

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2025

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

Niles City Council held its regular meeting on February 19, 2025, 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- NP, Johnstone-P, Sheely-P, Devorich-NP, Julian-P, Lastic- P, Sollitto- P, Marino-P

Mr. Sollitto said Ms. Devorich was just a few minutes away and would be at the meeting.

It was moved by Johnstone, seconded by Julian to excuse Weddell and Devorich from the meeting.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Sollitto, seconded by Julian to accept the minutes from the February 5th regular meeting and place them on file.

Motion carried.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

FROM- Cemetery Advisory Committee

Letter to city council

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

Motion carried.

FROM- Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District

Letter to city council- Plan

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

Motion carried.

FROM- Auditor's office

Statement of cash from revenue and expense- January 2025

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

Motion carried.

It is noted that Ms. Devorich did show for the meeting. She was present at 6:04 P.M.

FROM- Auditor's office
Check report by check number- January 2025
It was moved by Sollitto, seconded by Lastic to accept and place on file.
Motion carried.

FROM- Fire Department
2024 Annual report
It was moved by Sollitto, seconded by Lastic to accept and place on file.
Motion carried.

FROM- Billing Department
Adjustments for January 2025
It was moved by Julian, seconded by Sheely to accept and place on file.
Motion carried.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

(Public comments began at 7:45 into recording)

NONE

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public grounds committee meeting minutes- February 12, 2025

It was moved by Sollitto, seconded by Shelly to accept the minutes and place them on file.
Motion carried.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

(Legislation began at 8:26 into recording)

The following drafts will be part of the consent agenda, being brought to the floor for the third time to receive their third reading.

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 15-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE VEHICLE BY INTERNET AUCTION ON GOV DEALS AS IT IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE BY THE CITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 16-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE VEHICLE BY INTERNET AUCTION ON GOV DEALS AS IT IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE BY THE CITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 18-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH TRUMBULL COUNTY LAND REUTILIZATION CORPORATION FOR REAL PROPERTY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 19-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF UNUSED LANDS OWNED BY THE CITY OF NILES TO THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION OF NILES, OHIO (“CIC”).

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 22-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT 101 TO THE GENERAL FUND MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT FOR THE CITY FUNDED BUSINESS GRANT APPROVED BY THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION OF NILES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 23-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT 101 TO THE GENERAL FUND MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT FOR THE CITY FUNDED BUSINESS GRANT APPROVED BY THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION OF NILES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Amended Draft No. 24-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT 101 TO THE GENERAL FUND MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT FOR THE CITY FUNDED BUSINESS GRANT

**APPROVED BY THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION OF NILES
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

It was moved by Johnstone, seconded by Sheely to give a third reading to this consent agenda.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

It was moved by Johnstone, seconded by Sollitto to adopt this consent agenda.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

This consent agenda has been adopted on the 19th day of February 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 31-25)

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A
LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SERVICE LINE WARRANTIES OF AMERICA
(SWLA) TO OFFER THE SERVICE LINE WARRANTY PROGRAM TO CITIZENS OF
THE CITY OF NILES; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Sheely to give a second reading to this Draft 31-25.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 31-25 has received its second reading on the 19th day of February 2025.

It was moved by Johnstone, seconded by Sollitto to remove Draft No. 37-25 from the consent agenda.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

Motion carried.

President Marino clarified that the draft has been removed from the consent agenda and will be presented to receive a first reading. It will still be listed as Draft No. 37-25.

The following drafts will be part of the consent agenda, being brought to the floor for the first time, passed together with suspension of three readings, and as an emergency.

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 34-25)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE CITY OF NILES PRETREATMENT FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 36-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MONTHLY CASH TRANSFERS; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 38-25)

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A THEN AND NOW PAYMENT REQUEST FOR DUKE'S SANITARY SERVICE FOR THE EMERGENCY CLEANUP OF AN OIL SPILL IN MOSQUITO CREEK, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Sollitto, seconded by Lastic to suspend the rule requiring three readings to this consent agenda.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Sheely to adopt this consent agenda.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

This consent agenda has been adopted on the 19th day of February 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 35-25)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 143.04 "SECURITY OFFICERS AND PERSONNEL" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NILES, IN PART, TO DEFINE 'OFFICER' AND ADJUST THE APPLICATION FEE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Sheely, seconded by Sollitto to give a first reading to this Draft 35-25.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 35-25 has received its first reading on the 19th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 37-25)

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL 56

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Johnstone to give a first reading to this Draft 37-25.

Mayor Mientkiewicz informed council that there was a second hearing for this bill in Columbus on Tuesday. There was a lot of opposition to the proposed amendment. There is a proposed amendment that is favorable to the municipalities, but they have to wait and see how it plays out. He does have another meeting on Friday about this and will keep council in the loop on any information he receives.

Mr. Sollitto said it sounds like it is going the right way and he wanted to make sure the Representative Santucci was included in the letter that was being sent. He would like to get his support on this matter. Mayor Mientkiewicz said that is a good point and he has spoken to Representative Santucci about this.

Mr. Lastic asked about the projections on the dispensaries. He said he has heard that the ones that have been opened for quite some time have made a lot of money. Mayor Mientkiewicz said he has spoken to other colleagues, and they are waiting on projections since recreational use just started for a lot of local dispensaries. Mr. Sollitto asked since the city already has something in place, he would think they city would still be entitled to something at this point, even if the law changes. Mayor Mientkiewicz said they have to wait and see what the final language is in SB 56. As of now, they want to eliminate the municipalities from seeing any of the revenue. They will have to see what the amendment is and what the final language is.

Mr. Sheely said he has personally called Sandra O'Brien's office to express his concerns about this SB 56. This was something that the city voted on to get this revenue for the community and this seems like a kick in the teeth to the people who counted on this revenue. Mr. Sollitto agreed that revenue was a huge factor in voting for this.

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 37-25 has received its first reading on the 19th day of February 2025.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL FOR GENERAL PURPOSE

(Public comments began at 19:20 into recording)

NONE

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

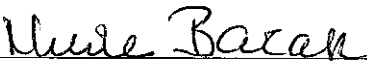
(Miscellaneous remarks began at 19:35 into recording)

Mayor Mientkiewicz said there is something else to watch in Columbus. On May 6th, the ten-year cycle for the state capital improvement plan will be on the ballot to vote on. It is a renewal and no new taxes. This does fund the OPWC program that the city takes part in. Since he has been mayor, the city has received over \$1 million in OPWC funding for various infrastructure programs. He thinks this is something that is beneficial not only to the city of Niles, but the entire state. He will personally be supporting this and hopes others do as well.

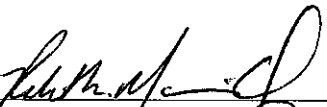
Mr. Sheely thanked Mayor Mientkiewicz for listening to his request for an arrow sign on Mahoning Ave. He wanted to thank the mayor for getting this taken care of. Mr. Sheely stated that he also called directly to the governor's office to express his concerns about SB 56. He hopes they decide to leave it the way it is or make it fair. This was something the people voted for in the best interest of their community.

ADJOURN

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



Nicole Bacak, Clerk of Council



Robert Marino Jr., President of Council