

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Emergency Services Building
October 24, 2013**

Supervisor Minelli called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board Members Present: Supervisor Minelli, Clerk Nordeen, Treasurer Roberts and Trustee Adams.

Board Members Absent: Trustee Armatti.

Also Present: Attorney Kevin Koch, Assessor DeGroot, Carl Bryzek, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve the minutes for September 26, 2013 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comment: A resident thanked the Board for the electrical updates at the clubhouse. She also asked if the public could be notified when the crane came to erect the clock tower. Mr. Bryzek stated he would like a letter from Assessor DeGroot of his position on true cash value so he can send it to the new State Treasurer.

Agenda: Motion by Nordeen, supported by Adams, to approve the agenda with the following additions: **10g. Update Salvation Army Building, 10h. Zoning Board Training.** Motion carried.

Department Reports: The following reports were accepted and placed on file: Ambulance, Assessing/Zoning, Senior Citizens Director/Clubhouse, Fire Department, Library, Police Department, and Financial. Reports not filed: Public Works and Parks Committee.

Clerk Nordeen noticed in the Senior Citizen Director report that the Director was doing the set up for events. She was concerned that we were overworking her, and that she thought the Public Works Department was supposed to do the set ups.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Koch has filed on two Zoning Violations and has talked to a third. He may still file on the third. He is awaiting a response to a letter he has written Scott Erbisch, Marquette County Administrator, regarding the PILT issues. Superior Extrusion has filed an appeal with the Tax Tribunal. Attorney Koch will need to file a response. Supervisor Minelli asked if there was any money available from the County regarding appeals. Attorney Koch will look into any refunds available from the County. He is writing a letter to Zoning Violation Andrews about the chickens. He recommends omitting the old violations of Tousignant, Myers and Vultaggio. After further discussion, he will contact Vultaggio as he is still at the violation site.

Motion by Adams, supported by Roberts, to remove older Zoning Violations Tousignant and Myers from the Outstanding Zoning Violations list, but to keep them on file for any future permit requests. The violations must be taken care of prior to granting any further requests. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts, to approve bills and vouchers totaling \$75,699.90, as presented. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
10/24/13**

Vendor	Description	Amount
A Jacobson Landscaping	Tourist Park Project Landscaping	12,500.00
Airgas	Cylinder Rental PW, EMS	128.72
Aramark	Uniform & Rug Services	1,214.58
Auto Value	Parts and Supplies Various Depts	1,581.01
City of Marquette	Bacteriological Analysis	60.00
Compudyne	Computer Support PD	45.00
Creative Product Source Inc	Tattoo "Say No" PD	72.11
Don Machalk & Sons Fence Corp	Playground Mulch	2,300.00
Emergecy Medical Products	Ambulance Supplies	367.13
Fidlar Technologies	Law Citation Book	625.64
Fraco	Clubhouse Repairs	142.57
Galls	Uniform & Supplies PD	240.94
Harris	Water/Sewer Bills	876.00
JT Motor Sports	Shop Tools	4.15
Johnsons Printing	Window Envelopes	186.01
KI Sawyer Heritage Air Museum	Rental - Board Meeting	25.00
Kevin Koch	Attorney's Fees	1,045.49
Marquette General Health	SEMT Course	1,500.00
DLP Marquette General Hospital	Ambulance Supplies	217.02
Menominee Granite Co.	Memorial Bricks	20.86
MDEQ	Bacteriological Analysis 3 Wells	54.00
Michigan Sales & Equipment	JD Tractor Parts	181.78
North Country Septic	Playground Portable Restroom	95.00
Northern Specialty Co.	Police Dept Pens - shipping	14.14
Pitney Bowes	Postage Rental	28.84
Pomps Tire	Ambulance Tires	1,697.31
Post Master	PO Box Renewal Senior Center	38.00
Quill	Office Supplies Various Depts	443.61
R&R Fire Truck Repair Inc.	Fire Truck Parts and Repairs	8,642.40
Range Telecommunications	Ambulance Batteries	45.10
Sagola Contracting Inc	Cleaning Vehicle - PD	145.00
The Mining Journal	Publishing	169.65
The Office Planning Group	Office Copier	35.40

UPEA	Engineering-Water Project, Clubhouse	10,767.36
Wright Electric	Electric Supplies-Tourist Park Project	8,157.81

