

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 1, 2025

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

Niles City Council held its regular meeting on October 1, 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 Clerk, Nicole Bacak, called the roll:

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

President Marino asked council to make a motion to amend the agenda to allow the Niles Middle School students time to give their presentations.

It was moved by Lastic, seconded by Julian to amend the agenda this evening to allow the Niles Middle School students to give their presentations to council.

Motion carried.

The Niles Middle School students presented presentations to council on the Mahoning River. They covered the following topics: PH levels, coliform bacteria, dissolved oxygen, nitrate, phosphate and biochemical oxygen demand. They presented their findings from the tests they performed to show that the water was safe for the upcoming kayak launch.

President Marino thanked the students for coming and presenting this evening. He was impressed that the students were given a problem, went out and researched it, and provided data to inform them on the problem. With the research they did, they showed everyone the viability and rejuvenation of the Mahoning River. He is thrilled that they joined council and presented in front of a bunch of strangers. They articulated very well and should be very proud of what they accomplished this evening. They could not be prouder of the students in the Niles City Schools.

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Weddell to accept the minutes from the September 17th regular meeting and place them on file.

Motion carried.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

FROM- Auditor's office

Statement of cash from revenue and expense- August 2025

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

Motion carried.

FROM- Auditor's office

Check report by check number- August 2025

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

Motion carried.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

(Public comments began at 24:04 into recording)

NONE

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

NONE

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

(Legislation began at 24:14 into recording)

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 142-25)

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING NILES CODIFIED ORDINANCE 1159 ET SEQ TITLED:
SMALL BOX DISCOUNT STORES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

It was moved by Johnstone, seconded by Sollitto to give a third reading to this Draft No. 142-25.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

It was moved by Johnstone, seconded by Sheely to adopt this Draft No. 142-25.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 142-25 has been adopted on the 1st day of October 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 143-25)

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING NILES CODIFIED ORDINANCE 1160 ET SEQ TITLED:
SELF-SERVICE STORAGE FACILITY ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE CITY OF NILES,
OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

It was moved by Johnstone, seconded by Sheely to give a third reading to this Draft No. 143-25.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

It was moved by Sollitto, seconded by Johnstone to adopt this Draft No. 143-25.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 143-25 has been adopted on the 1st day of October 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 144-25)

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING NILES CODIFIED ORDINANCE 351.16; AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

It was moved by Sheely, seconded by Julian to give a third reading to this Draft No. 144-25.

Mr. Sollitto asked what the amendment was for and Law Director Zuzolo explained it was to add trailers to the list of inoperable vehicles. Trailers will now be able to be sited.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

It was moved by Sheely, seconded by Sollitto to adopt this Draft No. 144-25.

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0

This Draft No. 144-25 has been adopted on the 1st day of October 2025.

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. 152-25)

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A THEN AND NOW PAYMENT REQUEST FOR
SUMMIT SUPPLY FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR OF A WATER MAIN BREAK; AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 153-25)

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A THEN AND NOW PAYMENT REQUEST FOR
MAIN LITE ELECTRIC CO. FOR EMERGENCY REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED
SWITCHES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 154-25)

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A THEN AND NOW PAYMENT REQUEST FOR LEE'S EXCAVATING, INC. FOR EMERGENCY VALVE REPLACEMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 155-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT AND APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS FOR THE WADDELL PARK TRACK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 156-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING WATER FUND 501 APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS FOR DEBT REPAYMENT; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 157-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ACCEPT A DONATION FROM VFW POST 2074 AND APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS INTO THE POLICE AND FIRE FUND FOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASES; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 158-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECT PURCHASE OF A 2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT, ACCEPTING THE TRADE IN VALUE OF THE CURRENT VEHICLE AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION BUDGET TRANSFER OF VARIOUS FUNDS TO PURCHASE THE VEHICLE; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 159-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED GENERAL FUND FOR THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION OF NILES (CIC) TO ADVERTISE VACANT PROPERTY FOR REDEVELOPMENT; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 160-25)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A SAN SERVER REPLICATION FOR DISASTER RECOVERY THROUGH MNJ TECHNOLOGY OHIO STS CONTRACT #534354; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 161-25)

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AUDIT TRANSFER ADJUSTMENT
CONVERTING THE CEMETERY INTERFUND LOAN BALANCE TO A TRANSFER;
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 162-25)

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NILES TO ENTER INTO AN
ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH GEARMAR PROPERTIES FOR AN
EXPEDITED TYPE I ANNEXATION; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

ORDINANCE NO. ____ (Draft No. 163-25)

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE
UNAPPROPRIATED SEWER FUND FOR THE BROWN STREET PIPE RELINING
PROJECT; AND, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

It was moved by Julian, seconded by Sollitto 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 1st day of October 2025.

