

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Emergency Services Building
January 22, 2015**

Supervisor Minelli called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Board Members Absent: None

Also Present: Attorney Kevin Koch, Public Works Superintendent Eric Jancsi, UPEA Representatives Carr Baldwin and Matt Treado, Assessor Henry DeGroot, Forester Matt Watkeys, Library Board President Donna Adams, Fire Chief Don Hutchens, Police Chief Gordon Warchock, EMS Director Pete Ghiringhelli, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Supervisor Minelli introduced Police Chief Gordon Warchock. Chief Warchock expressed his enthusiasm and commitment to serve the community. He announced his door is always open, and invited the public to come and meet with him.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve the Minutes for January 5, 6, and 8, 2015 Special Board Meetings, as presented. Motion carried.

Supervisor Minelli explained moving the Public Comment section of the Agenda to the new location, which is after the Approval of Agenda. This would suggest that the public could comment on the new items the Board would add to the currently posted Agenda. Treasurer Roberts explained why it was at the prior location. She stated it could be interpreted that the public could suggest items to be added to the Agenda. Attorney Koch stated the Agenda could be amended at any time provided there was a full Board during a Special Meeting or a majority at a Regular Meeting.

Agenda: Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts, to approve the agenda with the following changes: delete **10f. Police Dept – NMU Course for Police Officer**, amend **10g. to Unassembled**, add **10i. State Wide Police Chief Conference**. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Library Board President Donna Adams announced there would be a fund raiser for the Library on Saturday February 21st 4:00-7:00. She also expressed her concern regarding additional charges for the Library Relocation Project. She would like the Board to commit to no other charges being billed to the Library for the relocation of the Assessing and Zoning Office. Supervisor Minelli stated that there was another benefit scheduled for the same time as the Library benefit. Library President Adams stated she was aware of the other benefit, but expressed it was too late to reschedule. She hoped the community would support both fund raisers.

Department Reports: The following reports were accepted and placed on file: Ambulance, Assessing/Zoning, Senior Citizens Director, Fire Department, Library, Police Department, Public Works and General Operating Financial Report. Reports not filed: Parks Committee. Superintendent Jancsi notified the Board of problems with the basketball rims located at the KI Sawyer Community Center.

They are currently unsafe, therefore he requested a quote from two different companies. While waiting for the quotes, the rims at the Gwinn Community Center were inspected. Those also need replacing.

Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, for safety reasons, to approve replacing all the rims for up to \$1800.00. Discussion ensued. Motion and support was amended to approve replacing the rims for \$1790.00 plus shipping. Motion carried.

Clerk Nordeen gave an oral report for the KI Sawyer Community Center. It is continually growing. The Ice Rink has been completed and is greatly used. They are in need of donated skates. She wanted to thank all the volunteers, especially Chuck Truitt, for all the hard work assembling the rink. She invites anyone to come and use the rink. The YMCA is providing “super” snacks. There was discussion of hiring a full time employee for the center. Clerk Nordeen would like to wait the entire year to see what it’s full potential will be. At that time, there will be a better understanding as to what type of position is needed.

Attorney’s Report: Attorney Koch has filed on the Dunklee/Vincent zoning violation suit. Mr. Dunklee has been in contact and would like to fix the problems. It will take approximately 60 days for the court to respond, so perhaps there will be work done prior to that time. The deed is coming for the Austin property. The company that owned the property has dissolved. One of the owners has agreed to deed property to the Township. When that deed is filed, the water project easements will be complete. Attorney Koch has tried contacting Bahrmans Farms twice, but has not had any success. Trustee Adams questioned the Board regarding a zoning violation with a local propane company. He asked if steps should be taken to proceed with this violation. Supervisor Minelli requested that Assessor DeGroot check on the property to see if the violation has been corrected.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling, \$131,902.86, as presented. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
1/22/15**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Ace Hardware	Supplies for Various Depts	234.75
Aramark	Carpet and Uniform Service	1,428.58
Auto Value	Parts for Various Departments	2,104.02
Beauchamp Plumbing & Heating	Furnace Repair KISCC	90.00
Digital Ally	PD Computer Supplies	810.00
Drug Screen Plus	Drug Screening	48.00
Elcom Systems	PD Equipment	2,431.00
Emergency Medical Products	Ambulance Supplies	226.74
Fire Tools Software	Software Update	400.00
Fox Negaunee	EMS & PD Vehicle Parts and Repairs	1,471.31
Froberg's Clothing	PW Boots	100.00
Galls	PD Uniforms and Supplies	461.84

