

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

Monday, June 24, 2024

PRESENT: Council Members: Georgia Boggs, Gretchen Bertschy, Amanda Dunnem, Timothy Rogers, Charlie McAfee, William Weimer, John DiCostanzo, Michael Thompson, and Mayor Nick Shelton

ABSENT:

STAFF: Huff, Bergman, Attorney Landgraf, Dewey, Stump, Millin, Ray, Young, and Dunlap

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular Niles City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Shelton at 6:00 p.m., June 24, 2024. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nick Shelton.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to approve the agenda as submitted with the addition to move presentation prior to public comment.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Dunnem, Rogers, McAfee, Weimer, DiCostanzo, Thompson, Boggs, Bertschy

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

PRESENTATIONS:

- Keys to the City to Miss Niles, Amelia Rodgers and Mr. Niles, Paxton Daniel

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: (PUBLIC COMMENTS)

Justin Flagel, Niles DDA Main Street Chair, Co-chair of promotions committee asked council to support appointment of Michael Reed to DDA board.

Shelley Weicht, Berrien County Treasurer, announced she is seeking re-election on August 6, 2024.

Sharon Tyler, Berrien County Clerk, announced she will not be running for County Clerk this election, but is a County Commissioner candidate. She explained the election process and encouraged people to vote.

Michael Majerek, announced he is seeking re-election for Berrien County Commissioner in August.

Chris Stakowicz, apologized for power washing and painting the curb at the 2nd Street parking lot prior to receiving permission from city council. He brought in a pamphlet showing options.

Chuck Heit, announced he is seeking election for Berrien County Sheriff this August.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Consideration of approving the minutes of June 10, 2024.
2. Consideration of approving the list of bills dated June 19, 2024.

3. Consideration of scheduling a public hearing on July 22, 2024 at 6:00 pm to obtain input on the CDBG PY24 Annual Action Plan.

Councilmember DiCostanzo moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to approve of scheduling a public hearing on July 22, 2024 at 6:00 pm to obtain input on the CDBG PY24 Annual Action Plan.

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

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

4. Consideration of authorizing the renewal of software licenses and support for ArcGIS software from ESRI of Redlands, California at an annual cost of \$3,610.00, with up to a 6% annual increase, each of the next three years, and charge the expense to the electric, water and wastewater computer equipment and supplies budget.

Councilmember Bertschy moved, **Councilmember Dunnem** seconded to authorize the renewal of software licenses and support for ArcGIS software from ESRI of Redlands, California at an annual cost of \$3,610.00, with up to a 6% annual increase, each of the next three years, and charge the expense to the electric, water and wastewater computer equipment and supplies budget.

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

5. Consideration of approving the emergency purchase in the amount of \$15,569.75 from Hickok Heating and Plumbing, LLC of Buchanan, Michigan for installation and re-pipe of an expansion tank for the boiler and heating system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and charge the expense to the Maintenance – Plant Equipment Replacement budget.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember Dunnem** seconded to approve the emergency purchase in the amount of \$15,569.75 from Hickok Heating and Plumbing, LLC of Buchanan, Michigan for installation and re-pipe of an expansion tank for the boiler and heating system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and charge the expense to the Maintenance – Plant Equipment Replacement budget.

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

6. Consideration of approving the quote in the amount of \$28,777.80 from Dell Marketing, LP of Round Rock, Texas, under the Michigan MiDEAL contract, for two (2) servers to run virtual machines and charge the expense to Computer Equipment and Supplies 60% to the General Fund and 40% to Utilities.

Councilmember Thompson moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to approve the quote in the amount of \$28,777.80 from Dell Marketing, LP of Round Rock, Texas, under the Michigan MiDEAL contract, for two (2) servers to run virtual machines and charge the expense to Computer Equipment and Supplies 60% to the General Fund and 40% to Utilities.

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

7. Consideration of authorizing CStack Productions of Edwardsburg, Michigan to paint the alley and parking lot curb at 2nd and Sycamore Streets at a cost of \$1300.00 which will be paid by the River Essence group.

Councilmember DiCostanzo moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to authorize CStack Productions of Edwardsburg, Michigan to paint the alley and parking lot curb at 2nd and Sycamore Streets at a cost of \$1300.00 which will be paid by the River Essence group.

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

APPOINTMENTS:

- 8. Consideration of confirming the appointment of Michael Reed to the Downtown Development authority to complete the unexpired term ending December 31, 2025.

Councilmember DiCostanzo moved, **Councilmember Dunnem** seconded to confirm the appointment of Michael Reed to the Downtown Development authority to complete the unexpired term ending December 31, 2025.

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

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

COUNCILMEMBER’S REPORT:

Councilmember Rogers spoke on his disappointment that the 2nd street parking lot curb was painted prior to receiving permission.

Councilmember DiCostanzo feels the mural is a great idea.

Councilmember Boggs spoke on her concerns with aging boulevard trees throughout the city. Administrator Huff explained the annual process of examining each tree.

Councilmember Bertschy spoke on expanding businesses and Congratulated Caryn Adler for the free Sunday concerts in the park.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Shelton Thanked all candidates for coming out to the meeting. He announced bids for The Forge space will be opened tomorrow and excited to see what all come through. He attended the Juneteenth festival and it was an incredible event, he also attended the Underground laugh lounge concert on their new patio and it was beautiful and encouraged all to visit.

CLOSED SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Weimer moved to adjourn at 6:36 p.m.

Tina Bergman, Niles City Clerk

Approved by City Council July 8, 2024.