

**Forsyth Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
February 23, 2012  
American Legion – Little Lake**

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, Clerk Filizetti-Hartzell, Treasurer Nordeen and Trustees Roberts & Armatti. All present.

**Also Present:** Attorney Kevin Koch, Al Pierce, UPEA, township employees & interested citizens.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti approving minutes from meetings held on December 28, 2011, January 18, 2012, January 19, 2012 & January 31, 2012 with one correction: January 31, 2012 minutes under Discussion – Ambulance Billing – Outsourcing: correct Mason to Manson. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Thank you for Clubhouse renovations, request bathroom on second floor along with new windows. Little Lake resident regarding the lack of missing street signs being replaced, concerns with emergency service personnel not being able to locate residences. Concerns about the water meter project cost for customers, especially retired individuals. Sawyer street signs good except for two, one half missing, one bent over. Speed limit sign missing on N. River Drive, other sign posts unstable.

**Agenda:** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti approving the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

The following reports were accepted and placed on file: Ambulance, Assessing/Zoning, Fire Department, Library, Police Department, and Public Works Department. Reports were not received from the Clubhouse, Senior Citizen Director or Recreation.

**Treasurers Report:** Motion by Armatti, supported by Nordeen to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

**Attorney's Report:** Nothing new to report on the civil rights complaint or Sawyer case. Suggest ask County pay five years back of PILT monies; want to pay the township .22 cents per acre with is less than the State pays. Kevin asked Al Pierce, UPEA, to address the water project easement concerns. Pierce addressed the issue of waterline easements that haven't been signed by property owners stating if they refuse to sign condemnation will be necessary. Property owners along M-35 that were part of a Special Assessment district want to be reimbursed for their costs, including the interest paid. Pierce will be sending out final letters next week to property owners that did not respond to the first mailing. If there are no responses to the final letters the township will have to consider condemnation.

**Approval of Bills & Vouchers:** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti approving bills in the amount of \$50,860.08 & vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**RenewalFUEL Extension:** Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Nordeen supporting the transfer of the Renaissance Zone from RenewalFUEL to RNFL Acquisitions LLC. Motion carried.

**Ambulance Bill Write Offs:** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti to rescind the motion made on December 15, 2011 to write-off ambulance bills in the amount of \$71,802.68. Motion carried.

**Library Millage:** Filizetti-Hartzell explained there are two requests the Library wants to place on the May 8, 2012 ballot; one for a bond issue and one for millage. Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Roberts to adopt the following resolution. Motion carried after roll call vote 5 ayes, 0 nays.

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTING LIBRARY BOND PROPOSAL  
AT THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 8, 2012.**

**TOWNSHIP OF FORSYTH  
COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, STATE OF MICHIGAN**

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Township of Forsyth, County of Marquette, State of Michigan, held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., Eastern Time.

PRESENT: Members Minelli, Filizetti-Hartzell, Nordeen, Roberts & Armatti.

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered (moved) by Member Filizetti-Hartzell and supported by Member Roberts.

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Forsyth Township Public Library (the "Library") has requested the Township Board of the Township of Forsyth, County of Marquette, State of Michigan (the "Township"), to issue its unlimited tax general obligation bonds for the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring, constructing, furnishing and equipping a new library building, including related site acquisition and improvements, and appurtenances and attachments thereto (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Township Board determines that it is in the best interests of the residents and property owners of the Township and patrons of the Library that the Township facilitate the financing, acquisition, construction, furnishing and equipping of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Library has estimated the cost of the Project to be One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500.00); and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the most efficient means of financing the project is to borrow an amount sufficient to acquire, construct, furnish, and equip the Project, and that the Township issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds for that purpose; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to submit the question of the issuance of the bonds to the qualified Electors of the Township for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The following bond proposal shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the

Township of Forsyth, County of Marquette, State of Michigan, at the election to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012.

