

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 20, 2019

Audio recording of full meeting will be available on line on the city's website

Niles City Council held its regular meeting on November 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers Safety Service Complex in Niles, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Robert Marino Jr., and the Clerk, Nicole Bacak, called the roll:

Lastic- P, McNaughton-P, Profato-P, Cantola-P, Marchese-P, Smith- P, Kearney-P, Marino-P

It was moved by Marchese, seconded by Kearney to accept the Minutes from the November 6th meeting and place them on file.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Marchese, seconded by Smith to accept the Minutes from the November 8th meeting and place them on file.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Marchese, seconded by Smith to accept the Minutes from the November 20th meeting and place them on file.

Motion carried.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

FROM – Treasurer's Office

Income Tax Collections for 2019 and Interest paid report.

It was moved by Smith, seconded by McNaughton to accept and place it on file.

Motion carried.

FROM – Auditor's Office

Health Care Renewal Reports

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Kearney to accept and place it on file.

Motion carried.

FROM – Auditor's Office

Statement of Cash from Revenue and Expense- October 2019

It was moved by Smith, seconded by McNaughton to accept and place it on file.

Mr. McNaughton pointed out that the General Fund number is very healthy. He asked Auditor Merlo to give Council an idea of what the real balance is with transfers and where we will end the year at. Auditor Merlo said once the bond payments hit and the police and fire transfers hit, and all spending for 2019 ends in December he is projecting around \$8,000,000.00.

Motion carried.

FROM – Auditor’s Office

Check Report by Check Number- October 2019

It was moved by McNaughton, seconded by Smith to accept and place it on file.

Motion carried.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

(Public comments began at 3:31 into recording)

Glenn Hickman: 731 5th Street. Mr. Hickman said the benches people sit on a disgrace. Everyone else has soft seats up front but those are not comfortable. Second, in the 4th ward they have two drag strips which are 3rd and 5th street. The police have been seen there in the evening hours but he hasn’t seen them in the daylight hours. That is when the culprits out. Mr. Hickman respectfully asked Chief Holland to send officers over there during the day time.

Mr. Hickman also wanted to give Auditor Merlo some feedback on the insurance plans that were talked about. He retired from General Motors and they got slammed into Express Scripts. They weren’t happy with them. Two years ago, they opened the door for Aetna to come in and offer them health care. Some people were skeptical but switched to Aetna. A year later, they are all going back to Express Scripts. He just wanted to throw that out.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

NONE

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

(Legislation began at 6:17 into recording)

RESOLUTION NO. _____(Draft No. 173-19)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR RESTORATION WORK OF WATER AND SEWER LINES FOR 2020; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Lastic to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by McNaughton, seconded by Kearney to adopt this Draft No. 173-19.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 173- 19 has been adopted on the 20th day of November 2019

RESOLUTION NO. _____(Draft No. 174-19)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR WORK OF WATER AND SEWER LINES FOR 2020; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by McNaughton, seconded by Smith to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Lastic, seconded by McNaughton to adopt this Draft No. 174-19.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 174- 19 has been adopted on the 20th day of November 2019

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 175-19)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR BUILDING INSPECTOR 2020; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Kearney, seconded by Smith to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Marchese, seconded by Smith to adopt this Draft No. 175-19.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 175- 19 has been adopted on the 20th day of November 2019

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 176-19)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR EMERGENCY ENGINEERING SERVICES 2020; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by McNaughton, seconded by Lastic to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by McNaughton, seconded by Smith to adopt this Draft No. 176-19.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 176- 19 has been adopted on the 20th day of November 2019

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 177-19)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PARK DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR PART-TIME LABOR SERVICES FOR THE WELLNESS CENTER; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Kearney to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

President Marino did ask Law Director Zuzolo if the proposals will be referred to the Park Board for them to agree to the contract. Law Director Zuzolo said yes. Mayor Mientkiewicz stated that the Park Board passed a resolution of support authorizing the city to do this.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Smith, seconded by McNaughton to adopt this Draft No. 177-19.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 177- 19 has been adopted on the 20th day of November 2019

