

Quarterly  
Newsletter  
*Winter 2023*

# *The City of Niles*



## CITY OF NILES

34 West State Street  
Niles, Ohio 44446  
330.544.9000  
[www.thecityofniles.com](http://www.thecityofniles.com)

Departments by extension:  
Administration.....1101  
Auditor.....1121  
Billing.....1151  
Treasurer.....1135  
Light.....1163  
Development.....1601  
Planning/Permitting.....1182  
Street.....1191  
Water/Sewer.....3101  
Park/Cemetery.....1142  
Wellness Center.....1303  
Law Dept.....1501  
Senior Center.....2555  
Human Resources.....1115

## NILES CITY COUNCIL

President of Council:  
Robert Marino, Jr.

Council At Large:  
Michael Lastic  
Stephen Papalas  
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 community. The Waddell Park Improvement grant project will commence this year. This grant includes artificial turf for baseball, a splash pad, new adaptive playground equipment, asphalt and fence replacement, a community gazebo, and more. The total federal grant award was earmarked at 2.55 million dollars and was recently approved by Congress and the President. 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 slated for many infrastructure improvements such as: street resurfacing, water valve and hydrant replacements, sanitary pump station and main line improvements, and updated LED street lighting. I am happy to report that the city continues to remain 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 2022 year-end reports. The Police dept. finished the year with 15,397 calls. The Fire dept. finished the year with 2,785 runs. Each department will remain fully staffed, including the dispatch communication center.



## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Annual Budget.....2  
Reminders.....2  
Planning.....3

Employment.....3  
Winter Update.....4  
Financial Report.....;.....4

**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 Mayor's Office.

- During income tax season, please contact RITA Ohio for any income tax concerns:

[www.ritaohio.com](http://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.

**2022 Annual Budget**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Total</b>
General	Council	\$60,742.00
	Mayor	\$89,588.00
	Auditor	\$419,571.00
	Treasurer	\$91,970.00
	Law Director	\$150,713.00
	Court	\$430,607.00
	Civil Service	\$17,277.00
	Planning Commission	\$1,100.00
	Service Director	\$19,518.00
	Safety-Service Complex	\$477,726.00
	Engineering	\$102,946.00
	Building/Zoning	\$521,233.00
	Safety Director	\$28,820.00
	Historical House	\$50,000.00
	Senior Center	\$27,100.00
	Public Works	\$93,656.00
General	Information Technology	\$76,176.00
	Miscellaneous	\$13,850,100.00
General	Police Pension	\$549,500.00
	Fire Pension	\$626,500.00
Police/Fire 1%	Police	\$4,656,145.00
	Fire	\$3,909,608.00
General	Permissive Tax	\$255,800.00
	Computer	\$57,818.00
	Park	\$1,286,726.00
	DUI	\$60,000.00
	Street	\$1,278,871.00
	State Highway	\$106,078.00
	Community Development	\$1,500,000.00
	Special Projects	\$42,400.00
	Police CPT	\$19,210.00
	Impound	\$110,000.00
	Cemetery	\$434,416.00
	Seizure	\$8,000.00
	Probation	\$174,262.00
	Law Enforcement	\$3,000.00
	Drug Law	\$11,500.00
	Capital Projects	\$1,779,000.00
Enterprise	Light	\$29,141,367.00
	Sewer	\$7,010,169.00
	Water	\$8,962,621.00
Fiduciary	Endowment	\$100.00
	Fire Loss	\$25,000.00
General	Payroll Clearing	\$13,500,000.00
	Motor Fuel	\$306,000.00
	Hospital Self Insurance	\$3600,000.00
	Utility Trust	\$250,000.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$96,172,934.00</b>

*\*2023 Budget Source: Niles City Auditor's 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 2023.

### Backflow Prevention:

Each year 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.