### Library Bond Proposal

Shall the Township of Forsyth, County of Marquette, Michigan, borrow the principal sum of not to exceed One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefore, payable in not to exceed thirty (30) years from the date of issue, for the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring, constructing, furnishing and equipping a library building, including related site acquisitions and improvements, and appurtenances and attachments thereto for use by the Forsyth Township Public Library? The estimated millage to be levied in 2013 is 0.46 mills (\$0.46 per \$1,000 of taxable value) and the estimated simple average annual millage rate required to retire the bonds is 0.56 mills (\$0.56 per \$1,000 of taxable value).

2. The ballot wording of the bond proposal is hereby certified to the Township Clerk and to the Clerk of the County of Marquette (the "County Clerk"). The Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to file this Resolution and/or complete any such forms, certificates or documents as may be required by the County Clerk to evidence the foregoing certificates and/or submission of the ballot proposal by no later than Tuesday, February 28, 2012.

3. The Township Clerk and the County Clerk are hereby authorized to (a) post and publish notice of last day of registration and notice of election as required by the Michigan Election Law: and (b) have prepared and printed, as provided by the Michigan Election Law, ballots for submitting the bond proposal at the election, which ballots shall contain the proposal appearing herein, or the proposition shall be stated as a proposal on the voting machines, which ballots may include other matters presented to the electorate on the same date.

4. All resolutions and parts of resolutions, insofar as they conflict with the provisions of the Resolution, are hereby repealed.

AYES: Members: Minelli, Nordeen, Roberts, Armatti, Filizetti-Hartzell  
NAYS: Members: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED:

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Township Clerk

### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of the Township of Forsyth, County of Marquette, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2012, and that the meeting was conducted and public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be given or have been made available as required by the Act.

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Township Clerk

Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Armatti to adopt the resolution to approve the Library millage language proposal. Motion passed after roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE BALLOT  
LANGUAGE PROPOSAL AT THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 8, 2012  
FORSYTH TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Forsyth Township (“Township”), Marquette County, Michigan, held at the Township Hall (American Legion – Little Lake) in said Township on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2012 at 6:30 p.m., Eastern Time.

PRESENT: Members – Minelli, Filizetti-Hartzell, Nordeen, Roberts & Armatti.

ABSENT: Members – None

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Member Minelli, moved by Member Filizetti-Hartzell and seconded by Member Armatti. Motion carried after roll call vote 5 to 0.

WHEREAS, the Forsyth Township Public Library (the “Library”) is a township library Organized under 1877 PA 164 (“Act 164”) serving the residents of Forsyth Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Forsyth Township Public Library (the “Library Board”) has requested the Township Board of the Township of Forsyth, County of Marquette, State of Michigan (the “Township”), to issue its unlimited tax general obligation bonds for the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring, constructing, furnishing and equipment a new library building, including related site acquisition and improvements, and appurtenances and attachments thereto (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Library Board has determined that the amount of money necessary for the Project requires a new additional Library millage; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board has determined that placing the millage request on the ballot at the May 8, 2012 election is in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the Township residents and property owners of the Township and patrons of the Library that the Township facilitate the financing, acquisition, construction, furnishing and equipping of the Project.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to submit the question of a new additional millage to the qualified electors of the Township for approval.

THEREFORE, the Township Board of the Township of Forsyth, Marquette County, resolves as follows:

1. The Township Board resolves to present to the electors of Forsyth Township at the May 8, 2012 election a proposed new additional amount of ad valorem taxes as described in the ballot language attached as Exhibit A.

2. The Township Clerk is authorized and directed to promptly submit this resolution along with the above ballot language to the County Clerk so that the millage proposition may be included on the May 8, 2012 election ballot.
3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions, insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed.

AYES: Members – Minelli, Nordeen, Armatti, Roberts & Filizetti-Hartzell.

NAYS: Members – None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED:

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Township Clerk of the Forsyth Township, Marquette County, State of Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Township Board of said Township at a regular meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2012.

