

Quarterly
Newsletter
Winter 2021

The City of Niles



CITY OF NILES

34 West State Street,
Niles, Ohio 44446
330.544.9000
www.thecityofniles.com

Departments by extension:
Administration.....1100
Auditor.....1120
Billing.....1150
Treasurer.....1130
Light.....1160
Development.....1170
Planning/Permitting.....1180
Street.....1190
Water/Sewer.....3101
Park/Cemetery.....1140
Wellness Center.....1300
Law Dept.....1501
Senior Center.....2555
Human Resources.....1115

NILES CITY COUNCIL

President of Council:
Robert Marino, Jr.

Council At Large:
Michael Lastic
Barry Profato
Ryan McNaughton

1st Ward: Doug Sollitto
2nd Ward: Sheri Smith
3rd Ward: Linda Marchese
4th Ward: Al Cantola

Clerk of Council:
Nicole Bacak

Message from Mayor Mientkiewicz



Niles Residents,

Happy New Year! As we commence on the year 2021, it is our hope that the COVID-19 situation begins to dissolve. Though a vaccine is available, we must continue to stay-the-course and do our part to help stop the spread. Continue to wear a mask in public, wash your hands, and stay home if you're sick. We're excited about the many initiatives that we have slated for the upcoming year, including an expanded street resurfacing program, increased fire hydrant replacements, neighborhood demolition, new fitness equipment in the wellness center, enhanced neighborhood LED street lighting, and more. Please remember that street parking is prohibited throughout the winter months, during snow emergencies. I hope everyone has a safe, exciting, and prosperous year ahead. Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to give me a call.

~ Mayor Mientkiewicz



The City of Niles safety forces recently submitted their 2020 year-end reports. The police dept. finished the year with 16,145 calls. The fire dept. finished the year with 2,984 runs. Each department remains fully staffed.



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City Ordinance:

Clear zones shall be provided at all intersections for clear visibility of motorists. No structures, fences, trees, shrubs or other vegetation situated on corner lots or along the city roadway shall obstruct this clear zone. Property owners shall be notified and given ten days to remove the obstruction. If the obstruction has not been cleared, the property owner shall be cited by for violation, punishable as a 4th-degree misdemeanor.

Niles City Ord. 1395.13

Important Reminders:

- Niles City Hall will be CLOSED on MLK Day and President's Day.
- During income tax season, please contact RITA Ohio for any income tax concerns. 1-800-860-7482.
- Online bill-pay is available through the city website (fee associated). You can pay online through your personal online banking to avoid a fee.

2021 Annual Budget

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Total</i>
General	Council	\$58,238.00
	Mayor	\$111,275.00
	Auditor	\$318,023.00
	Treasurer	\$74,779.00
	Law Director	\$146,473.00
	Court	\$462,207.00
	Civil Service	\$16,806.00
	Planning Commission	\$1,100.00
	Service Director	\$18,555.00
	Safety-Service Complex	\$375,258.00
	Engineering	\$48,000.00
	Building/Zoning	\$424,643.00
	Safety Director	\$23,867.00
	Historical House	\$21,200.00
	Senior Center	\$11,300.00
General	Bike Trail	\$49,380.00
	Miscellaneous	\$11,622,500.00
General	Police Pension	\$535,500.00
	Fire Pension	\$573,500.00
Police/Fire 1%	Police	\$4,018,862.00
	Fire	\$3,575,867.00
General	Permissive Tax	\$239,980.00
	Computer	\$44,646.00
	Park	\$936,221.00
	DUI	\$80,000.00
	Street	\$815,252.00
	State Highway	\$83,033.00
	Community Development	\$1,250,000.00
	Special Projects	\$36,000.00
	Legal Research	\$00.00
	Police CPT	\$10,000.00
	Impound	\$135,000.00
	Cemetery	\$332,607.00
	Seizure	\$2,000.00
	Probation	\$147,888.00
	Law Enforcement	\$1,000.00
	Drug Law	\$10,000.00
	Capital Projects	\$1,635,746.00
	Transit	\$9,633.00
Enterprise	Light	\$28,579,604.00
	Sewer	\$5,307,488.00
	Water	\$8,634,830.00
	Endowment	\$100.00
	Fire Loss	\$50,000.00
	Payroll Clearing	\$11,300,000.00
	Motor Fuel	\$176,000.00
	Hospital Self Insurance	\$3,600,000.00
	Utility Trust	\$50,000.00
TOTAL		\$85,945,106.00

**2021 Budget Source: Niles City Auditors Office*

The annual city budget consists of wages, benefits, operating and maintenance supplies, contracted labor, contracted services, debt retirement, yearly fees and capital expenditures. The budget was presented by the administration and unanimously approved by Niles City Council for FSY 2021.