53,667.63

**Forsyth Township
Bills Additional For Approval
10/24/13**

Vendor	Description	Amount
A Jacobson Landscaping	Little Lake Christmas Tree	485.00
Ace	Various Depts Supplies	603.72
All Systems Electric	Clubhouse Wiring	8,720.00
CMP Distributors	Police Vest	618.00
Compudyne	Computer Support	581.25
County of Marquette	Water Supplies	453.72
Dave Kent	Police Ammo	40.00
Diesel Specialists of Green Bay	Holder Snowblower Parts	391.17
Industrial Marketing	Holder Snowblower Parts	17.61
Michigan DEQ	Campground License Renewal	89.00
Nye Uniforms	Police Uniforms	250.54
Petty Cash	Various Depts Supplies	125.35
Postmaster	Postage for Senior Newsletter	74.16
Quill	Office Supplies	128.98
Range Telecommunications	EMS Radio	290.00
Sirchie Fingerprint Laboratories	Finger Print Supplies Police Dept	114.07
Superior Lock & Security	Replacement Camera for Clubhouse	1,512.16
Snyder Drug Store	Various Depts Supplies	108.52
UPEA	Water and Lagoon Projects	7,399.02
		22,002.27
	Original Bill Listing	53,667.63
	Total Accounts Payable	75,669.90

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 64368-64570
Voucher Numbers for Tax 1417-1422

ACTION ITEMS:

MTA Registration for (10a.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Adams, to approve Board Members and two staff to attend the MTA Conference. Motion carried.

Attorney MTA Attendance (10b.): Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve attendance and partial payment for Attorney Koch to attend one or more days at the MTA conference. Motion carried.

Rental Agreement for Township Property (10c.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Minelli, to approve the Rental Agreement for Township Property form as presented, with the word “Any” for nonprofit participation, and \$1,000,000.00 minimum liability insurance. Discussion ensued regarding the affordability of the combination of increased insurance plus the actual rental fee. Motion failed 2-2.

Motion by Minelli, supported by Roberts, to approve the Rental Agreement for Township Property form as presented, with the word “Any” for nonprofit participation, and \$300,000.00 minimum liability insurance. Motion failed 2-2.

Motion by Adams to approve the Rental Agreement for Township Property form as presented, with the word “Any” for nonprofit participation, and \$750,000.00 minimum liability insurance. Motion failed, due to lack of support.

Supervisor Minelli suggested that Clerk Nordeen research the different liability limits available so we could revisit next meeting.

Fire Dept. – Purchase Batteries (10d.): Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the purchase of 10 batteries totaling \$650.00. Motion carried.

Budget Adjustments (10e.): Motion by Roberts, supported by Adams, to approve the Budget Adjustments as presented. Bookkeeper Rodgers gave a brief description of the adjustments. Motion carried.

**FORSYTH TOWNSHIP
BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS
24-Oct-13**

GENERAL FUND				
Department	Department #	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue		2,224,310	2,358,710	134,400
Expense				
Legislative	101	11,765	12,265	500
Supervisor	171	14,885	16,035	1,150
Clerk	215	13,380	13,880	500
Treasurer	253	11,230	11,530	300
Buildings & Grounds	265	121,525	99,995	(21,530)
Professional/Special				
Fundctions	299	18,000	28,000	10,000
Public Works	441	113,710	135,240	21,530
Contigency	890	40,000	30,000	(10,000)
Capital Outlay	900	349,420	357,920	8,500
Transfers Out	965	645,000	745,000	100,000

			Total	110,950
Estimated Beginning Fund				
Balance:	1,472,918	4/1/13		
Estimated Revenues:	2,358,710			
Estimated Expenses:	(2,422,430)			
Estimated Ending Fund				
Balance:	1,409,198	3/31/14		

Ambulance Equipment			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	71,650	71,650	0
Expenses	6,970	16,970	10,000
Estimated Beginning Fund			
Balance:	209,322	4/1/13	
Estimated Revenues:	71,650		
Estimated Expenses:	(16,970)		
Estimated Ending Fund			
Balance:	264,002	3/31/14	

Clubhouse/Recreation			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	439,550	323,650	(115,900)
Expenses	376,940	380,770	3,830
Estimated Beginning Fund			
Balance:	378,441	4/1/13	
Estimated Revenues:	323,650		
Estimated Expenses:	(380,770)		
Estimated Ending Fund			
Balance:	321,321	3/31/14	

Revolving Fund			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	61,000	161,000	100,000
Expenses	60,250	60,250	0
Estimated Beginning Fund			
Balance:	84,256	4/1/13	
Estimated Revenues:	161,000		

Estimated Expenses:	(60,250)
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	185,006 3/31/14

Police Dept. – Letter of Understanding (10f.): Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen, to approve the Letter of Understanding for the Police Department as presented. Motion carried.