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Clerk, Forsyth Township

**FORSYTH TOWNSHIP  
LIBRARY NEW ADDITIONAL MILLAGE PROPOSAL**

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on all taxable property in the Township of Forsyth, County of Marquette, Michigan, be increased by an amount not to exceed .50 mill (\$.50 per \$1,000.00 of taxable value) for a period of 30 years, 2012 to 2041, inclusive, as new additional millage to provide funds for operating, equipping, constructing, and maintaining the Forsyth Township Public Library and for all other library purposes authorized by law? If approved and levied in its entirety, it is estimated that 0.50 mill would raise approximately \$80,000 for the library in 2012.

**Police Millage:** There are two proposed millage proposals which will be placed on the May 8, 2012 Ballot, one for renewal & one for additional operating millage. Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts approving a millage renewal to be placed on the ballot on May 8, 2012. Motion carried after a roll call vote: Minelli – aye; Armatti – aye; Nordeen –aye; Roberts – aye; and Filizetti-Hartzell –aye. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Township  
Millage Resolution and Millage Ballot Language**

WHEREAS, the Township of Forsyth wishes to provide Police Department Operations; and

WHEREAS, townships may impose and levy ad valorem property taxes to finance the Police Department, as authorized by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and other laws; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Board of Forsyth Township, Marquette County, approves the following millage ballot question language and directs the Clerk to submit it to be placed on the May 8, 2012 election ballot:

**MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL**

“SHALL THERE BE a renewal of the millage for the purposes of operating a Police Department, Against the total tax rate limitation, as provided for by Article 9, Section 6 of the Constitution of Michigan, and the total assessed against all property in Forsyth Township, Marquette County, Michigan by renewing \$1,000 of State Equalized Valuation (1 mill) of all property in the Township for a period of six years, 2014 through 2019 inclusive, thereby raising in the first year an estimated \$179,200.00.”

Motion made by: Nordeen  
Seconded by: Roberts

Upon roll call vote the following voted:  
“Aye”: 5  
“Nay”: 0  
The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

At the Regular Meeting of the Forsyth Township Board held on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at the American Legion in Little Lake.

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

**CERTIFICATE**

I, Bonnie Filizetti-Hartzell, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Forsyth Township, hereby certify that the forgoing resolution was adopted by the Forsyth Township Board by a roll call vote at a regular meeting of the Board held on February 23, 2012, at which meeting a quorum was present; and that this Resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Roberts to place a proposed one mill increase for Police Department operations on the May 8, 2012 ballot. Roll call vote: Minelli –aye, Roberts – aye, Nordeen – aye, Armatti – aye, Filizetti-Hartzell – aye. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Township**  
**Millage Resolution and Millage Ballot Language**

WHEREAS, the Township of Forsyth wished to provide Police Department Operations: and

WHEREAS, townships may impose and levy ad valorem property taxes to finance the Police Department, as authorized by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and other laws; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Forsyth wishes to levy one (1) mill for the Police Department Operations:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Board of Forsyth Township, Marquette County, approve the following millage ballot question language and directs the Clerk to submit it to be placed on the May 8, 2012 election ballot:

SHALL THERE BE, an increase of one (1) mill (\$1.00 per \$1,000.00), on the total amount of taxes Which may be assessed against all property in Forsyth Township, Marquette County, Michigan for the purpose of Police Department Operations within the Township for a period of six (6) Years from 2012 through 2017, both inclusive, thereby raising approximately \$160,000.00 in its first Year, based upon 2011 taxable value.

Motion by: Filizetti-Hartzell  
Seconded by: Roberts

Upon roll call vote the following voted:

“Aye”: 5

“Nay”: 0

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted.

At the Regular Meeting of the Forsyth Township Board held on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at the American Legion in Little Lake.