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS COUNCIL FOR GENERAL PURPOSE

(Public comments began at 31:08 into recording)

Richard Strong: Mr. Strong stated he was not there for a political thing. He would like to see on October 14th; the City of Niles fly the flags at half mast in remembrance of Charlie Kirk. He would like this to be considered. Mayor Mientkiewicz said they follow the orders and direction of the governor's office.

Michael Cricks: Mr. Cricks wanted to touch base on the dealership being built. He wanted to thank them for keeping the retainment on the back of Shaw Rd. He has met with Mr. Wheeler from the city about other things, such as detention ponds and trees to keep some privacy and noise out. Mr. Johnstone said there have been discussions with boundaries.

Mr. Johnstone said they came to council approximately a year ago and asked for the current tree line not to be disturbed. They also discussed a traditional buffer. Mr. Johnstone said they were originally in agreement with this, and they had not said they weren't going to do it. He has all of the confidence that they will honor what they originally said in front of council. Mr. Sollitto agreed and said the dealership has been more than gracious and are willing to be partners.

President Marino said he was the one who asked for the buffer zone and the tree line not to be disturbed. In his experience, he knew what to ask for. Buffer zones are one thing and once the leaves fall from the trees, you will see right into the area. It sounds like everything is worked out. Mr. Johnstone said there is no written agreement, and they are just waiting on Mr. Wheeler to get something in writing.

It was moved by Sollitto, seconded by Lastic to grant an additional three minutes.
Motion carried.

Mr. Cricks hopes things can be put in writing and he doesn't see any issues. He thinks everyone on Shaw Rd. will be happy. Mr. Johnstone said there are others who will be affected by this. It is exciting with all of the growth in the city and the city moving forward, but there is another side to the sword for the neighborhoods. He is sympathetic and wants this to be as painless as possible and appreciates the residents' cooperation through this process. Everyone has been great to work with through the process, so he has no reason to think that they will not honor what they said.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

(Miscellaneous remarks began at 38:05 into recording)

Mayor Mientkiewicz wanted to publicly thank Mr. Dave Sheely and his team at the local VFW for their generous donation of \$12,000.00 to the safety forces. The city is very appreciative and thankful for everything they do for the veterans. They also make donations to the youth groups, which the mayor wanted to recognize.

President Marino asked the clerk and law director to draw up a letter and send it to Niles Middle School thanking the students for their presentation.

Service Director Flarey thanked council for approving the Brown Street pipe project.

Mr. Johnstone wanted to inform everyone about two events happening in the city. The Niles Historical Society, along with the Thomas House, will be putting on a fall market on Sunday, October 12th @12:00 P.M. Also, the Niles McKinley Library Museum is having their 6th annual Halloween party and pumpkin walk on Saturday, October 18th @5:00 P.M.

Mr. Sheely wanted to add to the mayor's comments of the VFW. He encouraged people to stop down there and visit. The veterans do a lot for the community. They have sacrificed a lot for us and the nation. He encouraged people to go down there and sit with them and honor them for what they have done and continue to do. He has a lot of family members who have served in the military and holds them to the highest standard.

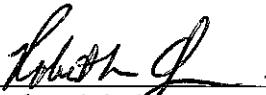
Mr. Sollitto agreed and said the people at the VFW are first class. They are always giving back to the city and a true blessing to the city. He also wanted to thank public grounds, and council as a whole for following through with the resurfacing of the track at the park. He thinks it will be a great thing to help the Little Red Dragons, and help the citizens of Niles.

ADJOURN

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



Nicole Bacak, Clerk of Council



Robert Marino Jr., President of Council