

**CITY OF NILES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINIUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nick Shelton in the City Council Chambers, 1345 East Main Street, Niles, Michigan at 6:00 p.m., January 9, 2017. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Shelton.

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

ABSENT: Attorney Landgraf

STAFF: Casperson, Huff

AUDIENCE: 20

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: None

PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation of Educational Grant (\$4,500) to Niles History Center
Susan Matheny, Program & Scholarship Officer
Berrien Community Foundation

Hunter Ice Festival

Main Street Downtown Development Authority Members
Flyers were distributed to the City Council

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Consideration of approving the City Council Minutes of December 26, 2016.

2. Consideration of approving the Bills dated January 4, 2017.

Council Member Weimer moved, **Council Member Bertschy** supported, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve Items 1- 2 as submitted.

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

NAYS: None **ABSENT:** None **ABSTAIN:** None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Introduction of Items for Discussion

Items for Council Action

None

APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS:

3. Consideration of approving the re-appointment of Nancy Gillespie to a four-year term on the Niles District Library Board, effective immediately and ending December 31, 2020.

Council Member Durm moved, **Council Member Boggs** supported, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the re-appointment of Nancy Gillespie to a four-year term on the Niles District Library Board, effective immediately and ending December 31, 2020. **AYES: 8 NAYS: 0**

4. Consideration of approving the re-appointment of Robert Ahrens and Barbara Cook and the appointment of Jessica Deckard Mann to three-year terms on the Fort St. Joseph Archaeology Advisory Committee, effective immediately and ending on December 31, 2019.

Council Member Skalla moved, **Council Member Boggs** supported, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the re-appointment of Robert Ahrens and Barbara Cook and the appointment of Jessica Deckard Mann to three-year terms on the Fort St. Joseph Archaeology Advisory Committee, effective immediately and ending on December 31, 2019. **AYES: 8 NAYS: 0**

5. Consideration of approving the re-appointment of Steve Seifer to a two-year term on the Construction Board of Appeals, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2018.

Council Member Bertschy moved, **Council Member Boggs** supported, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the re-appointment of Steve Seifer to a two-year term on the Construction Board of Appeals, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2018. **AYES: 8 NAYS: 0**

6. Consideration of approving the re-appointment of Mark Weber and Melissa Smith to four-year terms on the Main Street Downtown Development Authority, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2020 and consideration of approving the appointments of Justin Flagel and Wendy Halder to four-year terms on the Main Street Downtown Development Authority, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2018, respectively.

Council Member Weimer moved, **Council Member DiCostanzo** supported, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve the re-appointment of Mark Weber and Melissa Smith to four-year terms on the Main Street Downtown Development Authority, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2020 and consideration of approving the appointments of Justin Flagel and Wendy Halder to four-year terms on the Main Street Downtown Development Authority, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2018, respectively.
AYES: 8 NAYS: 0

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None

COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT:

Council Member Boggs thanked Lisa Croteau and sponsors for Hunter Ice Festival. She also mentioned that the downtown looks good.

Council Member McAfee stated that in reference to the utilities, surrounding communities experience many power outages; while the City of Niles is "right on point" with regards to reliability. She also said she is proud to be part of the Niles community.

Council Member Bertschy concurred with Council Member Boggs.

Council Member VandenHeede looked forward to the Hunter Ice Festival. He also asked about an update on the utility rates. City Administrator Huff stated that he did not have an update and did not anticipate anything for the next couple of weeks.

Council Member Durm welcomed Michael Reed, Custom Computer Company to downtown Niles.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Shelton also welcomed Michael Reed, Custom Computer Company. He had the honor of participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony and looked forward to many more.

He thanked Lisa for the conducting the Hunter Ice Festival. He also welcomed and thanked the new members of the various boards and committees.

Mayor Shelton also mentioned the loss of Kim Hocker, Plym Park Golf Course groundskeeper and parks maintenance. Kim Hocker worked very hard, for a very long time; the City will have a difficult time replacing him.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Weimer moved to adjourn at 6:14pm.

Linda Casperson, Niles City Clerk

Date