Agreement – between – Forsyth Township – and the – Forsyth Township Police Association

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XV – SUB E (PROMOTIONS)

By mutual agreement, the Township and the Association agree to remove the MESC position from the Oral Board and replace that position on the Oral Board with the Marquette County Prosecutor or his/her designee.

FOR THE ASSOCIATION: _____ DATE: _____

FOR THE TOWNSHIP: _____ DATE: _____

Update Salvation Army Building (10g.): Supervisor Minelli stated that he, and Public Works Superintendent Eric Jancsi, met with Byron Lindstrom, who gave them a proposal for operating the “Sawyer Community Center”, formerly known as the Salvation Army Building. Supervisor Minelli requested permission to pursue the proposal. He also wanted to clarify that it may be an option for Forsyth Township to act as a partner with the church organization, should they not receive all the funding needed to occupy the building. He reiterated that the building would be open to the public, and not just church members. Supervisor Minelli would like to move as quickly as possible to limit the possibility of vandalism.

Superintendent Jancsi spoke to Mr. Lindstrom who stated they would give a commitment, in writing, to operate the building for one year. Mr. Lindstrom was going to be at the Board meeting, but got called out of town. A meeting will be set when he gets back into town.

Zoning Board Training (10h.): Motion by Adams, supported by Minelli, to approve five Zoning Board of Appeal members to attend training in Chatham for \$400.00 (\$55.00 training expense and \$25.00 meeting salary, per person) and Rebecca Stachewicz to attend training down state for approximately \$1,650.00. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Boulevard Landscaping (11a): A Jacobson Landscaping submitted an Estimate to landscape the 2nd section of the Boulevard. Discussion ensued. There will be efforts made to attempt transplantation of trees to various locations in the township. Areas mentioned were the Tourist Park and Nordeen Park. **Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the A Jacobson estimate of \$16,048.00 to be executed in the spring. Motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

4th of July VFW (13a.): A letter was received from the VFW stating they do not have the personnel to conduct the 3rd and 4th of July festivities in the park for 2014. It was the consensus of the Board to ask the Fire Department if they would like the opportunity. If they are not able, the American Legion Post should be given the opportunity.

Cliffs Eagle Mine Fire Department Grant (13b.): The Fire Department received a \$100,000.00 grant from Cliffs Eagle Mine for a new Fire Tanker Truck. The Board thanked the Fire Department for writing the letter to receive the grant. They also thanked Cliffs Eagle Mine for the grant. The \$100,000 grant will be put into a CD until more funds are received for a new Fire Tanker Truck. Supervisor Minelli suggested selling the older one to supplement the funding.

Public Comment: Mr. Bryzek stated he would like a letter from Assessor DeGroot regarding his position on the Property Taxes and Bulletin 19. He would also like three Board Members to sign the letter. He also stated that the pine trees on the boulevard, where Hematite and M-35 meet, are dangerous. He cannot see traffic clearly. Another resident asked what the time frame was for the rewrite of the new ordinances. Clerk Nordeen explained that we were looking for another firm to assist in that process, as the last one was ineffective. The resident then asked if it would be possible for Forsyth Township to take over the area at KI Sawyer that is currently owned by West Branch Township. Supervisor Minelli explained that we are not in a position acquire more land, nor is West Branch probably interested in lowering their tax base.

Board Member Comment: Supervisor Minelli and Clerk Nordeen went to a West Branch meeting regarding possible resurrection of the Sawyer Operating Authority. In this organization, it could have it's own set of ordinances. The Sawyer Alliance meetings strategized on which vacant buildings should be torn down next. The Clock Tower project is moving right along.

Adjournment: Supervisor Minelli adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Filizetti
Clerk/Secretary