

**NILES CHARTER TOWNSHIP
FEBRUARY 6, 2012
REGULAR MEETING**

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

Roll Call: Conover, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Kuehn, Kidwell, Noble, Ringler.

Agenda Approval: Ringler motion to accept the agenda as presented, Noble supported.
All voting in favor **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consent Agenda: Kidwell asked that the Expense and Transfers be removed for the consent agenda and be placed in new business. Kidwell motioned to approve consent agenda with the removal, Conover supported.

1. Minutes for January 17, 2012, regular meeting, and closed session.
2. Accepted for file: SMCAS and Landfill meeting minutes. And Fire, Building Safety, Ordinance Enforcements reports.
3. Appoint Terry Eull to the Tax Board of Review to finish the term vacated by Jane Tenney.
4. Approve the election inspectors for the February 28, 2012 Presidential Primary.
5. Accept for file the Cash Transaction Year-End report.

ROLL CALL AYES: Conover, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Kuehn, Noble, Ringler, Kidwell.
NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence/Announcements: Kidwell announced the February 13, 2012, joint meeting with the Township Park Board.

Durm-Hiatt announced that the Landfill will be continuing the voucher program for 2012.

Landfill Hazardous Waste Collection and Electronic Recycling date is set for May 19, 2012 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and October 20, 2012 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Supervisor Report: Kidwell presented certificates for file: Jason Spare, Kenneth Laurita, Matthew Schulz, Jim Schoenthaler, and Gary Brovold. Kidwell shared photos of the reconditioned fire truck and trailer donated by Enbridge Company, and lockers that were donated by Castle Point to the volunteers. Kidwell announced that Stefanie Woodrick filed a law suit against the Township.

Comments from the Public: None.

Unfinished Business:

Building Renovation Agreement: Kuehn reported that the public facility committee had met and was doing further research on the condition of the garage and other buildings before making a decision. Kuehn made a motion to rescind the garage renovation agreement presented at the last meeting. Durm-Hiatt supported.

All Voting in favor.

MOTION CARRIED.

New Business:

Water Agreement with City of Niles: Ringler reported on the time and cooperative effort that had gone into this agreement over three years with the City of Niles. Durm-Hiatt read a letter from township attorney Lohrstorfer supporting the agreement. Ringler made the motion to approve the water agreement with the City of Niles. Noble supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Kuehn, Noble, Ringler, Conover, Kidwell.

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Waive 3% Penalty on Tax Collection: Ringler explained that the 3% waiver is at the township level from February 15- 29, after that the tax collection is turned over to the county. Ringler motioned to approve the 3% waiver, Kidwell supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Durm-Hiatt, Kuehn, Noble, Ringler, Conover, Cooper, Kidwell.

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Amend Electrical and Plumbing Inspector Agreement: Cooper explained the amendment to the inspector agreements in section 9 (terms and conditions), recommended by Jeff Dunlap. Cooper made a motion to approve the amendment. Kidwell supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Kuehn, Noble, Ringler, Conover, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Kidwell.

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

AEP Lease Agreement: Harry Thibault, chairman of the Park Board, reported to the board on the AEP lease agreement to be used for trails. The park board is working with SMPC on a DNR grant for the development of the trails in Niles Charter Township, connecting to City of Niles and into St. Joseph County, IN trails system. It is a twenty (20) year agreement. Following discussion and questions, Durm-Hiatt motioned to enter into the lease agreement with AEP, Kuehn supported. ROLL CALL AYES: Kuehn, Noble, Ringler, Conover, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Kidwell.

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Expenditures and Transfers: Kidwell questioned the Williams and Works invoice of \$21.60. Suggesting that the Zoning administrator could have provided the information rather than calling the planners. Cooper motioned to approve the Expenses and Transfers, Conover supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Noble, Ringler, Conover, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Kuehn.

NAYES: Kidwell.

MOTION CARRIED.

Comments from the Public: Bill Weimer commented on the water agreement, and was encouraged by the cooperation between the Township and City. Marie Weimer commented on the cooperation of the park boards also. Tony Millin thanked the sheriff for their work on a home invasion at his house.

Committee Reports:

Conover: None

Durm-Hiatt: is working on the February 28, 2012, Presidential Primary Election. Durm-Hiatt commented on the MTA conference and the importance of establishing policies.

Ringler: None.

Kidwell: reported that he has been receiving complaints from residents that purchased tax reverted property didn't realize there would be additional assessments on property.

Kuehn: reported that the public facility committee would be touring the old Ewert's property on Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.

Noble: Reported on 4 street lights that are out. Also, reported on MTA session he attended.

Cooper: Was thankful for the opportunity to attend the MTA conference, and commented on the sessions.

Kuehn motioned to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Conover supported the motion.

All voting in favor

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Durm-Hiatt, Clerk