

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMEBER 5, 2025

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

Niles City Council held its regular meeting on November 5, 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 and the Assistant Clerk, Abbey Lavelle, called the roll:

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

It was moved by Weddell, seconded by Sheely to accept the minutes from the October 15th regular meeting and place them on file.

Motion carried.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

(Reports and Communications began at 2:10 into recording)

A notice to legislative authority from the Division of Liquor Control from Morning Chef, LLC to Morning Chef, LLC. It was moved by Sheely, seconded by Julian to refer the report over to the police chief and safety director for their recommendation. Motion carried.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

(Public Remarks for Agenda Items began at 2:43 into recording)

NONE

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

NONE

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

(Legislation began at 2:55 into recording)

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.

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 169-25)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CRACK SEALING PROJECT ON US-422 BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 170-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED OPIOID FUND FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT CELLEBRITE SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 171-25)

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A THEN AND NOW PAYMENT REQUEST FOR FYDA FREIGHTLINER YOUNGSTOWN, INC. FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO AN S-7 SEWER DEPARTMENT VAC TRUCK; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 172-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED WATER FUND FOR SETTLEMENT OF TWO ENBRIDGE CLAIMS; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 173-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CASH TRANSFER FOR STREET RESURFACING; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 174-25)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO SIGN HEALTHCARE AND EMPLOYEE BENEFIT AGREEMENTS WITH THE FOLLOWING: MUTUAL HEALTH SERVICES, EYEMED, ZALUSKI INSURANCE, METLIFE, AFLAC, MASS MUTUAL FOR 2026 FOR THE CITY OF NILES; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 175-25)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO OHIO DEFERRED COMP FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ROTH 457 OPTION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 176-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF NUMEROUS PARTS AND EQUIPMENT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT 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. 177-25)

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A THEN AND NOW PAYMENT REQUEST FOR MAIN LITE ELECTRIC FOR EMERGENCY STORM DAMAGE OVERHEAD LINE REPAIRS; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. ____ (Draft No. 178-25)

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 32-25 AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION (ARC) FOR THE PARTNERSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITY AND WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE (POWER) GRANT AND RATIFYING ALL ACTIONS TAKEN THUS FAR; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

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

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

Rules are suspended.

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

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This consent agenda has been adopted on the 5th day of November 2025.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL FOR GENERAL PURPOSE

(Public comments began at 6:32 into recording)

Richard Strong: Mr. Strong addressed council with concern for the basketball hoops in Murphy Park that were taken down without notice to residents of their removal. Mr. Sheely responded that he requested new mulch, new swings, and taking down the damaged basketball hoops but only the basketball hoops were addressed. Mr. Sollitto proposed that we present this issue to the Public Grounds Committee considering the backlash they have faced surrounding the basketball court/hoops. Sollitto added that he would like to see new basketball hoops go back in at Murphy Park despite the negative activity and vandalism that goes on because it sends the message that the City would rather they not have any activity at the Park. Mayor Mientkiewicz added that the Park Department has ordered new swings but the basketball hoops being removed were a result of repetitive damage, lack of use, and continuous negative activity. Sheely added that although there is some negative activity at the park, the issues stem more from a lack of maintenance and he would like to see the City upkeep the maintenance at Murphy Park as much as they address issues at Waddell.

Council President Marino presented the historical importance of the park and does not wish to see parts of the park be eliminated just because of the few bad incidents that have occurred there. Marino encouraged Sheely to meet with Park Board Chair, Park Board Director and Mayor to share concerns and get an understanding of the intent of the park.

Mr. Strong re-addressed the issue of vandalism of the swings and basketball hoops, adding that there is a product that can be sprayed on clear but will allow any graffiti to be wiped off easily. Strong does not want everyone in the 3rd Ward to be punished for the negative activity of just a few and he suggested that there be a stronger police presence to monitor the activity in the park.

Mayor Mientkiewicz added that a plan was made in the summer to fix the swings, add mulch, and address the damaged hoops at Murphy Park, and albeit it is being addressed slowly, it is still in the works and the other improvements will be made.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

(Miscellaneous remarks began at 22:37 into recording)

Mr. Marino congratulated Maryann, Ed, and Frank on their elections as well as the other council members on their re-elections.

Mayor Mientkiewicz provided an update on the Appalachian Community Grant Program for Riverside Park on First Street is about 70% completed and Downtown Public Square is about 30% completed. Both of these projects should be completed by early Spring.

Mr. Weddell offered his congratulations to the newly elected council members.

Mr. Johnstone also offered his congratulations to the newly elected council members as well as those who were not elected but put their name out there to try and make Niles a better place. Johnstone highlighted the Niles Girls Soccer Team for their great season. Johnstone also highlighted Niles Intermediate School for being voted One of the Best Elementary Schools for the 4th time. Mr. Johnstone added that the next CIC meeting is November 13 at 4:30 at the Wellness Center.

Mr. Sheely also congratulated those who won their elections as well as those who may not have won and encouraged the community to continue to push Niles in the right direction.

Mr. Julian also offered his congratulations.

Mr. Lastic thanked Niles for his re-election.

Mr. Sollitto encouraged setting a Public Grounds meeting to address the issues presented at tonight's meeting.

ADJOURN

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

Nicole Bacak
Nicole Bacak, Clerk of Council

Robert Marino Jr.
Robert Marino Jr., President of Council