

**Forsyth Township Board
Special Meeting
Gwinn Clubhouse
March 8, 2014**

Supervisor Minelli called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

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

Board Members Absent: None.

Also Present: A number of township employees and interested residents.

Minutes: Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the minutes of February 27, 2014 as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Adams, supported by Roberts, to approve the agenda with the following being added: 8h. Painting estimate for the former Salvation Building. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

ACTION ITEMS:

Vehicle for Water Department: Quotes were reviewed for a pick-up truck and plow to be used by the Water Department. Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen to purchase a pick-up with a Boss snowplow from Fox Motors of Negaunee for the low bid of \$30,996.26. Motion carried.

Board of Review Appointments: Motion by Adams, supported by Roberts, to appoint Dwight Sunday to the vacant Board of Review's position and appoint Bonnie Filizetti-Hartzell as an Alternate. Motion carried

Property & Liability Insurance Renewal: Michigan Municipal League Liability and Property Pool's (MML) annual renewal for the township's property & liability insurance was presented. Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to accept the MML's renewal for \$55,707; discussion ensued regarding bidding the insurance. Motion carried. It was the consensus of the board that the insurance should be sent out for bids for next year.

Insurance Requirements for Clubhouse Room Usage: Julie Shaw asked for clarification of the removal of the clubhouse from the rental policy in regards to insurance requirements. Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, that insurance is not required to reserve clubhouse rooms. Motion carried.

Police Purchase AR-15: Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts, to purchase two AR-15 weapons, with accessories, for the Police Department totaling \$3030.38. Motion carried

Board Negotiation Team: Motion by Nordeen, supported by Adams, to appoint Supervisor Minelli and Treasurer Roberts to negotiate contracts with the Police Union and the Chief of Police. Motion carried.

Painting Estimate: Minelli stated he asked Rick Heric to present an estimate for painting at the former Salvation Army Building as Heric is currently painting areas of the Gwinn Clubhouse. The estimate was presented and Julie Shaw complimented Rick Heric as a contractor at the clubhouse. Discussion regarding which areas of the former Salvation Army building should be painted. Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the painting quote from Rick Heric for the corridor, foyer, office and lavatories of the former Salvation Army Building totaling \$4,430.00. Motion carried.

Supervisor Minelli called for a short break at 11:05 a.m.

Supervisor Minelli called meeting back to order at 11:10 a.m.

BUDGET WORKSHOP:

The draft budget for fiscal year 2014-15 was presented by Supervisor Minelli. Discussion ensued. Lynn Rodgers explained that the Police Fund will most likely need to be adjusted as the year proceeds because it was written with many unknowns, such as contract negotiations. Eric Jancsi spoke on potential capital purchases for the Water Fund. Board members concurred that rates may need to be raised for water due to the amount of freezing lines. Lynn Rodgers expressed concern with the Sewer Fund. She stated that the expenditures are beginning to exceed revenues and the board should consider a rate increase. It was agreed to put rate increases for Water and Sewer on the next meeting's agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Julie Shaw thanked the board for clarification on the clubhouse room usage and feels the township residents will be very happy. She also thanked the board for their continued support of the Senior Center.

BOARD COMMENT:

Trustee Bodenus thanked the Public Works employees for all their hard work during this difficult winter. Trustee Adams expressed appreciation for the budget that was presented and for all of our employees. He feels the board should consider having an employee luncheon as was done in years past. Treasurer Roberts thanked all the employees and also would like to have a luncheon for the employees. Clerk Nordeen thanked Joe and Lynn for the budget that was presented. She also thanked public works. Supervisor Minelli directed Lynn to change the training line item in the Police Fund's budget. He also asked board members and Chief Rector that if they had any questions for Boles, to get them to himself no later than Friday.

Adjournment: Supervisor Minelli adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Rodgers
Deputy Treasurer

Jane Nordeen
Township Clerk