

Forsyth Township Board  
Regular Board Meeting  
Emergency Service Building  
January 20, 2011

Supervisor Minelli called the Regular Meeting of the Forsyth Township Board to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**Board Members Present:** Supervisor Minelli, Treasurer Nordeen, Trustee Armatti & Trustee Roberts.

**Board Members Absent:** Clerk Filizetti-Hartzell, excused

**Also Present:** Attorney Kevin Koch, a number of township employees & interested citizens.

Supervisor Minelli noted that the community had lost a former Supervisor Bob St. Aubin and that Sands Township had lost their Supervisor, Earl Yelle in the past couple of days. The County has lost two very dedicated citizens.

**Approval of Minutes:** *Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen & unanimously carried to accept the December 16, 2010 regular board meeting minutes as presented with the following correction: Under applications deadlines, the date should have been noted as December 27, 2010.*

**Public Comment:** Larry Hammond thanked the Public Works for their work on the Ice Rink; working together with the Fire Dept. has resulted in a great rink for kids and adults to skate on.

**Approval Agenda:** *Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti & unanimously carried approving the January 20, 2011 agenda with the following additions: under Action Items; add 11J Fill the Equipment Position, 11J Requesting funding Base Items.*

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Ambulance:** Report accepted & placed on file.

**Assessing/Zoning:** Report accepted & placed on file.

**Clubhouse:** No report.

**Fire Department:** Report accepted & placed on file. Larry mentioned that Dale Hemmila from Cliffs Resources will be presenting him with a \$10,000 check and a commitment for that amount for 5 years, totaling \$50,000 for fire protection..

**Library:** Report accepted & placed on file.

**Police Department:** Report accepted & placed on file.

**Parks Committee:**

**Public Works Department:**

**Senior Citizen Director:** Report accepted & placed on file.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report accepted as presented.

**Attorney Report:** Attorney Koch gave his report on Hinga which was argued in January, waiting for opinion. Barriger case unknown when it will be argued, maybe in May. Speak about Moody case in Closed Session. Kevin did speak to Mr. Tousignant and suggested that he give us an update like he used to do. Kevin & Henry will go back out in spring after the snow has melted. He did admit that he did have some things there that were removable & will work on removing them before the snow is gone.

**Approval of Bills and vouchers:** *Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts and unanimously carried to approve the following bills and vouchers. Motion carried.*

**Forsyth Township  
Bills to be Approved**

**20-Jan-10**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Ace Hardware	Misc Supplies	429.52
Airgas	Extinguisher Testing & Rentals	239.68
Anderson Communications	Pager Repair-Fire	121.00
Aramark	Uniform & Carpet Service	809.74
Auto Value	Misc Parts & Supplies	249.94
Business Micro Resource Corp	Annual Software Support-Fire Computer Supplies-Assessor's Office	300.00
Compudyne		60.00
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Supplies	408.15
Galls	Batteries & Switch Covers-Police	120.91
Galls	Equipment-Police	13.85
Holiday 50 Minute Cleaners	Dry Cleaning-Police	70.79
JR Electrical	Electrial Work & Supplies- Concession Building	607.01
Kevin Koch, PC	Attorney Fees	1,087.12
Little Cesar's Pizza	Pizza for Intergenerational Party	100.00
Marquette County Equalization Department	2010 Winter Tax Bills	1,655.68
MAS & B, LLC	Tire-Public Works; Tahoe Repair- Police	165.99
Menards	Salt & Shovels	111.60
Motorola	Batteries-EMS	219.00
Postmaster	PO Box Rental-Police	60.00
Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council	Annual Subscription-Police Office Supplies-Police, Office, Senior Center	100.00
Quill Corporation		317.19
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig Services	18.50
Sewah Studios	Sign for Nordeen Park for DNR Grant	1,655.00
Snyders	Supplies-Police & EMS	113.98
State of Michigan	Annual Radio Subscriptions-Ems, Fire & Police	1,350.00
State of Michigan-DNR	Grooming Anderson Lake Ski Trail	500.00
The Mining Journal	Publications	284.04
UP Engineers & Architects	Comprehensive Plan Update & Groundwater Wells	3,822.30
Wells Fargo Credit Card	Software-Police; Printer-Office	263.94
Wolverine Door Service Inc.	Garage Door Repair-Police	285.00
		<b>15,539.93</b>

**Forsyth Township  
Bills to be Approved**

**Additions**

**20-Jan-11**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
City of Marquette	Water Analysis	60.00
Ace Hardware	Misc Supplies	172.00
Newman Traffic Signs	Fire Signs	286.95
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Supplies	261.27
Harris	Payroll Forms	176.00
Pitney Bowes	Ink for Postage Meter	156.56
	Construction Documents-Clock	
UP Engineers & Architects	Tower	550.00
The Office Planning Group	Fax Cartridge-Police	99.84
		<b>1,762.62</b>
	<b>Original Bill Listing</b>	<b>15,539.93</b>
	<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>17,302.55</b>

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance,  
Library, Water & Sewer: 56560-56803  
Voucher Number for Taxes: 1168-1185

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN EASMENT:** Tabled for Special Meeting.