Harris	Tax Forms	204.73
HD Supply	Water Dept Parts	334.00
Holiday 50 Minute Cleaners	PD Dry-cleaning	24.25
JF Ahern	Fire Extinguisher Maintenance	54.15
Joe & Sons Service Center	Kubota Tire Repair	24.90
JT Motor Sport	PW Tools	25.30
Kevin Koch PC	Attorney Fees	1,171.30
Marquette County Equalization	Tax Bills and Rolls	3,412.92
Marquette County Land Bank	Demolition	2,950.00
MAS&B Mikes Auto	PD Vehicle Repair	105.00
Menards	Supplies for Various Depts	340.96
Michigan Sales	Kubota Parts	168.60
NMU	PD Training	50.00
Peninsula Glass	PD Windshield Replacement	255.00
Pomp's	PD Tires	534.66
Post Master	Box and Permit Renewal	288.00
Quill	Supplies for Various Depts	446.14
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig Calls	18.50
Snyder Drug Store	Supplies for Various Depts	123.27
Standard Electric Company	Clubhouse & Street Light Supplies	747.94
The Mining Journal	Publishing	2,579.54
Tunnel Vision	Sewer Televising & Cleaning	42,926.70
UPEA	Engineering for Various Projects	24,980.00
UP Off Road	Plow Parts and Repairs	100.62
Winder Police Equipment	PD Computer Supplies	1,046.11
		92,484.08

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
1/22/15**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Ace Hardware	Supplies for Various Depts	417.54
Airgas	PW Gases	24.55
Beauchamp Plumbing & Heating	Repair Office Boiler	160.99
City of Marquette	Water Analysis	100.00
Compudyne	PD Computer Support	132.25
Emergency Medical Products	Ambulance Supplies	655.83
HD Supply	Water Parts	790.70
Holiday 50 Minute Cleaners	PD Dry-cleaning	25.70

Johnson's Printing	Assessing/Zoning Envelopes	93.42
Menards	Supplies for Various Depts	417.43
Michigan Sales	PW Kubota Repair Parts	331.73
Michigan/Wisconsin Spring & Brake	PW Truck Springs	458.70
Peter Ghiringhelli	Reimburse for iPhone cable	6.39
Petty Cash	Supplies for Various Depts	180.43
Pomasl Fire Equipment	FD RIT Ambulance Siren Repair	2,889.11
Quill	Supplies for Various Depts	401.61
Rebecca Stachewicz	Computer Reimbursement	439.95
Range Telecommunications	FD Battery	160.32
Standard Electric Company	Clubhouse repairs	58.68
Taser International	PD Body Cameras	2,832.10
UPEA	Engineer for Various Projects	29,243.50
UP Health Systems	Ambulance Supplies	15.39
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		39,418.78
	Original Bill Listing	92,484.08
	Total Accounts Payable	131,902.86

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 67693-67949
Voucher Numbers for Tax 1537-1556

ACTION ITEMS:

Timber Harvest Bid (10a.): Supervisor Minelli requested an explanation of the bids presented. Forester Watkeys informed the Board that there was a top bidder, Zellar Excavating, which has decided not to honor their bid. Forester Watkeys explained that legal action could be taken, but recommended to move forward with the Holli Forest Product's Bid. Motion by Nordeen, supported by Bodenus, to approve Holli Forest Product's Bid for \$96,280. Motion carried. Forester Watkeys stated that he will proceed, with help from the attorney, drawing up a contract for the service.

UPEA Professional Services Agreement (10b.): Matt Treado gave a brief explanation of the proposal presented, and how it is essential in the timeline of the projects. There is a very small risk that the funds do not get obligated, but it is very important that we keep moving forward. Motion by Adams, supported by Roberts, to approve the Professional Services Agreement from UPEA for the Sewer System Improvements, as presented. Motion carried.

