

Quarterly
Newsletter
Winter 2022

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
Jim DePasquale
Jimmy Jullian

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

Clerk of Council:
Nicole Bacak



Message from Mayor Mientkiewicz

Niles Residents,

Happy New Year! I am looking forward to many new projects throughout the upcoming year that will improve our city. Be on the lookout for a brand-new rescue fire engine that is now in service. This vehicle is equipped with modern fire and first responder equipment. You will see an implemented Park improvement plan that will add beauty and upgrades our Park system. Recently ordered for demolition were six unfit/unsafe structures and outbuildings.

Removal of these structures will allow us to continue to “fight the blight” in your neighborhoods. We are utilizing ARPA funds for upgrades to our water and sewer distribution systems. Increased street resurfacing and LED street lighting is also slated for this year. I would like to welcome our newest Council members: Mindy DeVorich and Jim DePasquale. I am happy to report that the city remains fiscally solvent. Finally, I hope everyone has a safe and exciting 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 2021 year-end reports. The police dept. finished the year with 13,749 calls. The fire dept. finished the year with 3,284 runs. Each department will remain fully staffed, including the dispatch communication center.



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2022 Annual Budget

City Ordinance:

No person shall plow, push, or otherwise place or cause to be plowed, pushed, or otherwise placed any ice or snow upon the paved portion of any public street, highway, thoroughfare, alley, or any other public roadway within the city.
Niles City Ord. 311.05

Important Reminders:

- For natural gas aggregate pricing (3.99/MCF) through Constellation, visit the city website or contact the Mayors Office.

- During income tax season, please contact RITA Ohio for any income tax concerns:
www.ritaohio.com
 or
 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.

- Signing up for utility service? Applications for new service or to transfer service can be found on the "Billing" page of the city website. Please be sure the application is completed, signed, and returned with the specified documents.

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Total</i>
General	Council	\$66,789.00
	Mayor	\$113,323.00
	Auditor	\$337,138.00
	Treasurer	\$86,005.00
	Law Director	\$139,825.00
	Court	\$507,609.00
	Civil Service	\$15,706.00
	Planning Commission	\$1,100.00
	Service Director	\$19,315.00
	Safety-Service Complex	\$415,180.00
	Engineering	\$105,519.00
	Building/Zoning	\$463,859.00
	Safety Director	\$23,867.00
	Historical House	\$21,200.00
	Senior Center	\$12,100.00
	Bike Trail	\$55,098.00
	Information Technology	\$86,708.00
	Miscellaneous	\$12,205,700.00
General	Police Pension	\$540,500.00
	Fire Pension	\$578,500.00
Police/Fire 1%	Police	\$4,160,543.00
	Fire	\$3,571,067.00
General	Permissive Tax	\$250,900.00
	Computer	\$75,044.00
	Park	\$1,096,733.00
	DUI	\$80,000.00
	Street	\$1,286,067.00
	State Highway	\$95,376.00
	Community Development	\$1,250,000.00
	Special Projects	\$53,800.00
	Police CPT	\$10,000.00
	Impound	\$150,000.00
	Cemetery	\$491,247.00
	Seizure	\$12,000.00
	Probation	\$165,552.00
	Law Enforcement	\$3,000.00
	Drug Law	\$17,000.00
	Capital Projects	\$2,098,000.00
	Transit	\$9,633.00
	Light	\$27,358,066.00
Enterprise	Sewer	\$5,807,123.00
	Water	\$9,323,081.00
	Endowment	\$100.00
	Fire Loss	\$50,000.00
	Payroll Clearing	\$13,300,000.00
	Motor Fuel	\$256,000.00
	Hospital Self Insurance	\$3,800,000.00
	Utility Trust	\$50,000.00
	TOTAL	\$90,615,373.00

**2022 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 2022.

*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.

Residential trash service through Republic Services now offers a Senior Rate of \$10.68 per month. Please contact Republic to inquire about this discounted rate. Standard curbside will increase to \$11.74 per month, beginning in January. For questions or to schedule bulk pick-up, visit: www.republicservices.com

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.



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 2022 Backflow Prevention Program on the water page of the city website.

American Rescue Plan Act Projects

The City of Niles has been allocated approximately 1.9 million dollars in American Rescue Plan Act funds. The guidelines allow for the funds to be used for mitigating the effects of COVID-19, Public Safety, and Water/Sewer Infrastructure.

Nearly 1.6 million dollars have been earmarked to upgrade the water and sewer distribution systems. The following projects are planned to be implemented this year and finished over the next three years:

Main Street Gate Valve Replacement, Crandon Avenue Gate Valve Replacement, Water Meter Transmitting Upgrade, Various Dead-End Water Loops, North Road Waterline Replacement, Maple Street Waterline Replacement, Main Valve Maintenance Upgrade, Sanitary Detention Pump Station Rehabilitation, Dragon Drive Sanitary Manhole Lining.



>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 \$52.00 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 88 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. All funds remain positive. The General Fund balance forward into 2022 is approximately 11 million dollars. The enterprise funds include utility revenue from water, light, and sewer customers. The balance forward into 2022 for the Light fund is approximately 15.5 million dollars, the Water fund balance forward is approximately 3.2 million dollars, and the Sewer fund balance forward is approximately 4.2 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 2021 was \$9,061,522.60.

City wide overtime through the fourth quarter of 2021 came in at \$566,532.83, 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.