**DUST CONTROL:** Supervisor Minelli stated that last year we spent \$2,900. Due to budget issues, I brought it down to \$2,000. *Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti to approve \$2,000 for dust control for the year 2011.* Roberts asked who determined which roads need the dust control, if it was the Road Commission. Minelli stated he believed the Road Commission did that. *Motion Carried.*

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** *Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts & unanimously carried to approve the following new firefighters; Don Conrad, Jared Houghey and Michele Misterly. Motion carried.*

**CLUBHOUSE:**

Mr. John Filizetti explained the use of the archery range at the clubhouse was started 9 years ago. It will now be tied into the schools and a competition sport within 2 years or so. When they do this in the school, everyone shoots janitors, teachers, principal, secretaries and kids. With this Genesis Bow everyone will shoot the same equipment. *Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti to purchase T & G for the archery area for a cost of \$1,000. Motion carried.*  
*Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti to purchase Genesis Bows for \$1,100 for the archery area at the clubhouse. Motion carried*

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS: Motion by Armatti, supported by Nordeen to make the following budget adjustments; Motion carried**

**FORSYTH TOWNSHIP  
BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS  
20-Jan-11**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Department #</b>	<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		1,741,515	1,890,620	149,105
<b>Expense</b>				
Elections	262	17,065	12,445	(4,620)
Buildings & Grounds	265	75,445	106,070	30,625
Cemetery	276	15,360	14,430	(930)
Misc. Services	299	26,450	22,700	(3,750)
Fire	336	90,410	92,870	2,460
Public Works	441	92,945	91,240	(1,705)
Road Work	446	5,000	130,605	125,605
Street Lighting	448	76,800	71,000	(5,800)
Transfer Station	528	21,750	20,905	(845)
Ambulance	651	112,555	102,200	(10,355)
Senior Center	672	129,050	147,900	18,850
Planning & Zoning	721	6,395	5,520	(875)
Zoning Board of Appeals	722	3,545	2,065	(1,480)
Misc. Insurance	851	56,400	44,215	(12,185)
Misc. Expenses	895	12,750	18,600	5,850
Misc. Tax Expenses	899	24,000	15,900	(8,100)
Capital Outlay	900	49,515	52,625	3,110
Transfers to Other Funds	965	566,500	563,720	(2,780)
			<b>Total</b>	<b>133,075</b>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	1,308,286	4/1/10		
<b>Estimated Revenues:</b>	1,890,620			
<b>Estimated Expenses:</b>	(1,900,050)			
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	1,298,856	3/31/11		

<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>			
	<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	611,950	602,600	(9,350)
<b>Expenses</b>	629,895	624,645	(5,250)
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	131,001	4/1/10	
<b>Estimated Revenues:</b>	602,600		
<b>Estimated Expenses:</b>	(624,645)		
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	108,956	3/31/11	

<b>AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT</b>			
	<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	107,850	103,885	(3,965)
<b>Expenses</b>	166,860	166,715	(145)
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	136,419	4/1/10	
<b>Estimated Revenues:</b>	103,885		
<b>Estimated Expenses:</b>	(166,715)		
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	73,589	3/31/11	

CLUBHOUSE/RECREATION			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	285,600	305,130	19,530
Expenses	300,245	267,865	(32,380)
Beginning Fund Balance:	247,411	4/1/10	
Estimated Revenues:	305,130		
Estimated Expenses:	(267,865)		
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	284,676	3/31/11	

TWP IMPROVEMENT/REVOLVING			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	50,600	50,400	(200)
Expenses	250	130,855	130,605
Beginning Fund Balance:	138,070	4/1/10	
Estimated Revenues:	50,400		
Estimated Expenses:	(130,855)		
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	57,615	3/31/11	

LIBRARY			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	172,720	166,485	(6,235)
Expenses	162,265	162,265	0
Beginning Fund Balance:	566,392	4/1/10	
Estimated Revenues:	166,485		
Estimated Expenses:	(162,265)		
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	570,612	3/31/11	

**WATER/SEWER ADD-ON:** Paula explained the change that this add-on would make, and that it would be easier for the customer and the staff to process water/sewer bills. **Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti to purchase this add-on for the Flexi bill System for \$2,170.** Roberts questioned the process of electronically paying the bills vs mailing the bills. Discussion ensued regarding how the money is drawn out of the customer's account and maybe there will be no need for a bill to be sent if they are signed up for this service. **Motion carried.**