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 178-19)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED FIRE LOSS CLAIMS FUND 664 TO THE FIRE LOSS CLAIMS REFUND ACCOUNT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Kearney to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Marchese, seconded by Lastic to adopt this Draft No. 178-19.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 178- 19 has been adopted on the 20th day of November 2019

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 179-19)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH AETNA TO PROVIDE HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE FOR THE CITY OF NILES

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Lastic to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

Mr. Cantola wanted to confirm that this was only a one year contract, so that they would have an opportunity to look at the concerns brought up this evening by the residents. Auditor Merlo confirmed it was only a one year agreement.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Lastic to adopt this Draft No. 179-19.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 179- 19 has been adopted on the 20th day of November 2019

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 180-19)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FIRE CHIEF TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR EXHAUST REMOVAL SYSTEM; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Marchese, seconded by Cantola to suspend the rule requiring three readings.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Kearney, seconded by Lastic to adopt this Draft No. 180-19.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 180- 19 has been adopted on the 20th day of November 2019

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

(Miscellaneous remarks began at 14:27 into recording)

President Marino informed Councilman McNaughton that he will not be present at the next council meeting so he will need to run the meeting in his absence. He asked that council excuse him because he will be out of town. President Marino also asked that council members, along with the Law Director, review the council rules prior to the December 18th meeting. Council will meet on the 18th to pick their committees and vote on the rules. He would like Law Director Zuzolo to go through the rules. He has always had the Law Director review them because the statues change, etc. Those would then be memorialized at the first meeting in January.

Mayor Mientkiewicz said the thought was to have the December 18th meeting at the McKinley Memorial Library. After the meeting, they would have the voting and the swearing in of all of the new elected officials. He thinks it is a very nice setting and he is currently in contact with the McKinley Memorial about having the meeting there.

Mayor Mientkiewicz announced that on December 2nd, the Lions club will have their memorial tree lighting downtown. And he wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He also talked about having a roundtable with council the following week to review the 2020 budget. The proposed time is Tuesday, November 26th @ 5:00 P.M. in the lower level conference room.

Service Director Flarey wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a safe and happy holiday.

Chief Holland informed council that the previous Saturday, the police department and the State Highway Patrol did a Can in the Cruiser. He was happy to report that the citizens of Niles donated a total of 1315 pounds of food and \$379.00 in cash for Niles Community Services.

Law Director Zuzolo told council if any council members want to add anything to the rules, call him or tell him. Also, he has no secretary right now and probably won't until after the first of the year. Council will have to call him directly.

Treasurer Telago wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Vigorito wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

President Marino wanted to give his appreciation to the billing office for the assistance they gave him. They were very professional and he is very grateful.

Mr. McNaughton wanted to commend the Mayor for sending out a letter this afternoon on behalf of the city to the Scrappers. The letter showed the strong support regarding the future of the Scrappers. He reached out the Mayor and the Law Director on Monday about this. There is a lot of work to do on this before May. All is not lost. He thinks this was a great first step.

Mayor Mientkiewicz said he immediately got a response from the manager, Jordan Taylor, thanking us for our support and he was going to forward that letter to the commissioner of the league. Mr. McNaughton said if we have an empty 8000 seat stadium for those dates that is a problem we will have to rectify.

Mr. Profato agreed. He has also been in contact with Mr. Cafaro and Mr. Taylor. Now is not the time to hit the panic button. This is still about 6-9 months out and baseball will be starting. He will be meeting with both of those entities. The Scrappers mean too much to this community.

Mr. Cantola wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ms. Marchese wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving with their families and be safe if you are traveling.

Ms. Smith wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. She also wanted to commend the Treasurer's office for keeping up on the on-line checkbook and for all of the reports that his office supplies to council.

Mr. Kearney wanted to commend Mr. Burke on Light up the Night at the park. It was a great event and there was good showing from citizens. Mr. Burke did a very nice job. Also, he wanted to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURN

It was moved by McNaughton, by Lastic to adjourn the meeting.



Nicole Bacak, Clerk of Council



Ryan McNaughton, Pro Tem President of Council