### We Are Hiring:

*Please check the City of Niles website or contact Human Resources for all job openings and info.*

*Come join our team!*

### Did You Know:

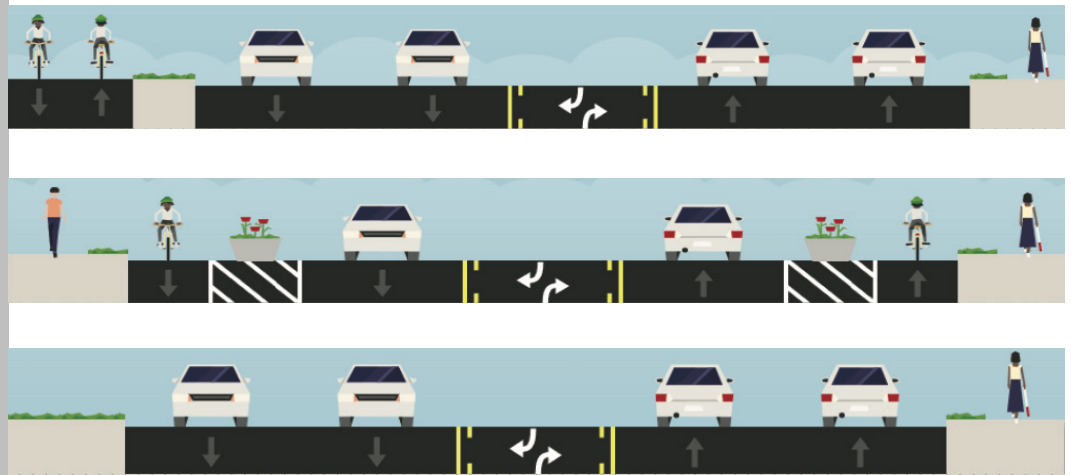
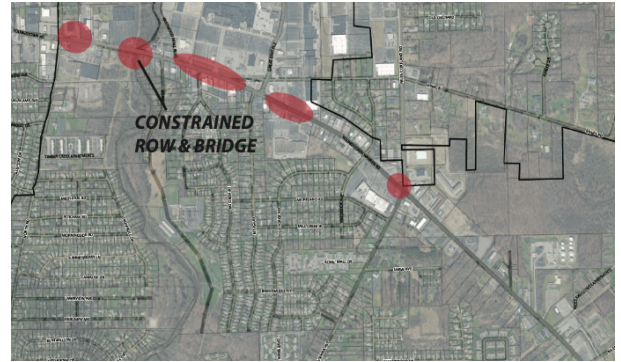
Niles residents can register to receive text alerts for severe weather, community events, and emergencies including power outages, water break/boil alerts, traffic delays, and AMBER alerts. To sign up, visit the homepage of the city website.

### 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. 1182. If your contractor is not registered, please call the city to confirm that we have received their registration documents.

## 422 Corridor Planning Grant

The City of Niles is completing a corridor planning study for State Route 422, which is the main business artery leading into and out of the city. The complete streets study will identify and refine options relating to safety, aesthetics, traffic flow, active transportation infrastructure and right-of-way issues. The plan will be platform for subsequent grant programs, aimed towards stabilization, attraction, and economic development. Future goals coming out of the planning study will focus on improving access management, enhancing streetscaping/landscaping, pedestrian lighting, aesthetic sign poles, bus stop enhancements/upgraded transit stops, and high-visibility crosswalks/sidewalks. The final planning study will be completed in 2023.



The City of Niles is creating a new Comprehensive Plan to ensure a bright future for the community. The Comprehensive Plan is an exciting endeavor, and the timing couldn't be better. The community is steeped in rich history and ready for 21st century growth. Join us on the journey of looking ahead ten years and beyond with clear eyes. With your input, the community's vision will be borne from broad-based consensus and rooted in data, while capturing the imagination.

You can participate in the online public input survey by visiting the City of Niles homepage and linking to the comprehensive plan website.





### >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, regarding income tax collections and expenditures of tax-payer dollars. All funds remain positive. The General Fund balance forward into 2023 is approximately 13.5 million dollars. The enterprise funds include utility revenue from water, light, and sewer customers. The balance forward into 2023 for the Light fund is approximately 15.5 million dollars, the Water fund balance forward is approximately 3 million dollars, and the Sewer fund balance forward is approximately 4.5 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 2022 was \$12,367,000.00.

City wide overtime through the fourth quarter of 2022 came in at \$619,058.56, 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.