

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
1345 E. Main Street City of Niles, Michigan**

Monday, July 27, 2026

PRESENT: Council Members: Georgia Boggs, Gretchen Bertschy, Sheila Koebel, Timothy Rogers, Charlie McAfee, Jessica Nelson, Michael Thompson, and Mayor Nick Shelton

ABSENT: William Weimer

STAFF: Bergman, Huff, Landgraf, Arseneau, Elkins, Holt, Miller, Millin, Mosher, Ray, Stevens, Young

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular Niles City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Shelton at 6:00 p.m., July 27, 2026. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor ~~Pro Tem Bertschy~~ Shelton.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember McAfee moved, **Councilmember Thompson** seconded to approve the agenda as submitted with the removal of item 11.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Bertschy, Koebel, Rogers, McAfee, Nelson, Thompson, Boggs

NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

PUBLIC HEARING:

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: (PUBLIC COMMENTS)

PRESENTATIONS:

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Consideration of approving the minutes of the July 13, 2026 City Council Meeting and the July 13, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting.
2. Consideration of approving the list of bills dated July 22, 2026.
3. Consideration of scheduling a public hearing on August 10, 2026 at 6:00 pm to receive public comments on the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 City of Niles' budget.

Councilmember Nelson moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to approve the consent agenda as submitted.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Koebel, Rogers, McAfee, Nelson, Thompson, Boggs, Bertschy

NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

4. Consideration of authorizing the emergency purchase by the Utilities Department – Electric Division to JAH Power Services, Inc. of Whitesburg, Georgia in the amount of \$32,000.00 to rebuild Network Protectors in the Downtown Network.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember Koebel** seconded to authorize the emergency purchase by the Utilities Department – Electric Division to JAH Power Services, Inc. of Whitesburg, Georgia in the amount of \$32,000.00 to rebuild Network Protectors in the Downtown Network.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Rogers, McAfee, Nelson, Thompson, Boggs, Bertschy, Koebel

NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

5. Consideration of authorizing the Utilities Department – Electric Division to accept the bid from J. Ranck Electric, Inc. of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan in the amount of \$160,706.81 for the 3rd and Broadway Traffic Signal project and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract.

Councilmember Bertschy moved, **Councilmember Rogers** seconded to authorize the Utilities Department – Electric Division to accept the bid from J. Ranck Electric, Inc. of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan in the amount of \$160,706.81 for the 3rd and Broadway Traffic Signal project and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract.

ROLL CALL: YEA: McAfee, Nelson, Thompson, Boggs, Bertschy, Koebel, Rogers

NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

6. Consideration of authorizing the Utilities Department – Electric Division to extend a \$1,000.00 allotment to Corewell Health Lakeland Niles for the annual Midge Tyler Tree of Love Ceremony.

Councilmember Nelson moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to authorize the Utilities Department – Electric Division to extend a \$1,000.00 allotment to Corewell Health Lakeland Niles for the annual Midge Tyler Tree of Love Ceremony.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Nelson, Boggs, Bertschy, Koebel, Rogers, McAfee

NAY: Thompson **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

7. Consideration of authorizing the emergency purchase by the Utilities Department – Electric Division to Kachur Tree Service, LLC of Niles, Michigan in the amount of \$6,187.50 for emergency tree removal services required due to the recent storm damage.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember Koebel** seconded to authorize the emergency purchase by the Utilities Department – Electric Division to Kachur Tree Service, LLC of Niles, Michigan in the amount of \$6,187.50 for emergency tree removal services required due to the recent storm damage.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Thompson, Boggs, Bertschy, Koebel, Rogers, McAfee, Nelson

NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

8. Consideration of authorizing the Department of Public Works to accept the quote of \$20,179.85 from Best Equipment Company of Westland, Michigan for the purchase of leaf vacuum parts.

Councilmember Thompson moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to authorize the Department of Public Works to accept the quote of \$20,179.85 from Best Equipment Company of Westland, Michigan for the purchase of leaf vacuum parts.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Boggs, Bertschy, Koebel, Rogers, McAfee, Nelson, Thompson

NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

9. Consideration of authorizing the emergency purchase by the Department of Public Works to We Build Fun of Allen, Texas in the amount of \$6,630.61 for playground replacement parts.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to authorize the emergency purchase by the Department of Public Works to We Build Fun of Allen, Texas in the amount of \$6,630.61 for playground replacement parts.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Bertschy, Koebel, Rogers, McAfee, Nelson, Thompson, Boggs
NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

10. Consideration of confirming the original fee itemization form (in a recent FOIA request) contained an error of \$0.05 and has been corrected.

Councilmember Thompson moved, **Councilmember Koebel** seconded to confirming the original fee itemization form (in a recent FOIA request) contained an error of \$0.05 and has been corrected.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Koebel, Rogers, McAfee, Nelson, Thompson, Boggs, Bertschy
NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

~~**11.** Consideration of authorizing Information Systems to enter into a 3-year Enterprise Agreement with Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, Washington (via Microsoft reseller SHI International Corp.) for \$229,942.05 and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract.~~

12. Consideration of approving the resolution to Authorize Placement of Marihuana Voter Initiative on Ballot and set the Ballot Question Language, forward the wording to the County Clerk for certification and placement on the November ballot.

Councilmember Thompson moved, **Councilmember Nelson** seconded to approve the resolution to Authorize Placement of Marihuana Voter Initiative on Ballot and set the Ballot Question Language, forward the wording to the County Clerk for certification and placement on the November ballot.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Rogers, McAfee, Nelson, Thompson, Boggs, Bertschy, Koebel
NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

RESOLUTION # 2026-07/2258 DECLARED ADOPTED

APPOINTMENTS:

13. Consideration of confirming the appointment of Jamie Bennett to the remaining four-year term on the Niles District Library Board expiring December 31, 2026.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember Nelson** seconded to confirm the appointment of Jamie Bennett to the remaining four-year term on the Niles District Library Board expiring December 31, 2026.

YEA: 7 **NAY:** 0 **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

COUNCILMEMBER'S REPORT:

Councilmember Rogers reminded of the Old Boys Toys Car Club on Wednesday nights. There are still some chances for Councilmembers to judge if they lost their opportunity due to heat or rain.

Councilmember Nelson had the opportunity to judge the Car Show last week. She realized that her favorites are the 1957 Chevy Bellaire with a beautiful pink one that won. It's a good opportunity to take the kids down, look at the cars, you'll see some really cool ones.

Councilmember Thompson attended the Burn Run. His grandkids preferred the motorcycles driving by their house more to when they were just sitting there.

Councilmember Boggs said it was nice to see people excited to be downtown

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor thanked City Staff for all the hard work in the community including the tree removals, power outages and preparing for elections. The primary election is on August 4th, any information can be found on the City's website.

CLOSED SESSION:

- Review of Attorney's written opinion.

Councilmember Bertschy moved, **Councilmember Nelson** seconded to go into Closed Session at 6:18 p.m.

ROLL CALL: YEA: McAfee, Nelson, Thompson, Boggs, Bertschy, Koebel, Rogers

NAY: None **ABSENT:** Weimer **MOTION CARRIED**

RECONVENED: Mayor Shelton declared the regular council meeting back in session at 6:43 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Nelson moved to adjourn 6:43 p.m.

Tina Bergman, City Clerk

Approve by City Council 8/10/26