

**NILES CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
APRIL 6, 2009  
REGULAR MEETING**

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

**Roll Call:** Bailey, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Goodwin, Kidwell, Noble, Ringler.

**Agenda:** Durm-Hiatt motioned to approve the agenda as presented, Cooper supported.  
All voting in favor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Minutes:** Ringler motioned to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2009, regular meeting. Bailey supported.  
All voting in favor.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Correspondence and Announcements:** Durm-Hiatt announced: the Firefighter cancer support group is having a Hacienda fund raiser April 22, 2009 at all area Haciendas 20% of your bill will go to the group. Kidwell set an IFT public hearing for R&M at our next meeting April 20, 2009.

**Clerk's Report:** General O&M \$52,243.73, Fire O&M \$45,211.24, Sewer O&M \$22,573.21, Water O&M \$3,424.88, Fire Capital Improvement \$218,443.25, Capital Improvement \$337.50, Sewer City Charge \$113, 494.85, Special Assessment \$2,969.45, Retirement \$7,156.05. **Grand Total \$465,854.10** Noble motioned to approve the clerk's report. Ringler supported the motion.

ROLL CALL AYES: Ringler, Bailey, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Goodwin, Kidwell, Noble.

NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Comments from the Public:** Mr. Baldwin asked when the Berrien County Road Commission would be grading the roads in his area (Congress, Madison, and Brick). Kidwell said they were scheduled to be in our area at the end of the month.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Web-site:** Kidwell motioned to rescind the January 20, 2009, motion to approve the agreement with Sheffer Design for the web-site construction. Bailey supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bailey, Kidwell.

NAYS: Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Goodwin, Noble, Ringler.

**MOTION DENIED.**

**New Business:**

**Resolution 09-02 Brownfield:** Kidwell motioned to table Resolution 09-02 for lack of information, Bailey supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Kidwell, Noble, Bailey, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Goodwin.

NAYS: Ringler,

**Resolution 09-03 Federal Spending Grant:** Kidwell motioned to approve Resolution 09-03, supported by Durm-Hiatt. The resolution supports the concept of buying American products and services whenever possible especially if using Federal Recovery Grant monies.

ROLL CALL AYES: Durm-Hiatt, Goodwin, Kidwell, Noble, Ringler, Bailey Cooper.

NAYS: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**DPW New Hire:** After reviewing 25 applications and conducting five interviews, Gary Schrader recommends Scott Krueger for the vacant position. Krueger will begin work on April 20, 2009 with a starting salary of \$24,500.00, with a \$500.00 increase following a six-month probationary period. Kidwell motioned to accept Schrader's recommendation to hire Scott Krueger, Noble supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Goodwin, Kidwell, Noble, Ringler, Bailey, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt.

NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Volunteer Firefighter New Hire:** Chief Brovold has interviewed David Alton and reviewed his qualifications, and recommends his hire as a volunteer firefighter. Ringler motioned to hire David Alton as a volunteer firefighter, Cooper supported.

ROLL CALL AYES: Kidwell, Noble, Ringler, Bailey, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Goodwin.

NAYS: None.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Four-day Work Week: Kidwell presented, for discussion, the possibility of a four-day work week or keeping the 9:00 am to 5:00 p.m. hours year round, to better serve the public. The four-day work week may save energy cost by lowering heating and cooling over a three-day weekend. No action was taken.

**Comments from the Public:** Roger Tibbs asked about Higbee Cemetery, Bailey offered to work with Joe Hulett on the cemetery. Baldwin commented on the Brownfield Resolution.

**Committee Reports:**

Bailey: None.

Goodwin: None.

Ringler: presented the fire report for March.

Kidwell: None.

Durm-Hiatt: reported that ballots are in and will go out this week for the May 5, 2009 school elections.

Noble: read a letter explaining a project he is working on with Jeff Dunlap, Chief Brovold, MDOT and Berrien County Road Commission, to limit access to Eastgate to help curtail vandalism and dumping.

Cooper: presented building and ordinance reports for March.

Bailey motioned to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. Goodwin supported the motion.

All voting in favor

**MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Durm-Hiatt, Clerk

PENDING BOARD APPROVAL