

**CITY OF NILES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINIUTES
MONDAY, MAY 9, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor McCauslin in the City Council Chambers, 1345 East Main Street, Niles, Michigan at 6:00 p.m., May 9, 2016. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor McCauslin.

PRESENT: Gretchen Bertschy, Georgia Boggs, John DiCostanzo, Robert Durm, David Mann, Tim Skalla, Daniel VandenHeede (6:03pm), William Weimer, Mayor McCauslin

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Casperson, Landgraf, Lamb, Millin, Ray, Wise

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Dr. Dan Applegate, Superintendent for the Niles Community School District thanked the City Council for taking the polling places out the school buildings.

PRESENTATION: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Consideration of approving the City Council Minutes of April 25, 2016.
2. Consideration of approving the Bills dated May 3, 2016.
3. Consideration of approving a request from the Four Flags Area Chamber of Commerce to use a portion of the Jerry Tyler Memorial Airport property for the purpose of conducting the 4th of July Fireworks display beginning at dusk on Friday, July 1, 2016 and consideration of approving Police & Fire Department Assistance as well as consideration of waiving all fees or costs.
4. Consideration of approving a request from the Four Flags Area Chamber of Commerce to conduct the annual Niles Craft Beer and Wine Festival on Friday, July 29, 2016 at the Riverfront Amphitheater beginning at 8am for setup with the event being from 4pm to 10pm and consideration of approving various other requests.

Council Member Weimer moved, **Council Member Bertschy** supported, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve Item 1-4 as submitted.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Bertschy, Boggs, DiCostanzo, Durm, Mann, Skalla, VandenHeede, Weimer

NAY: None **ABSENT:** None **ABSTAIN:** None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Introduction of Items for Discussion

Items for Council Action

5. Consideration of adopting a resolution to allow the mayor to act on behalf of the city council and the City of Niles for the purpose of authorizing a continuation or a notice of termination of the current purchase power agreement with I&M Power Company.

**PURCHASING POWER AUTHORITY
BETWEEN THE CITY OF NILES AND I&M POWER
RESOLUTION 2016-05/1986**

Councilmember Weimer offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption, supported by

Councilmember Mann.

RESOLVED BY: City Council, City of Niles, Michigan,

WHEREAS, On April 25, 2016 at a Niles City Council Committee Meeting of the Whole, Utility Manager Jeff Dunlap presented an outline of the current Purchasing Power Agreement with I&M Power; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niles is a member of the Indiana Michigan Municipal Distributors Association (IMMDA) which includes in Michigan: Niles, Dowagiac, Paw Paw, South Haven and Sturgis. In Indiana: Avilla, Bluffton, Garrett, Mishawaka, New Carlisle and Warren; and

WHEREAS, IMMDA, through an energy advisor (GDS Associates), provided a Request for Proposal (RFP) to probe the markets for indicative pricing in order to assist IMMDA in deciding if each member (or IMMDA as a group) should “notice out” of the existing agreement with I&M Power; and

WHEREAS, the notice provision in the Full Requirements contract is 4 years and must be given prior to June 1, 2016 in order to terminate the agreement on May 31, 2020; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is agreed to authorize the Mayor to act on behalf of the City of Niles for the purpose of continuing, or noticing for termination of the current Purchase Power Agreement with I&M Power based on the fact findings of IMMDA.

ROLL CALL:

ROLL CALL: AYES: Bertschy, Boggs, DiCostanzo, Durm, Mann, Skalla, VandenHeede, Weimer

NAY: None **ABSENT:** None **ABSTAIN:** None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS:

6. Consideration of approving a recommendation from the City Council’s Appointment Committee to appoint John Tanke to the Niles Utilities Board, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2019.

Council Member Skalla moved, **Council Member DiCostanzo** supported, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approve a recommendation from the City Council’s Appointment Committee to appoint John Tanke to the Niles Utilities Board, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2019.

ROLL CALL: AYES: 8 **NAY:** 0

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT: None

COUNCIL MEMBER’S REPORT:

Council Member Boggs announced that local churches are raising money to send Flint children to summer camp.

Council Member Mann mentioned that he has not been able to attend the Pension Board meetings since his full time employment and that someone else on the council should be considered.

Council Member Bertschy announced that the DDA is working on coordinating a method to process events that are held in the downtown district.

Council Member DiCostanzo moved, **Council Member Skalla** supported, **MOTION CARRIED**, to approving a recommendation from the City Council’s Appointment Committee to appoint Jim Maurer to the Niles Planning Commission replacing Rea Wallace-Vinall, effective immediately and expiring on December 31, 2018. **AYES:** 8 **NAY:** 0

Council Member Durm reported that the 2nd Annual Park clean-up was conducted and there was less trash collected this year. He also announced that he presented the Key to the City to Miss Niles Allison Suckle at the annual dinner.

Council Member Skalla reported that at the Pension Board Meeting April 27, 2016 the board discussed the concern of the increased contributions being made to pension fund. Something will need to be decided in the near future to stop the escalating costs.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Proclaimed the Month of May as "Historic Preservation Month".

ADJOURNMENT Council Member Weimer moved to adjourn at 6:13pm.

Linda Casperson

Date