

James Stump, IS Director explained the following:

In accordance with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' recommendations designed to help prevent the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and Executive Order 2020-15 declaring public bodies subject to the Open Meetings Act can use telephone or video conferencing technology to meet and conduct business, the City of Niles City Council will hold such a meeting via telephone conferencing at **6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 28, 2021**, for the purpose of adopting City of Niles policy temporarily allowing remote attendance by members of City Councilmembers and other City public boards and members of the public at public meetings due to Coronavirus outbreak.

Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting through electronic means will have access to the meeting through the following methods:

ZOOM WEBINAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ACCESS

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://nilesmi.zoom.us/j/99669867810>

Webinar ID: 996 6986 7810 Or iPhone one-tap:

US: +13017158592, 99669867810# or +13126266799, 99669867810#

Or Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833 or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free) Webinar ID: 996 6986 7810

International numbers available: <https://nilesmi.zoom.us/j/99669867810>

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City of Niles, Michigan

Electronic Meeting

June 28, 2021

PRESENT: Council Members: Georgia Boggs, Gretchen Bertschy, John DiCostanzo, Amanda Dunnem, William Weimer, Charlie McAfee, Jessica Nelson, Travis Timm, and Mayor Shelton

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Richard Huff, Robert Landgraf, Linda Casperson, and James Stump

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The regular Niles City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Shelton at 6:03 p.m. June 28, 2021. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Shelton.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council Member DiCostanzo moved, **Council Member McAfee** seconded to approve the agenda with the addition of: 8A.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Dunnem, Timm, McAfee, Weimer, DiCostanzo, Nelson, Boggs, Bertschy

NAY: None **MOTION CARRIED**

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: (PUBLIC COMMENTS)

Charles Nelson thanked the city council for approving the NODE. There were a couple of great events at the NODE that brought a wonderful atmosphere. He is the business owner of On Base Production, 227 E Main Street downtown Niles. Third Thursday at the NODE was well attended, like nothing he has seen downtown with families enjoying the music by the Toonas and Monday is open-mic. Children singing and his son playing the guitar. Everyone was so positive, especially from what went on this past year. He thanked the council for believing in the space and letting it thrive and excited to see what it will bring.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Consideration of approving the minutes of June 14, 2021.

2. Consideration of approving the list of bills dated June 23, 2021.
3. Consideration of approving to renew the surcharge, not to exceed \$1, to customers' electric bills in accordance with Michigan's Low-Income Energy Assistance Program.
4. Consideration of scheduling a Public Hearing to consider final public input on the adoption of the City of Niles Master Plan for 6:00pm on Monday, July 12, 2021.
5. Consideration of scheduling a Public Hearing to hear public comments on the Proposed PY 2021 CDBG Annual Action Plan for 6:00pm on Monday, July 26, 2021.

Council Member Nelson moved, **Council Member Bertschy** seconded to approve consent agenda. Discussion: Council Member Nelson on Item 4: Before COVID there were plans to have interactive input from the community for the Master Plan. Sanya Vitale, explained that it was discussed at length on what to do, it was decided to move on. The final draft was posting on social media, news media, and City Hall. Chairman Correa was interviewed on news and newspaper. The public hearing notice was sent to YMCA, Niles Community Library, Chamber of Commerce, neighboring municipalities, and on the city's website. Council Member DiCostanzo is the liaison Planning Commission member and stated that the Planning Commission approved the final draft and planned to solicit feedback from the community.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Timm, McAfee, Weimer, DiCostanzo, Nelson, Boggs, Bertschy, Dunnem

NAY: None **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:
Introduction of Items for Discussion
Items for Council Action

6. Consideration of approving to accept the quote of \$153,570 from Siemens of Wendell, North Carolina for the purchase of 13 Smart Distribution Recloser control cabinets and associated cables for the distribution automation upgrade to the City of Niles electric system.

Council Member DiCostanzo moved, **Council Member Bertschy** seconded to approve to accept the quote of \$153,570 from Siemens of Wendell, North Carolina for the purchase of 13 Smart Distribution Recloser control cabinets and associated cables for the distribution automation upgrade to the City of Niles electric system.

ROLL CALL: YEA: McAfee, Weimer, DiCostanzo, Nelson, Boggs, Bertschy, Dunnem, Timm

NAY: None **MOTION CARRIED**

7. Consideration of approving the YMCA-SWM's request for \$10,000 in funding for Summer My Way services and authorizing the Mayor to sign the Subrecipient Agreement.

