

**NILES CHARTER TOWNSHIP
SEPTEMBER 20, 2010
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: Ringler motioned to approve the agenda, Cooper supported.
All voting in favor

MOTION CARRIED.

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

1. Expenditures and Transfers 09-20-10
General O&M \$62,600.80 Fire O&M \$54,795.96 Sewer O & M \$51,575.11
Water O&M \$52,286.91 Sewer City Charge \$ 65,943.36 Sewer Maintenance. Reserve \$110,637.50
Special Assessment \$3,537.06 **GRAND TOTAL: \$401,376.70**
2. Minutes for September 7, 2010, regular meeting minutes.
3. Approved the 2011 meeting room agreement with the Alzheimer & Dementia Support Group.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bailey, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Goodwin, Noble, Ringler, Kidwell.
NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Correspondence/Announcements: Durm-Hiatt reminded the board members of the Siegfried & Crandall Fall Seminar on October 26, 2010 in Kalamazoo.

Supervisor Report: Kidwell presented for file certificates for Craig Lear and Ken Laurita. Kidwell asked Chief Brovold to present Service Awards to firefighters: Acala, Molnar, Mervine, Rainwater, Sherrick, Alton, Myers, Hall, Lear and Bunch for service above and beyond following the severe storm on June 18, 2010.

Comments from the Public: J. LaMore reported on meetings and conferences he had attended for the county. J. Flock questioned Kidwell on his article of re-instating a township police department and that he could do it cheaper than Berrien County. G. Conover questioned the budget figures Kidwell presented, wages for officers will they be union? J. Stauffer commended the sheriff department and brought up the fact that a millage for the township police department failed 6 times and the first time people voted on the sheriff department it passed. R. Beavo asked why Kidwell is bringing the police issue up again. The voters supported the sheriff department. R. Winningham asked if it would be a 24/7 department.

Deputy Edgerly presented the police report for July/August. Sheriff Bailey was present to answer any questions on the \$874,981 2011 budget.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Resolution 10-11 General Fund: Cooper motioned, supported by Noble, to levy 1 mil for general fund but with the Headly roll-back the actual assessment in .8732 mil, which will generate \$311,578.77 tax revenue.

ROLL CALL AYES: Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Goodwin, Noble, Ringler, Bailey, Kidwell.
NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 10-12 Fire Operation and Maintenance: Durm-Hiatt motioned, supported by Noble, to approve resolution 10-12 which would levy 2.4 mils on real property only for fire operations and maintenance. This will generate \$798,606.72 in revenue.

ROLL CALL AYES: Durm-Hiatt, Goodwin, Noble, Ringler, Bailey, Cooper, Kidwell.
NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 10-13 Fire Capital Improvement: Ringler motioned, supported by Noble, to levy a .75 mil on real property, which would generate \$249,564.00 in revenue for fire capital improvement.

ROLL CALL AYES: Goodwin, Noble, Ringler, Bailey, Cooper, Durm-Hiatt, Kidwell.
NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 10-14 Street Lights: Ringler motioned, supported by Durm-Hiatt, to levy the exact amount taken from Berrien County tax rolls for the street light districts within Niles Charter Township.

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

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 10-15 Berrien County Police Protection: Durm-Hiatt motioned, supported by Ringler, to levy 1 mil to support police protection by Berrien County Sheriff's Department, generating \$356,824.06 in tax revenue.

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

NAYES: Kidwell.

MOTION CARRIED.

Legal Services R.F.P. (discussion): Durm-Hiatt, presented a new RFP for legal services and a list of Berrien County attorneys from the Berrien County Bar Association, plus Bauckham & Sparks. The notice of the RFP will be sent to the attached list. The detailed RFP will be available on our web-site and at the Clerk's office. Deadline is October 15, 2010 at 4:30 pm. Kidwell motioned to send the notice, Bailey supported.

All voting in favor

MOTION CARRIED.

Multi-Bank Security Non-Corporate Resolution: Ringler explained that Multi Bank Securities Inc. is the firm we use for investing in Certificates of Deposit under Public Act 20. They are switching their clearing house to Pershing LLC, their new Non-Corporate Resolution requires our signatures and board approval. Ringler motioned to approve the Non-Corporate Resolution, Cooper supported.

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

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Sidewalk Repair: J. Dunlap presented information on the next group of sidewalks scheduled for repair, if approved. It is 215 linear feet of repair in the Fulkerson Park area. This will take care of all the worst sidewalks. Next Spring we hope to get started on the sidewalks in the Oak Manor area. Kidwell stated that the money will be taken from the Metro right-of way fund. Ringler motioned to approve \$5,345.75 expenditure for the sidewalk repairs. Kidwell supported.

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

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Comments from the Public: O. Baldwin asked if home owners are responsible for the sidewalks in front of their homes. LaMore commented on the success of the Fort St. Joseph open house this summer over 3,000 people attended. Sheriff Bailey commends the fire department on their response at the gasoline spill. R. Beavo commented on the police service—the lowest bid is not always the best, he is happy with the sheriff department.

Committee Reports:

Goodwin: None.

Ringler: None.

Durm-Hiatt: Ballots for November election will be in soon.

Kidwell: announced that the interviews for new hires at the fire department do not fall under the Open Meetings Act.

Kidwell read a letter of resignation from Trustee Bailey effective October 31, 2010.

Durm-Hiatt motioned to accept Bailey's resignation, Noble supported.

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

NAYES: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Noble: advised he has been working on street lights and pot holes.

Cooper: advised that the planning commission met on September 14, 2010 to work on the master plan. Cooper announced that Stefanie Woodrick attended training last week to become a certified zoning administrator. She will be taking the examination for certification soon.

Kidwell set board workshop for Wednesday, September 29, 2010 at 7:00 at township hall.

Bailey motioned to adjourn at 8:10 p.m., Goodwin supported the motion.

All voting in favor

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Durm-Hiatt, Clerk