

**Forsyth Township Board
Special Meeting
Gwinn Community Center
November 8, 2017**

Supervisor Boogren called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Supervisor Boogren, Clerk Borrett, Trustee Armatti and Trustee Adams

Board Members Absent: Treasurer Roberts

Also Present: Attorneys Raymond O’Dea, William Nordeen and Michael Burink.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Adams, supported by Borrett, to approve the Minutes for October 26, 2017 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Adams, supported by Boogren, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

ACTION ITEMS:

Vacation Pay Request (7a.): Motion by Adams, supported by Borrett, to approve the Superintendent of Public Works request for vacation pay. Motion carried.

Legal Services (7b.): Supervisor Boogren stated the Township had received 3 bids for Legal Services. At 1:01 pm Supervisor Boogren opened the bids. Bids were received from: Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhodes PLC from Okemos; O’Dea, Nordeen, Burink and Pickens, P.C. from Marquette; and Graybill and Mead PLLC from Marquette. The Board then reviewed each bid. Discussion ensued. Trustee Adams stated he had a list of questions that coincidentally came from one of the bidders. He then questioned the experience of Nordeen, Burink and Pickens, P.C. Attorney O’Dea explained his firms experience. Trustee Adams questioned the conflict of interest situation in current and future cases. Attorney O’Dea explained the different options available for those situations. Clerk Borrett would like time to read over the proposals. The billing portion of the Graybill and Mead PLLC proposal is very vague.

Motion by Adams, supported by Boogren, to remove the Graybill and Mead PLLC proposal from further consideration due to failure to meet RFP requirements. Motion carried.

Supervisor Boogren expressed his concern for representation during Board meetings. He also expressed his concern for the billable hour costs of the Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhodes PLC proposal. Clerk Borrett reiterated the need for municipal experience. Trustee Armatti has used O’Dea, Nordeen, Burink and Pickens, P.C. many times. They have been professional, successful and reasonably priced. He also commented on the fact that they were the only firm to attend the meeting.

Motion by Boogren, supported by Armatti, to approve the bid from O’Dea, Nordeen, Burink and Pickens, P.C. Roll call: Clerk Borrett – no, Trustee Armatti – yes, Trustee Adams – no, Supervisor Boogren – yes. The vote is a tie. Motion failed.

***Supervisor Boogren called for a short break at 1:54 pm.
Supervisor Boogren call the meeting back to order at 2:03 pm***

DISCUSSION:

Transfer Station Heater (8a.): Superintendent of Public Works Eric Jancsi suggested delaying the installation of the Transfer Station Heater until prior work from Home Comfort Heating is completed. Superintendent Jancsi went on to explain the current situation. The Board will wait for an update from Mr. Jancsi.

Public Comment: None.

Board Comment: Supervisor Boogren informed the Board that Semco has left him a message stating they may be interested in purchasing some of the Township’s land. He will update the Board when he receives more information.

Adjournment: Supervisor Boogren adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Filizetti
Board Secretary

Michelle Borrett
Forsyth Township Clerk