

**NILES CHARTER TOWNSHIP
SEPTEMBER 29, 2010
BUDGET WORKSHOP**

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: No roll call was taken, but all members were present.

Approved Agenda: Board workshop there was no agenda prepared.

New Business:

Budget Workshop

Kidwell made the following motion: I am making a motion to save the township \$150,464.00 by starting up the Niles Township Police Department at a cost of \$724,517.00 and giving the tax payers a tax break by canceling out the millage for Berrien County Police. Bailey supported the motion. Following discussion and comments from board members and comments from three citizens, G. Marshall spoke in support of the motion, J. Stauffer and O. Baldwin spoke against the motion in support of the County Sheriff Department.

ROLL CALL AYES: Bailey, Kidwell

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

MOTION DENIED

The board held discussion on Fire Department, and Department of Public Works (water and sewer) proposed budget. Changes were recommended.

At 8:30 p.m. a short break was called.

Before moving ahead on the General Fund Budget, information on insurance cost need to be finalized. An initial 25% increase over last year has been presented by the township's health insurance carrier. We are working with our carrier on alternatives.

There was some discussion and concerns with the Building Department budget. The cost remains constant, but due to the economy, revenues from permits fees are non-existing.

Another workshop is scheduled for October 6, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Durm-Hiatt, Clerk