Council Member DiCostanzo moved, **Council Member McAfee** seconded to approve the YMCA-SWM's request for \$10,000 in funding for Summer My Way services and authorizing the Mayor to sign the Subrecipient Agreement.

Discussion: Council Member DiCostanzo great program and a good use of CDBG money. Council Member Bertschy stated that a family was not getting appropriate correspondence with bussing and schedules and lack of communication. City Administrator will follow-up.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Weimer, DiCostanzo, Nelson, Boggs, Bertschy, Dunnem, Timm, McAfee

NAY: None **MOTION CARRIED**

8. Consideration of accepting the quote for computer security software and services at a cost of \$116,250.00 with 1 payment of \$13,077.00 for an 11-month period followed by 3 payments of \$34,391.00 made annually being charged at 50% to the General Fund and 50% to the Utility Department and authorizing the City Administrator to sign any required documents.

Council Member DiCostanzo moved, **Council Member McAfee** seconded to accept the quote for computer security software and services at a cost of \$116,250.00 with 1 payment of \$13,077.00 for an 11-month period followed by 3 payments of \$34,391.00 made annually being charged at 50% to the General Fund and 50% to the Utility Department and authorizing the City Administrator to sign any required documents.

ROLL CALL: YEA: DiCostanzo, Nelson, Boggs, Bertschy, Dunnem, Timm, McAfee, Weimer
NAY: None **MOTION CARRIED**

8A. Consideration of approving a cannabis festival on September 25, 2021 in Riverfront Park south to begin September 23 through September 26, 2021 for set-up and take-down activities. Contingent upon the Public Safety Director confirming that all conditions were met and rules followed. Requests to include an attendance cap of 2,000 plus 100 workers/vendors, sole use of the park space for the say of the festival, and closure of Bond Street with barricades. The sponsor will be responsible for all costs associated with the festival and all costs incurred by the City that are in addition to normal staffing and city activities. The event organizer must submit an approved application to the State of Michigan 90 days in advance. In order to meet the state's requirements, the proposed event would need to be approval by June 28, 2021.

Council Member Nelson moved, **Council Member Nelson** seconded to approve as presented.

ROLL CALL: YEA: Nelson, Boggs, Bertschy, Dunnem, Timm, McAfee, Weimer, DiCostanzo,
NAY: None **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: No report

COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT:

Council Member Weimer asked if the city council will continue to have ZOOM meetings for in-person meetings. Mayor Shelton stated that he was going to announce under his report that the Niles City Council will be meeting in-person for the next council meeting on July 12, 2021 at 6pm at the Niles Council Chambers, 1345 E. Main Street. The audience will be able to join via ZOOM but, will not be able to participate.

Council Member DiCostanzo announced that Friday, July 2nd night the City of Niles will have fireworks to celebrate our nation's Independence Day.

Council Member Nelson announced that Mount Calvary Church had a lovely Juneteenth Celebration. It was nice to bring the community together to celebrate that newly national approved holiday. She also wanted to mention that 3rd Thursday was an amazing event down at the NODE. It was a great representation of all different people in Niles from young to old and in between. Great music, great time. Thank you to everybody that puts their heart and soul, we have so many great volunteers and staff members that go above and beyond to make sure that we have really cool things going on in Niles. It appeared that the Burn Run had a good turn-out. The mural is making progress on 2nd Street parking lot wall. It's exciting to see that coming to fruition as well.

Council Member Boggs announced that the 1st Ward is holding a community garage sale from July 22 through July 24, 2021 from 8am to 5pm. This will allow residence in 1st Ward to clean out belongings and make some extra money and beatify the neighborhood. Burn Run was great, grand kids really

enjoyed the motorcycles and the rain held up so they can ride through downtown.

Council Member Bertschy asked that if you see a neighbor's yard that needs to be mowed, ask them if they need help getting it done. Let's work on being neighborly and assist some of our neighbors. Be part of the community where people interact instead of complaining.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Shelton live meetings on July 12, 2021. Friday, July 2, 2021 the City will have fireworks at the Apple Festival grounds at dusk. Be there, it's going to be awesome. Everybody is excited to get together to celebrate our independence. The Appointment Committee will be meeting after this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Weimer moved to adjourn at 6:31pm.

Linda Casperson
Niles City Clerk

Date