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

#### CERTIFICATE

I, Bonnie Filizetti-Hartzell, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Forsyth Township, Hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Forsyth Township board by a roll call vote at a regular meeting of the Board held on February 23, 2012, at which meeting a quorum was present; and that this resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

**Set Budget Workshop:** Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Nordeen to set the budget workshop date on March 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Emergency Service Building. Motion carried.

**Public Works Truck Purchase:** Forsyth Township was awarded a pick-up truck as part of a drug bust and it needs to be purchased from the police department as part of the seizure process. Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Minelli to purchase the 1991 GMC truck for the Public Works department from the Police Department at a cost of \$3,785.00 with \$513.20 being paid to the County. Motion carried.

**Narcotics Dog Donation Fund:** The Township has \$1,400.03 remaining in the narcotics dog account from donations received for the township dog which was sold. The City of Marquette does mutual aid with the dogs in Forsyth Township. Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen to donate \$1,400.03 to the Marquette City narcotics dog for anticipated mutual services. Motion carried.

**Set Public Hearing for Library:** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Minelli to set the required Public Hearing for the Library Bond proposal for April 3, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse. Motion carried.

**Clock Tower Subcommittee:** Motion by Minelli, supported by Filizetti-Hartzell to adopt a resolution or a letter of memorandum requesting monies from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Roll call vote: Minelli – aye, Roberts – aye, Nordeen –aye, Armatti –aye, Filizetti-Hartzell –aye. Motion carried.

**Ambulance Action Item – CPR/AED Training Manikin:** Information will be obtained regarding this matter so Attorney Koch can contact the company. The manikins were ordered and prepaid but were never received.

**Fire Department Five Action Items:** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti approving the following Fire department requests for a total cost of \$2,150.00: pay the state \$1,000.00 for 800mhz annual fee, accept Matt Bathke’s resignation from the fire department, order one (1) scene light for 2027 at a cost of \$850.00, purchase three (3) ballasts for bay lights at a cost of \$300.00. Motion carried. The fifth request is for permission to pursue a S.A.F.E.R. 90/10 percent matching grant for a new fire truck. No board action was taken on the grant request.

**Marquette Board of Light & Power:** Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen to adopt the Ordinance for franchise fees to paid to Forsyth Township from Marquette Board of Light & Power. Motion carried.

**Farquar Metsa Park:** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti approving the signing of the agreement with U.P. Engineers & Architects, Inc. for the Farquar-Metsa Tourist Park Improvement project. Motion carried.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

**Snowmobiles in Park:** Mike Jakubowski requested the township board consider installing winter fences around the planted areas in Nordeen Park due to snowmobiles running through the beds. This will be considered next winter.

**Salvation Army:** It was the consensus of board members that there be no escape clause and that the length of the lease remain the same. Minelli stated there should be a 50/50 basis for capital improvements with approval from both boards, not exceeding fifty (50) percent each. The cost of the requested inspection for repairs and renovations will be paid by the Salvation Army. Minelli felt the Salvation Army should recoup some of their money if the building were a total loss. The board asked Koch to check into the split of the land and ask the Salvation Army if they want to purchase the building if the land is included in the sale. Koch will contact the Salvation Army regarding the lease and requested changes.

**MTA Kevin:** After attending the MTA Conference sessions in Detroit Koch stated the township marijuana ordinance is in good shape. He commented on the amendment to the Zoning Act regarding the passage of Act 113 dealing with gravel & other mineral extraction which allows both unless it should result in very serious consequences.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**



**Thank You From Seniors:** Letter thanking the township board members for the new windows at the Clubhouse.

**Public Comment:** Thank you for approving the Library bond & millage proposals. Further water meter concerns. Gwinn Quarterly to be out on March 3<sup>rd</sup> will include Public Hearing for Library bond issue. Thank you for Little Lake street signs. Concerns about the chicken zoning violation. Sawyer fire hydrants cleared & skating rink being used when weather permits.

**Board Member Comment:** None

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Minelli adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Filizetti-Hartzell  
Forsyth Township Clerk