**REQUEST FOR COMP TIME CARRY OVER:** After a short discussion, **Motion by Armatti, supported by Nordeen to allow the employee to carry over the comp-time as requested. Motion Carried**

**ASSESSING/ZONING RECOMMENDATIONS:** Planning Commission recommendations are Art Ontto, Dennis Stachewicz, Geo. Bodenus, & Art Nordeen. **Motion by Armatti, supported by Nordeen. Motion carried.** Board of Review recommendations are Ed Thompson, Howard Broemer, Chris Adams and Pat Johnson as alternate. Johnson asked why she was being made an alternate? Minelli explained that the term is for two years and there are four applicants, based on Henry recommendations there are three members and if one can't make it there is one in place to step in. **Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti. Motion carried.** Henry asked if they have all been approved to go to school in February. Minelli stated they were.

**EQUIPMENT OPERATOR POSITION:** Minelli stated there were several applicants, three were interviewed, all very qualified. Paul Sirois, Mike Trottier, and Mike Jakubowski Jr. Question arose with regard to hiring for one position or two. Minelli stated that based on the budget one would be filled right away the second would be hired in the next fiscal budget. **Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen to hire Paul Sirois for the Equipment Operator Position. Motion carried.**

Discussion ensued regarding a second position. **Motion by Armatti to hire a second person. Discussion ensued; there was nothing put into the budget for a second person.** Kevin cautioned the boards on wording if you are going to hire someone then hire someone, if you are going to approve your next choice if you are going to hire someone as X date down the road, make that clear. You are reserving a decision, but you are picking the individual that you would pick if you are going to hire. Roberts stated that given that information, there are too many variables; I don't think that would make sense to do that. Kevin stated that if you do it this way you avoid the screening process again. Minelli stated that he felt more comfortable waiting to see what the budget looks like. Minelli stated that if we wait until April, we should hire a laborer. At that time we would have two equipment operators and if Len passes the licensure, he will go into Water so that position would be open; this one is filling Jack's, so that slides a position open into the water/sewer. If you were going to hire from a financial standpoint you would hire a laborer because you need a laborer a lot less expensive than you can get an operator. **Motion died for lack of support.**

Joe explained that he and Lynn have been meeting with Scott Erbish on some of the dilapidated buildings on the base. We are looking at working with the County, TelKite and Forsyth Twp. Trying to figure out how to remove these buildings when they become dilapidated. There are a couple that are in pretty bad shape. Vikki Kulio put together a synopsis, that she would like the Township to request some federal funding to tear down the building, two full time police officers at the school program and other items and felt that it should come to the board for approval. **Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts to apply for this funding.** Nordeen questioned the two full-time police officers, would that come into our budget or does that mean we would hire two more? Minelli stated funding would come in and we would hire them. Roberts asked how long, maybe they would have to be hired after the grant was up. Chief will check on numbers and we can adjust the amount. **Motion carried.**

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Joe stated that the Police Union could start negotiations on the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> of February. Joe is looking for another board member to serve on that negotiating team for the board. Armatti stated he would be available. Roberts stated that she could as she was the liaison board member for the Police Department. A meeting was scheduled for 3:30 P.M. to Wednesday February 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> at the Township Office. Armatti stated that he negotiated last time with Public Works.

Joe also requested to schedule a meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M., at the Emergency Services Building, with Carr Baldwin to review the easements and have the Board authorize Mr. Minelli to sign for the Township.

**LETTER OF INTENT TO RETIRE:** Joe indicated that Ms. Hakes has submitted a letter of intent to retire on May 20, 2011 and will be done in August of 2011.

**FUEL BIDS:** Joe would like to put our fuel out on bids, public works, and ambulance, police and fire vehicles. Minelli will meet with both distributors to make sure we are bidding apples for apples.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Ed Thompson requested that the Board write a letter of support for the "W". Mr. Stinson stated that he did not notice the local banks being on there & thought the water/sewer add-on would be a good addition to the system.

**Board Member Comment:** None

**Closed Session:** *Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen to go into closed session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss pending litigation. Roll call vote: Armatti – aye, Nordeen – aye, Roberts – aye; Minelli – aye. Motion carried.*

*Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen to return to open session at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried.*

*Motion by Roberts, supported by Minelli to accept the verified coverage for the Moody case. Motion carried*

*Motion by Minelli, supported by Armatti to stop the litigation process for Ridolphi. Motion carried.*

*Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen to rewrite the Fire Ordinance. Ordinance will be given to Kevin and Chief Hammond will discuss.*

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Minelli adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maurene Hakes  
Forsyth Township Secretary