 51 for 2017.

ROLL CALL: **Ayes:** Gretchen Bertschy, Georgia Boggs, John DiCostanzo, Robert Durm, David Mann, William Skalla, Daniel VandenHeede, William Weimer

Nays: None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

RESOLUTION 2016/02-1978 DECLARED ADOPTED.

10. Consideration of entering into an agreement with the Abonmarche Group of Benton Harbor, MI to provide consulting services on architectural design endeavors for 322 E. Main Street at a cost not to exceed \$9,500.00 and consideration of authorizing the mayor to sign the agreement.

Council Member Weimer moved, **Council Member Mann** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve entering into an agreement with the Abonmarche Group of Benton Harbor, MI to provide consulting services on architectural design endeavors for 322 E. Main Street at a cost not to exceed \$9,500.00 and consideration of authorizing the mayor to sign the agreement.

ROLL CALL: **AYES:** Bertschy, Boggs, Durm, DiCostanzo, Mann, Skalla, VandenHeede, Weimer

NAY: None **ABSENT:** None **ABSTAIN:** None

11. Consideration of accepting the bid of \$87,785.00 from Selge Construction Company, Inc. of Niles to complete the

2016 phase of the Sewer Collection System Improvement Project and consideration of authorizing the mayor to sign the contract.

Council Member Mann moved, **Council Member Weimer** seconded, **MOTION CARRIED**, to accept the bid of \$87,785.00 from Selge Construction Company, Inc. of Niles to complete the 2016 phase of the Sewer Collection System Improvement Project and consideration of authorizing the mayor to sign the contract.

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

APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS:

REMOVED

~~12. — Consideration of appointing Kathleen Alton to a three-year term on the Fort St. Joseph Archeology Board, effective immediately and expiring on January 31, 2019.~~

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT: None

COUNCIL MEMBER’S REPORT:

Council Member Skalla stated that he received a memo listing him on the Personnel Committee. He didn’t recall ever serving on the committee. The Mayor explained that the committee meets on an as needed basis. City Administrator stated that the list was formatted from previous listings.

Council Member Boggs congratulated the police department. Council Member Boggs also invited everyone to the Niles Library Saturday, February 27 at 11am for the “Taste of Soul” in association with Black History Month.

Council Member DiCostanzo reported that the Planning Commission will be issuing a notice of intent to conduct Master Planning. The Planning Commission is encouraging people to attend any of the number of planning sessions as means of seeking and providing input from the community as it relates to the Master Plan.

MAYOR’S REPORT: Thanked Police Chief Millin and City Administrator for their show of support to our military.

ADJOURNMENT

Weimer moved to adjourn at 6:32 p.m.

Linda Casperson, City Clerk

Date Approved