*The Niles Wellness Center
is open to members only.
To join, please contact the
Park Office.*

Did You Know:

Niles residents can register to receive text alerts for severe weather, community events, and emergencies including power outages, water break/boil alerts, traffic delays, and AMBER alerts. To sign up, visit the homepage of the city website.

The North Road waterline replacement project will commence in February. Please be patient during construction, as water service may be temporarily affected. This project is funded by OPWC and will include the replacement of 1,210 feet of waterline, two hydrants, six valves, and two services.



What is backflow?

A water system depends on pressure to keep water flowing in the proper direction through the pipes. However, anything that causes a drop in water pressure can create a reverse flow from a homeowner's plumbing system back into the public water system. This is called backflow.

Who is responsible?

In Ohio, the responsibility for preventing backflow is divided. In general, state and local plumbing inspectors have authority over plumbing systems within buildings while Ohio EPA and water suppliers regulate protection of the distribution system at each service connection.

What is the law?

Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3745-95 requires public water suppliers to protect their water systems from cross-connections and prevent backflow situations. Public water suppliers must conduct cross-connection control inspections of their water customers' property to evaluate cross-connection hazards.

When is a Test Needed?

Commercial and Industrial water users that have backflow preventers are required to have annual inspections performed by certified backflow testers. Results must be sent to the public water supplier.

Where is the info?

You can find more information about the City's 2021 Backflow Prevention Program on the water page of the city website.

Contractor Registration:

Each year contractors need to re-register with the building office. Contractor registration is \$50.00 per year and forms can be found on the city website. For additional information about contractor registration, please call 330-544-9000 ext. 1180. If your contractor is not registered, please call the city to confirm that we have received their registration documents.

Visiting City Hall

Since the start of our reopening, last June Niles City Hall has been open to the public by appointment. However, residents who choose to walk-in are welcome. If you are visiting City Hall, make sure to enter through the West (accessible) entrance. Masks are required upon entry. Stop at the sign-in desk where you will see a mask and temperature scanner. Masks and hand sanitizer is available. You can then select your desired department on the intercom and speak to a representative. A city employee will then assist you. This process has been put in place to protect you and the employees and was approved by the Trumbull County Health Department. For utility payments, please use the drop-box on the East side of the building, pay by mail, or online. Similar procedures are in place for all public buildings, including the Wellness Center, Municipal Court, and Police station.

The City of Niles

>Vision

>Planning

>Success

Notice to Residents:

If you have curbside mail, please check your mailbox's integrity. Mailboxes in poor condition may not be able to sustain winter conditions. The city is not responsible for damaged mailboxes, due to normal snow removal operations, including snow that is discharged from plows. The City will only replace damaged mailbox's if they are directly struck by city-owned snowplows.

Winter Updates

The Niles Street Department is prepared for snow and ice removal for the winter season. The department has stocked up on a reserve supply of 600 tons of road salt. Through a purchasing consortium with Trumbull County, the city is able to purchase road salt at a price of \$69.00 per ton. This cost-saving measure allows us to purchase more, for less, in an effort to keep our streets safe during winter.

During heavy snowfalls, please be patient as street crews maintain 87 miles of roadway within city limits. All Street Department personnel are experienced in plowing City streets. Streets are plowed in the following order:



- Primary Streets, State Routes
- Secondary Streets
- Side Streets, Developments, Cul-de-Sacs

Street Department trucks are prohibited from plowing driveways and private parking lots.

The City of Niles does not permit snow from a private driveway to be pushed from the driveway and onto a city street. Please be sure your snowplow contractor is aware of this.



Always use caution when traveling behind plow trucks. Maintain a safe distance of at least 50ft. and never cross in between two plows that are moving in tandem.

Keeping your vehicle off the street during emergency snow bans will help the Street Department with snow & ice removal and allow safety vehicles to reach your home in a timely manner.

Auditor:

Giovanni Merlo

Treasurer:

Stephen Telego



Visit the Ohio Online Checkbook to see all city expenditures.

Quarterly Financial Report

The city continues to maintain strong fiscal oversight, in regard to income tax collections and expenditures of tax-payer dollars. The General Fund balance forward into 2021 is approximately 9.8 million dollars. The enterprise funds include utility revenue from water, light, and sewer customers. The balance forward into 2021 for the Light fund is approximately 14.1 million dollars, the Water fund balance forward is approximately 3.4 million dollars, and the Sewer fund balance forward is approximately 3.7 million dollars. Our goal is to continue to grow these funds, while aggressively reinvesting back into our aged infrastructure and keeping our utility rates stable for Niles utility customers. Total net income tax revenue for 2020 was \$8,591,479.72.

City wide overtime through the fourth quarter of 2020 came in at \$425,617.59, which is within budget. This number reflects emergency services for snow and ice removal, water break repairs, sewer backups, power outages, and police/fire overtime.