

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 3, 2024

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

Niles City Council held its regular meeting on January 3, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Niles Senior Center in Niles, Ohio.

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

Weddell- P, Johnstone-P, Sheely-P, Devorich-P, Julian-P, Lastic- P, Sollitto- P, Marino-P

President Marino explained that council has new rules, and they will start this meeting by following the new rules of order.

It was moved by Johnstone, seconded by Weddell to accept the minutes from the December 20th meeting and place them on file.

Motion carried.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

FROM- Ohio Division of Liquor Control

Notice to Legislative Authority – A & A Singh INC

It was moved by Sheely, seconded by Julian to accept, and refer to the Police Chief and Safety Director for their recommendation.

Motion Carried.

FROM- Niles Police Department

Annual Report for 2023.

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Sollitto to accept, and place it on file.

Motion Carried.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

(Public comments began at 2:30 into recording)

George Kuriatnyk- Mr. Kuriatnyk has a question on draft no. 169-23 about adopting the comprehensive plan. He would like for someone to go into more detail about this and if there is no grant money to fund this, he would like to know where the money would come from.

Mayor Mientkiewicz explained that the comprehensive plan is a road map of the community's vision, thoughts, and ideas all put together on one paper. It addresses future land use, housing stock, infrastructure, and various other items that are pertinent to the future of Niles. For example, he thinks Mr. Kuriatnyk is referring to are components within the comprehensive plan about the redevelopment of properties downtown. Mayor Mientkiewicz stated that nothing in the comprehensive plan is concrete, and it shouldn't be. These plans are based on the current moment and are meant to be reviewed and changed periodically based off of the needs and wants of the community.

When referring to the grant dollars for the plan, most successful communities who are obtaining grant dollars do so because there is a plan in place. The objective was to put the thoughts, goals and ideas on paper so when we go to apply for grants all of the planning is in place in one document. This is what authorities are looking for when they go to award grants. Mr. Kuriatnyk said he understands that, but he wants to know where the money comes from if there are no grants. And if he were to make changes to the plan, he wants to know if that needs to come before council. Mr. Kuriatnyk specifically wanted to know about the grants for downtown. President Marino interjected to let Mr. Kuriatnyk know that his time has expired. He explained if there were no grants received, it would be up to council and the administration to determine how to fund those projects.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Grounds committee meeting minutes from February 15, 2023, and the Utilities committee meeting minutes from June 14, 2023.

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

President Marino reminded council that if they do have committee meetings, they do have retain the committee meeting minutes and submit them at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Prior to legislation, Law Director Zuzolo asked that council adjourn into executive session under ORC 121.22 G1 for the appointment of public officials.

It was moved by Johnstone, seconded by Julian to adjourn into executive session.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Council adjourned into executive session at 6:09 P.M.

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Weddell to reconvene into executive session.

Council reconvened from executive session at 6:20 P.M.


President Marino recommended that council postpone the remainder of the meeting until a date certain of next Wednesday, January 10, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M. due to a medical emergency.

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Sollitto to postpone the meeting and reconvene next Wednesday.

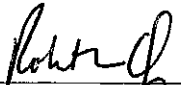
YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

The meeting was adjourned until the date certain of next Wednesday, January 10th @ 6:00 P.M. Per President Marino, the meeting will only be for the purpose of voting on legislation.

The meeting was adjourned until next Wednesday, January 10th.



Nicole Bacak, Clerk of Council



Robert Marino Jr., President of Council