

MINUTES

Niles City Council held its regular meeting of July 1, 2009 at 6:00p.m. in Council Chambers Safety-Service Complex in Niles, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by President Robert Marino, and the Clerk; Linda A. Yuhasz called the roll:

Lastic-P; Papalas-P; Scarnecchia-A; McCormick-P; Stredney-P; Papas-P; Wilkerson-P; Marino-P
It was moved by Stredney, seconded by Papas to excuse the absence of Councilman Scarnecchia. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Stredney, seconded by Papas to accept the Minutes of the regular meeting of June 17, 2009 and the two special meetings of June 18 and 19, 2009 and places them on file. Motion carried.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

FROM The Auditor’s Office

The Estimated Versus Actual Revenues thru June 2009

It was moved by Stredney, seconded by Papas to accept the report and place it on file. Motion carried.

FROM The City Income Tax Office

The Monthly Receipts thru June 2009

It was moved by Stredney, seconded by Lastic to accept the report and place it on file. Motion carried.

FROM State Representative Tom Letson

A letter to council for support of Substitute Senate Joint Resolution 1

It was moved by Stredney, seconded by Papas to accept the letter and place it on file. Motion carried.

Councilman Stredney: Concerning the resolution do we have to send it to a committee for anything?

Councilman Papalas: Let’s keep it on file right now and see what they are going to do with the budget.

President Marino: They are on a seven day temporary right now.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO.____(Draft No. 37-09)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT FOR THE TRU-NILES BIKE PATH, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Papalás, seconded by Stredney to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Stredney, seconded by Papas that this Draft be adopted.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 37-09 has been adopted on the 1st day of July, 2009.

Councilman Papalás: I would like to add Draft 38-09 to the agenda tonight and although this is contrary to our rules, we don't have a meeting this summer until August and we need these funds in now. I would like to make an allowance in this case and have this brought forth tonight if it is alright with everybody else. This is for the Wellness Center.

It was moved by Papalás, seconded by Papas to add Draft No. 38-09 to the agenda. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 38-09)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AMONG ACCOUNTS IN THE WELLNESS CENTER FUND; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Papalás, seconded by Stredney to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

Councilman McCormick: Is this specific equipment that this is going to take care of? Is there something special we are doing with this?

Mayor Infante: No.

Councilman McCormick: The question I have and a couple people have asked me is it in our plan to get a couple of defibrillators? I heard that someone may be donating something or there may be a way to get them.

Mayor Infante: (Inaudible) is donating two, one for the Wellness Center and one for the swimming pool and in the winter time the one for the swimming pool can be used at the Wellness Center.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Papalás, seconded by Wilkerson that this Draft be adopted.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 38-09 has been adopted on the 1st day of July, 2009.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

President Marino: From my family to yours have a safe and happy fourth of July and a nice well rested summer break. Council will resume on August 26, 2009 and then we will return to our normal schedule on September 2, 2009.

Mayor Infante: The first stage of the IT project that we are doing in the community is completed. The main server is in and all the buildings feed to the main servers. All the cameras are on in the wireless internet. All the antennas are put up throughout the city for the wireless internet. Mr. Tom Telego can give you an update on the new software for the billing office.

Mr. Telego: As of yesterday we completed all of the installations of all of the nodes throughout the city for the wireless portion of the system. It consists of one hundred nodes throughout the city. That is our first phase for the wireless meter read system. We did a three month pilot test for the electrical side at the Eastwood Mall. We checked them everyday and we were able to read them. We put them in some of the worst places that we have out there and we were able to bring information back into the city and use the information. We have upgraded all of the server equipment in the city and a disaster recovery backup site was created at the Wellness Center. We have a wireless link and wireless internet out there. We have Homeland Security cameras installed also. On the billing side we are going to go to an environment that was put in place in 1991 and was very restrictive and unfriendly. The new system will give us a proactive approach to the customers and the billing structure will change completely. Council knows that we have had issues with the delinquent side because of the length in between the time things go out. Your current bill goes out blue and the minute your bill becomes delinquent that bill goes out red and is considered late.

President Marino: Are we going to continue printing bills out here?

Mr. Telego: No we are going to farm the printing out because it takes all of that extra work out of the middle. We will send the file to a printing company and they will do everything from that point. It is going to be cheaper in the long run. Billing software will be able to do an online payment, automatic withdrawals and credit card payment.

President Marino: So it is more closely in line to our gas bill?

Mr. Telego: It is almost identical to the gas bill; you will have a front and a back with a one year comparison on the back everything you have done with water and electric. The temperature average for that month and the water will be broken out so that you can understand it. It will be converted from CCF to gallons.

Mayor Infante: Once we install the water and the electric meters and you go on vacation and you have a toilet leak it will show that in the billing office. They will be able to notify the people if they left a number while on vacation.

Mr. Telego: Once the meters go into the environment where they are actually being read automatically if someone calls and wants to know what is going on with their meter we will be able to pull that meter and tell them exactly what the meter read is.

Councilman Stredney: Is there anything with computers in the police cruisers?

Mr. Telego: Now that we are done, we are working with the chief to try to figure out how much coverage he is going to need. We will be testing that over the next two weeks.

Councilman Stredney: When do we think that we will start to get our new meters out there?

Mr. Telego: The water side is ready to go in a few months.

Mayor Infante: We are trying to do the water and the electric at the same time so there is only one installation.

Councilman Papalas: I had a knock on the door while I was preparing to come here. It was the Ohio Citizens Action group that wants us to study the coal power plant. I briefly informed her that she needs to talk to another entity; she was in the wrong place. We are one of many communities that are involved with this and I appreciate her efforts but I disagree with what she is doing.

It was moved by Councilman Stredney, seconded by Councilman Lastic to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried.

Linda A. Yuhasz, Clerk of Council

Robert Marino Jr., President of Council