

**NILES CHARTER TOWNSHIP
AUGUST 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: Durm-Hiatt requested the addition of Chief Brovold's recommendation to lift burn ban to the agenda. Ringler motioned to approve the agenda with the addition, Conover supported.
All voting in favor

MOTION CARRIED.

Consent Agenda: Cooper motioned to approve consent agenda, Kuehn supported.

1. Expenses and Transfers for August 6, 2012

General O & M \$64,493.76	Fire O & M \$78,506.23
Water O & M \$8,023.99	Sewer O & M \$25,674.92
Special Assessment \$363.58	City Sewer Charge \$74,648.33
Health Benefit \$8.83	GRAND TOTAL: \$251,719.64
2. Minutes for July 16, 2012, regular meeting
3. For file: Building Safety, Fire, and Ordinance Enforcement reports for July.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence/Announcements: Durm-Hiatt read a letter from Dan Traeger, commending the Sheriff's department on their patrol in the parks during the softball tournament. Durm-Hiatt announced that Southwest Michigan Planning Commission has old maps (aerial photos, topographic, wetlands) from the 70's that they are making available to municipalities. She, also, announced a long range (25 year) Transportation Plan Workshop Wednesday, August 22, 2012 in Benton Harbor.

Supervisor Report: presented certificates for file: Matthew W. Schultz, Jason Spare, Paul Wreggelsworth, Jimmy Schoenthaler, Richard Low, Justin Lakes, Mark Grishaber, and Mike Hollis.

Comments from the Public: Katie, Furner from Southwestern Michigan Economic Growth Alliance, requested that the Township set a public hearing for MacAllister Machinery Inc. Lt. Tolliver presented Sgt. Miller and Sgt. Campbell with certificates for their work with solving several B&E and the recovery of stolen items. Sheriff Bailey wanted to clarify misinformation distributed by Honest Citizens for Honest Government concerning the Sheriff Department relationship with Niles Charter Township Board and the community.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Amend Resolution 12-05 Pratt Industry: Durm-Hiatt presented information that Shelly Klug had provided in regards to the amendment. Kidwell motioned to approve the amended Resolution 12-05. Durm-Hiatt supported.

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

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Phone and Internet Service: Cooper reported that he, Kuehn and Becky Hulett had been working on a proposal for phone and internet service. Cooper put together a comparison of price and speed of internet between AT&T and Comcast. Cooper and Kuehn recommended we switch to Comcast; there is a monthly savings and much faster service. Kidwell tabled action until next meeting.

Address Changes: Denny Sexton with Berrien County 9-1-1 had requested address changes to assure emergency dispatch system. (1504 Fulkerson, 1508 Fulkerson and 2437 S. 13th. St.) Following discussion, Cooper motioned to leave the addresses alone, and work with 9-1-1 to flag the addresses. Conover supported.

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

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Lift Burning Ban: Due to the recent storms in areas of the township Chief Brovold, requested the board to cancel the burning restrictions in areas of the township that had storm damage. Kidwell motioned to lift the ban throughout the township, Kuehn supported.

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

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Comments from the Public: J. Flock asked about hiring policy, if the ordinance enforcement officer position was posted? J. Stover, R. Winningham, C. Vella all commented on requiring a background check for all hires. Kidwell made a motion to hire Pat Legatt as code enforcement officer. Motion died for lack of support. Durm-Hiatt stated she would look into the township policy on new hires. C. Vella, candidate for Trustee, wanted it known that her name was included on a negative election information letter distributed by Honest Citizen for Honest Government without her knowledge or permission.

Committee Reports:

Conover: received a thank you call concerning grading of Burton Road.

Durm-Hiatt: Election is August 7, 2012.

Ringler: read a statement to clarify and correct statements made in the election information letter distributed by the Honest Citizens for Honest Government the past weekend.

Kidwell: responded to literature distributed against him by the group Restore Niles Township.

Kuehn: The Losensky Park Bridge has been totally closed off. DNR has written a letter of support in the event that the park board writes a grant for the bridge replacement.

Noble: Road complaints.

Cooper: None.

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