

**NILES CHARTER TOWNSHIP
FEBRUARY 17, 2015
REGULAR MEETING**

Supervisor Stover called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall, 320 Bell Road. Noble led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Cooper, Hoese, Noble, Ringler, Stover, Vella. Board members absent: Eull.
Others present: Cole

Agenda Approval: Ringler motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of amendment to the police contract as item # 10.0 to new business. Cooper supported.
All voting in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Special Guests: Sergeant Babcock presented the December 2014 police report. Vella inquired how 2014 statistics compare to 2013. Sheriff Bailey advised that his annual report will be coming soon that would address these issues.

Comments from the Public on Agenda Items: Tom Kissinger of 49 Marmont inquired to status of concrete grinding business clean up. Cooper advised the special land use has been revoked and is now an ordinance issue of which Peg Hartman is addressing.

Consent Agenda:

Cooper motioned to approve the consent agenda with a change to expenditures and transfers for a total approved of \$200,800.58. Hoese supported.

1. February 17, 2015 Expenditures and Transfers:

General O & M	\$37,864.62	Fire O & M	\$26,002.70
Sewer O & M	\$120,104.20	Water O & M	\$6,568.40
Building Fund	\$7,192.37	Street Lighting	\$3,045.98
Health Benefit Program	\$22.31	GRAND TOTAL	\$200,800.58

2. February 2, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes.

3. January 2015 Building Report

4. January 2015 Fire Report

5. January 2015 Revenue/Expense Report

ROLL CALL AYES: Cooper, Hoese, Noble, Ringler, Vella, Stover.

NAYES: None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Correspondence/Announcements: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Berrien County Sheriff Department Contract Language Change: Sheriff Bailey requested to change the language in the contract from sergeant to lieutenant which will increase the wage levels. The language changes will also lessen the turnover rate as sergeants become lieutenants. Ringler motioned to adopt the language in the contract with lieutenant rather than sergeant. Vella supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Hoese, Noble, Ringler, Vella, Stover, Cooper

NAYS: None. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Dial A Ride: Jan Personette of 609 Riverview Dr. encouraged the board to look into incorporating a voucher system for low to moderate income persons to use the Dial A Ride that meet the criteria for obtaining a voucher. Stover will refer to the administrative committee to research.

Approve Engineering Firm for Pre Design of Phase II of Trail Project: Ringler presented the two firms for the pre design of phase II of the trail project; Prein and Newhof and Wightman and Associates. Stover motioned after discussion to hire Prein & Newhof for the pre design of phase II, Ringler supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Ringler, Stover

NAYS: Noble, Vella, Cooper, Hoese

MOTION DENIED.

Vella motioned to hire Wightman & Associates in the amount of \$4,800.00 for the pre design of phase II, Noble supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Ringler, Stover, Vella, Cooper, Hoese, Noble

NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Copier Purchase: Ringler motioned to purchase the TASKalfa 4551ci Kyocera from U.S. Business Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$10,026.43. Cooper supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Vella, Stover, Cooper, Hoese, Noble, Ringler

NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

The bids were as follows:

Bidder	Amount of Bid	Equipment Description
Adams Remco	\$6,756.00	Toshiba 3055C
The Copy Image	\$12,385.00	TASKalfa 3551ci Kyocera
U.S. Business Systems	\$6,876.00	Sharp
U.S. Business Systems	\$9,075.55	TASKalfa 3551ci Kyocera
U.S. Business Systems	\$10,026.43	TASKalfa 4551ci Kyocera

Hire 4 Volunteer Firefighters: Chief Brovold introduced Steven Rogers, Cian Oflaherty, Mike Ford and Christian Rackley as new volunteers to the fire department. Vella questioned background checks due to the length of residency of one of the volunteers. After discussion, Ringler motioned to hire all four new firefighters contingent on a national criminal background check on all four firefighters. Cooper supported the motion. Fire Chief Brovold and Sheriff Bailey to research the process to obtain a national criminal background check.

ROLL CALL AYES: Cooper, Hoese, Noble, Ringler, Stover, Vella

NAYS: None.

Employment Status Change-Matt Dunlap: Ringler motioned to contract out mowing and snow removal of parks and cemeteries in the amount of \$15,800.00 and increase responsibilities of Matt Dunlap and his pay to \$13.50 per hour with insurance benefits. Stover supported. Vella inquired how many hours Matt would be working and who would be contacting the applicants for the position. Stover advised he would notify each applicant by letter.

ROLL CALL AYES: Hoese, Noble, Ringler, Vella, Stover, Cooper

NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Street Light at State Line Road Kiosk: Noble advised that there is a street light needed at the kiosk at the end of the trail at State Line Road. Noble motioned to install a 200 watt light with minimal annual cost at the trail kiosk at State Line Road. Cooper supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Noble, Ringler, Vella, Stover, Cooper, Hoese

NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Comments from the Public: None.

Committee Reports:

Cooper: None.

Eull: Absent.

Hoese: None.

Ringler: reported that today was due date of tax collection and that approximately 89% of taxes have been collected.

Noble: None.

Vella: advised the Hunzienga Family (trail donation) were present at the Park Board meeting. Vella, also, reported that the group Bike the Bend are looking to raise money to help maintain the trail. Vella reported that SMCAS has placed a freeze on wages for 2015 and 2016. SMCAS also has purchased a new ambulance in excess of \$100,000.00 of which Vella voted no.

Supervisor's Report: advised that he had met with Trooper Rob regarding traffic issues at Merritt School and found the request to have crossing guards setting out cones daily for traffic flow is not feasible, but will work with the Berrien County Road Commission at the next meeting on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. with the road committee.

Noble motioned to adjourn at 8:28 p.m. Cooper supported the motion.

All voting in favor

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Cole, Deputy Clerk

James W. Stover, Supervisor