

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

Monday, November 13, 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, Bergman, Landgraf, J. Millin, Ray, Stump

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular Niles City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Shelton at 6:00 p.m. November 13, 2023. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Nick Shelton.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Thompson moved, **Councilmember DiCostanzo** 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: (PUBLIC COMMENTS)

PRESENTATIONS:

- Presentation of Proclamation of National American Indian Heritage Month

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: (PUBLIC COMMENTS)

Steve Gargis of 1325 Sheffield invited everyone to a fundraiser at Niles High School, the Gritter Gauntlet, on November 19th to help fund the 8th grade Washington DC trip.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Consideration of approving the minutes of October 23, 2023.
2. Consideration of approving the list of bills dated November 8, 2023.
3. Consideration of scheduling a public hearing on December 11, 2023 at 6:00 pm for public comments on the proposed PY22 CAPER.

Councilmember Bertschy moved, **Councilmember Boggs** 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 bid of \$216.00 per acre from Masten Farms of Niles, Michigan and approving, via resolution, a five-year agricultural land lease at Jerry Tyler Memorial Airport.

Councilmember DiCostanzo moved, **Councilmember Dunnem** seconded to accept the bid of \$216.00 per acre from Masten Farms of Niles, Michigan and approving, via resolution, a five-year agricultural land lease at Jerry Tyler Memorial Airport.

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

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

5. Consideration of authorizing a three (3) year Enterprise Agreement with Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, Washington for software licenses and online services at an annual cost of \$75,951.67, charged equally between the City and Utilities budgets, Computer and Equipment Supplies, and approve the Mayor to sign the Agreement.

Councilmember Bertschy moved, **Councilmember DiCostanzo** seconded to authorize a three (3) year Enterprise Agreement with Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, Washington for software licenses and online services at an annual cost of \$75,951.67, charged equally between the City and Utilities budgets, Computer and Equipment Supplies, and approve the Mayor to sign the Agreement.

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

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

6. Consideration of authorizing the renewal of Field Inspection System, Community Development System, and Assessing System software modules from BS&A of Bath, Michigan at an annual cost of \$4,783.00, charged 60% to the Building Safety Division and 40% to the Assessor Division, and authorize the IS Manager to sign the documents.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember Dunnem** seconded to authorize the renewal of Field Inspection System, Community Development System, and Assessing System software modules from BS&A of Bath, Michigan at an annual cost of \$4,783.00, charged 60% to the Building Safety Division and 40% to the Assessor Division, and authorize the IS Manager to sign the documents.

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

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

7. Consideration of authorizing the renewal of computer security services for three years from Omnia Partners at a cost of \$27,353.80, with costs being split between the General Fund (70%) and Utilities (30%) and authorize the City Manager to sign all necessary documents.

Councilmember Rogers moved, **Councilmember Bertschy** seconded to authorize the renewal of computer security services for three years from Omnia Partners at a cost of \$27,353.80, with costs being split between the General Fund (70%) and Utilities (30%) and authorize the City Manager to sign all necessary documents.

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

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

8. Consideration of approving the requests of Niles DDA/Main Street to hold the 19th Annual Small Business Saturday on November 25, 2023, as presented.

Councilmember Thompson moved, **Councilmember DiCostanzo** seconded to approve the requests of Niles DDA/Main Street to hold the 19th Annual Small Business Saturday on November 25, 2023, as presented except removing the fees being waived as requested.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Boggs, DiCostanzo, Thompson

NAY: Bertschy, Dunnem, Rogers, Weimer **ABSENT:** McAfee **MOTION DENIED**

Councilmember Thompson moved, **Councilmember DiCostanzo** seconded to approve the requests of Niles DDA/Main Street to hold the 19th Annual Small Business Saturday on November 25, 2023, to include the fees of \$50 to the Fire Department and \$250 for barricades to the Department of Public Works.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Bertschy, Dunnem, Rogers, Weimer

NAY: DiCostanzo, Thompson, Boggs **ABSENT:** McAfee **MOTION CARRIED**

APPOINTMENTS:

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

COUNCILMEMBER'S REPORT:

Councilmember Bertschy said in recognition of Veteran's Day, she acknowledged and thanked those that have blessed others with their service. She also acknowledged the first responders who also put their lives on the line.

Councilmember DiCostanzo announced that he will not be running for re-election for 4th Ward City Council.

Councilmember Thompson referenced the energy bill signed by the Governor and gave suggestions on how to negate it if possible. Thompson announced that Steve Kirsch offered Moderna up to \$10M to challenge him on vaccine safety at the Kirsch Auditorium at MIT on 11/30/23. Thompson also shared that the US is #1 in individual firearm ownership.

Councilmember Boggs gave a special tribute to those who have serviced in the United States and encouraged others to thank our veterans for making our country free when they see them.

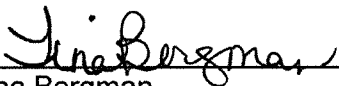
MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Shelton encouraged everyone to take a trip downtown to see the beautiful lights on the light posts and thanked Vikki and River Essence for making that happen. He also encouraged everyone to walk in front of the Four Flags Antique Mall to see the beautiful displays. The Mayor announced the Sights & Lights decorating contest is back with voting online in a couple of weeks. The Mayor attended the ceremony at Veterans Park and thanked the veterans. He also gave appreciation to DPW for doing an awesome job on leaf pickup.

CLOSED SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Weimer moved to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.



Tina Bergman
Niles City Clerk

11-27-23

Date