

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

Monday, March 27, 2023

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

ABSENT: Charlie McAfee

STAFF: Huff, Landgraf, Bergman, Dunlap, J. Millin, R. Millin, Nyenhuis, Ray, Miller

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular Niles City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Shelton at 6:00 p.m. March 27, 2023. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nick Shelton.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

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

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: (PUBLIC COMMENTS)

Charlie Tao introduced himself to Council as the new manager of HDS Investment. He stated that the current owners will not be renewing their license and that he is applying for a license with the CRA.

Mrs. Weimer asked Council to consider getting a Safe Haven Baby Box at the fire station.

PRESENTATIONS:

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Consideration of approving the minutes of March 13, 2023 Regular meeting and Council Retreat.
2. Consideration of approving the list of bills dated March 21, 2023.
3. Consideration of accepting the quote from Gemini Group of Natick, Massachusetts for printing and mailing of the annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in the amount of \$6033.00 to be charged to the Utilities Department Water Division Printing Expense fund.

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

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

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

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Introduction of Items for Discussion
Items for Council Action

4. Consideration of accepting the quote of \$150.00 per hour from Allied Mechanical Services, Inc. of Kalamazoo, Michigan for the installation of a Kusters thickener mechanism at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, to be charged to the Utilities Department, Wastewater Division, Machinery and Equipment fund.

Councilmember DiCostanzo moved, **Councilmember Rogers** seconded to approve of accepting the quote of \$150.00 per hour from Allied Mechanical Services, Inc. of Kalamazoo, Michigan for the installation of a Kusters thickener mechanism at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, to be charged to the Utilities Department, Wastewater Division, Machinery and Equipment fund.

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

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

5. Consideration of accepting the National Opioids Settlement Agreement in the amount of \$62,051.70, to be received over a 13-year period, with funds being used to educate and train first responders in providing lifesaving treatment for opioid overdoses as well as to purchase Narcan, and to authorize the City Administrator to complete the document and digitally sign it.

Councilmember Bertschy moved, **Councilmember Weimer** seconded to approve of accepting the National Opioids Settlement Agreement in the amount of \$62,051.70, to be received over a 13-year period, with funds being used to educate and train first responders in providing lifesaving treatment for opioid overdoses as well as to purchase Narcan, and to authorize the City Administrator to complete the document and digitally sign it.

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

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

6. Consideration of accepting the quote from Pivot Point Partners, LLC of Powell, Ohio for an annual subscription to the Pivot Point Field App to be used by the Assessor, with an annual cost of \$1,685.95 to be charged to the Assessor's Computer Equipment and Supplies fund, and authorizing the Mayor to sign the Service and License Agreement.

Councilmember DiCostanzo moved, **Councilmember Thompson** seconded to approve of accepting the quote from Pivot Point Partners, LLC of Powell, Ohio for an annual subscription to the Pivot Point Field App to be used by the Assessor, with an annual cost of \$1,685.95 to be charged to the Assessor's Computer Equipment and Supplies fund, and authorizing the Mayor to sign the Service and License Agreement.

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

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

7. Consideration of accepting the quote from Commonwealth Associates, Inc. of Jackson, Michigan for the engineering and design of an oil-filled transformer replacement project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$19,700.00 to be charged to Utilities Department, Wastewater Division Machinery and Equipment fund, and authorize the Mayor to sign the proposal.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember Dunnem** seconded to approve of accepting the quote from Commonwealth Associates, Inc. of Jackson, Michigan for the engineering and design of an oil-filled transformer replacement project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$19,700.00 to be charged to Utilities Department, Wastewater Division Machinery and Equipment fund, and authorize the Mayor to sign the proposal.

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

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

8. Consideration of hiring JP Workman Group of Niles, Michigan, in the approximate amount of \$19,000.00, for recruitment services to assist in filling the vacant Assistant Utilities Manager

position, with the cost being charged to the Electric Division and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract.

Councilmember DiCostanzo moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to approve of hiring JP Workman Group of Niles, Michigan, in the approximate amount of \$19,000.00, for recruitment services to assist in filling the vacant Assistant Utilities Manager position, with the cost being charged to the Electric Division and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: McAfee **MOTION CARRIED**

9. Consideration of approving a commitment for ordering 750 tons of bulk rock salt through MiDEAL for a price per ton which is unknown at this time, but which is historically less than non-participating communities pay; the costs which are based on tons used are charged mostly to MDOT and the Major Streets System with the lesser amounts being charged to the Local Street System and the alley and parking lot funds, and to authorize the Public Works Director who is listed with MiDEAL as an authorized agent for the City of Niles, to sign the commitment.

Councilmember Bertschy moved, **Councilmember Dunnem** seconded to approve a commitment for ordering 750 tons of bulk rock salt through MiDEAL for a price per ton which is unknown at this time, but which is historically less than non-participating communities pay; the costs which are based on tons used are charged mostly to MDOT and the Major Streets System with the lesser amounts being charged to the Local Street System and the alley and parking lot funds, and to authorize the Public Works Director who is listed with MiDEAL as an authorized agent for the City of Niles, to sign the commitment.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: McAfee **MOTION CARRIED**

10. Consideration of authorizing a resolution to approve 2nd & Main for a Social District Permit and authorizing the Clerk to sign the document.

Councilmember Bertschy moved, **Councilmember Dunnem** seconded to authorize a resolution to approve 2nd & Main for a Social District Permit and authorizing the Clerk to sign the document.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: McAfee **MOTION CARRIED**

11. Consideration of accepting the quote from Kirk Proshwitz of Buchanan, Michigan to provide fireworks for the annual Fourth of July celebration at a price of \$16,000.00, to be charged to the Community Promotions Fund.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember DiCostanzo** seconded to approve of accepting the quote from Kirk Proshwitz of Buchanan, Michigan to provide fireworks for the annual Fourth of July celebration at a price of \$16,000.00, to be charged to the Community Promotions Fund.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: **MOTION CARRIED**

APPOINTMENTS:

12. Consideration of appointing Larry Wilson to complete the term ending December 31, 2024 on the Board of Public Utilities.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember DiCostanzo** seconded to approve of appointing Larry Wilson to complete the term ending December 31, 2024 on the Board of Public Utilities.

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: McAfee **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

COUNCILMEMBER'S REPORT:

Councilmember Bertschy appreciated the local media press agents as well as the social media folks for getting the word out about the sidewalks downtown so that they can plan accordingly. She's please about the positive feedback that she has seen so far.

Councilmember DiCostanzo mentioned that the Planning Commission met last Wednesday with a member of Williams & Works to answer questions during the 3-hour meeting discussing sections of the Zoning Ordinance. It is not finished yet but progress is being made.

Councilmember Thompson hoped that Councilmember McAfee is feeling better and thanked Jim Millin for filling in for City Administrator Huff.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

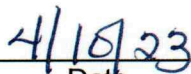
Mayor Shelton announced the Polar Plunge April 16th, noon at Front Street Pizza. This is a fundraiser to help River Essence beautify the downtown streetscape. The downtown sidewalk project will begin on April 3rd. Congratulations to Ryan Millin for her successful completion of the MSU Extension Zoning Administrator Certificate (ZAC) and Master Citizen Planner (MCP).

CLOSED SESSION:**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Weimer moved to adjourn at 6:22 p.m.



Tina Bergman
Niles City Administrator



Date