

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 3, 2023

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

Niles City Council held its regular meeting on May 3, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Niles Middle School in Niles, Ohio.

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

Julian- P, Lastic-P, Papalas-P, Devorich-P, Marchese-P, Smith- P, Sollitto-P, Marino-P

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Marchese to accept the minutes from the April 19th meeting and place them on file.

Motion carried.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

(Public comments began at 0:54 into recording)

Dee Sebben: Mrs. Sebben wanted to know if the administration got in contact with the garbage company, Republic, about garbage being all over the streets. She was at council about a month ago with this concern. Mayor Mientkiewicz said it has been addressed a couple of times because he knows there was an issue last summer and Republic did respond right away. Mayor Mientkiewicz informed everyone if there are any issues in the neighborhoods, to call his office and his secretary has a direct contact with Republic. They will send someone out to address the issue. Mrs. Sebben said Warren Ave. is pretty bad. President Marino agreed with Mayor Mientkiewicz. He had an issue where he lives and called on it and Republic addressed it very quickly.

Lastly, Mrs. Sebben asked if you were allowed to have grills on your front porch. President Marino asked Fire Chief Stevens about this, and he said no. He would have to see it, but it is not safe. Mrs. Sebben said there is a grill on her neighbor's front porch and he has caught her house on fire twice. She said you won't be able to see it because of the lattice on his porch, but you can see it from hers. President Marino asked Mrs. Sebben to speak to Fire Chief Stevens about this issue.

Tina Collins: Ms. Collins asked for an update on the dock at Kennedy. Mr. Sollitto said he thought it was approved through Home Depot. Mayor Mientkiewicz said has been approved by Home Depot and the park director is working on the details with Home Depot and he would hope they would be starting soon.

James Sheely: Mr. Sheely wanted to follow up on the tracks on Mahoning Ave. since Mayor Mientkiewicz said they were private lines. Mayor Mientkiewicz explained they were private lines at one time. Now, neither the railroad company or the businesses that used them are taking responsibility for them. The tracks are being addressed on this evening's agenda. The plan is to remove and resurface the street.

George Kuriatnyk: Mr. Kuriatnyk was going to ask about the substation for the police department, but he did get clarification from Law Director Zuzolo. He thinks it is a great idea that the police officers can stay out there and do their reports. The substation is not coming from taxpayers money, which was one of the concerns. Next, Mr. Kuriatnyk brought up the tire collection. He stated there are some people who are not able to get the tires into their cars and bring them to the collection site. He wants to know why the city can't go around and collect them since they have the manpower.

Mr. Kuriatnyk asked President Marino about the order of the agenda and when people vote. President Marino said it was changed back to the original rules a couple of meetings ago. Lastly, Mr. Kuriatnyk congratulated all of the winners from the election last night and said he looks forward to the November election.

Nicholas Marcon: Mr. Marcon said the city was lucky that we did not have a bad winter and the roads are still pretty decent. He wants to know how he can get information on the roads the city is responsible for and the roads that the state is responsible for. Mayor Mientkiewicz said there was a press release sent out about what roads will be paved in the 2023 resurfacing program. He said it is also on his mayor's social media and on the city's website. If he would like to stop down to the city building, Mayor Mientkiewicz would be more than happy to give him a hard copy of the list. Also, they can discuss where the state routes are.

Next, Mr. Marcon said this was his first opportunity to be inside the school. Unfortunately, he has family members who live in Texas, who attend schools that they thought had adequate protection in place for the children. This is a concern of his and he wants to make sure that our city has the necessary protection in place for children. Mayor Mientkiewicz said he knows the superintendent of the schools takes this very seriously. He knows there have been substantial upgrades when it comes to security. Mayor Mientkiewicz asked President Marino to speak on this since he is the Assistant Superintendent for Trumbull County Educational Service Center.

President Marino said security at the schools has changed. They now have metal detectors and school resource officers. They have changed the way you come in and out of the buildings and a lot of security protocols that are mandated by the state. These protocols are shared with the police chief, and they work with the police chief so that these protocols are as tight as they can be. They try to protect everyone and be as proactive as they can be. In his own opinion, if someone wants to do harm, they will do harm. The key is how they react to it. They have drills,

procedures in place, and open communication with the police. Here in Niles, he knows they do because at his job they work regularly with the police department. They just completed an active shooter training a few weeks ago in his office. President Marino said there is a rotation of drills and training that they go through.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance meeting minutes from 4-5-2023

It was moved by Smith, seconded by Julian to accept, and place on file.
Motion carried.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION
(Legislation began at 20:12 into recording)

The following drafts will be part of the consent agenda and passed together with suspension of three readings and as an emergency.

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 64-23)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF A STREET DUMP TRUCK, WATER DUMP TRUCK AND A SEWER BACKHOE TO BE SOLD BY INTERNET AUCTION ON GOV DEALS AS THEY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE BY THE CITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 65-23)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND 101 TO THE CONTRACTED LABOR ACCOUNT FOR THE NILES SENIOR CENTER PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 66-23)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND 101 TO THE CONTRACTED LABOR

ACCOUNT FOR THE REMOVAL OF RAILROAD TRACKS AND INSTALLATION OF ASPHALT ON MAHONING AVE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. _____(Draft No. 67-23)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER A LEASE FOR PRINTERS, COPIERS, AND A SERVICE/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Papalas to adopt the consent agenda.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

These Drafts No. 64-23 through 67-23 have been adopted on the 3rd day of May 2023.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

(Miscellaneous remarks began at 13:16 into recording)

President Marino asked council to excuse him from the July 5th meeting because he will be out of town. President Marino also wanted to congratulate all of the winners from last night's election. He wanted to thank those who ran for office for their willingness to become involved and potential serve the community.

Mayor Mientkiewicz echoed President Marino's comments about congratulating the winners.

Auditor Merlo congratulated the election winners.

Law Director Zuzolo also congratulated the election winners.

Mr. Vigorito congratulated the winners.

Safety Director Kaniclides congratulated everyone who participated in the election.

Service Director Flarey congratulated the winners.

Mr. Julian congratulated the winners.

Mr. Lastic thanked Niles.

Mrs. Devorich echoed President Marino's comments.

Ms. Marchese congratulated all of the winners. She hopes they keep moving the city forward.

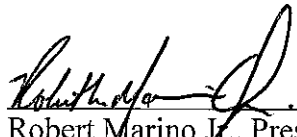
Ms. Smith echoed the comments.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Papalas to adjourn the meeting.



Nicole Bacak, Clerk of Council



Robert Marino Jr., President of Council