Budget Adjustments (10c.): Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve the Budget Adjustments, as presented. Supervisor Minelli explained to Library Board Present Adams that there are no scheduled expenses involved with moving the Assessing and Zoning office back into the Library location in the current fiscal year. Trustee Adams requested that Supervisor Minelli clarify that there will be no more expenses incurred with the move of the Assessing and Zoning office. Supervisor Minelli stated that he could not foresee any more expenses, unless something unexpected happened such as a roof leak, furnace malfunction, or any other unexpected repairs. He believes there will not be any more expenses for moving the Assessing and Zoning office. Motion carried.

**FORSYTH TOWNSHIP
BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS
18-Dec-14**

Library Fund	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	327,520	327,520	0
Expenses	802,990	805,240	2,250
Estimated Beginning Fund Balance:	650,502	4/1/14	
Estimated Revenues:	327,520		
Estimated Expenses:	(805,240)		
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	172,782	3/31/15	

EMS – Purchase AED (10d.): Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the purchase of an AED for EMS, totaling \$6,220.00. Motion carried. Supervisor Minelli would like all employees to attend CPR classes. He requested that EMS Director Ghiringhelli pursue setting up classes with each department.

EMS – Purchase Computers (10e.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Adams, to approve replacing two computers for the EMS, totaling \$799.98. Motion carried.

Police Dept – NMU Course for Police Officer (10f.): Item deleted.

Police Dept – Purchase Unassembled Lockers (10g.): Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to purchase lockers for the Police Department. Motion and support amended to purchase lockers for the Police Department totaling \$5014.57, including shipping. Motion carried.

Bahrmans Farm Landfill Bill (10h.): Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve Attorney Koch pursuing legal recourse against Bahrmans Farm LLC. Discussion ensued regarding the lowest cost to pursue the legal action. Motion carried.

Statewide Chief Conference (10i.): Motion by Adams, supported by Roberts, to approve sending Chief Warchock to Chief School. Chief Warchock gave a brief explanation regarding the conference. Motion carried.

Supervisor Minelli congratulated Fire Chief Don Hutchens for being the 2014 Firefighter of the year. He thanked Chief Hutchens and all the Firefighters for their years of service.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2015 Projects (11a.): Supervisor Minelli the Board Members to construct a list of projects that need to be done in 2015.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

Public Comment: Donna Adams requested that the stone wall at the Peter Nordeen Park be fixed. Pat Anderegg stated that a home invasion in 2006 was not handled properly by the Police Department. She does not want to go to the new Police Chief regarding the situation, because it happened so long ago. She also stated that on December 14, 2014, no police were on duty. She would like the Board to deal with this problem. She would like the problem with the shooting by her house dealt with. Lynn Rodgers was in contact with the insurance company regarding the KI Sawyer Community Center and the collapsed building by the Police Department. She still needs quotes for both of them. The collapsed building needs to be constructed this year in order to receive the most benefits. The Board discussed, at length, different ways to construct the building and different locations. Mrs. Rodgers also commented on the Library fund transfer of monies for the move of the Assessing and Zoning office. She has heard from residents that they are upset regarding the Township Board not giving money to the Library Relocation Project. She wanted to clarify to the residents and Board that a significant amount of money from the General Operating Fund has been used for the Project. The township has transferred over \$359,000 since the Library Millage began. The library fund balance has grown over \$299,000 in the same time period, while still putting \$119,000 towards their capital project. She is excited about the project, but is concerned about the image that is being portrayed to the public. Library President Adams clarified that all the money that has been transferred from the General Operating Fund has not gone to the relocation project. Some has been used for day to day operations. She stated that the \$50,000 per year that has been transferred from the General Operating Fund, along with the money that is regularly given through the Operation Millage, is needed to operate the new Library building. Supervisor Minelli stated as situations occur, as in the past and in the future, money has and will still continue to be offered to the Library providing there is money available. Police, Fire, and Ambulance also have to be considered. Supervisor Minelli reminded the residents that in addition to the money that has been transferred to the Library fund, the building has also been given to the project. He is also concerned about the portrayal of the Township Board to the residents, regarding funding the Library Relocation Project.

Board Member Comment: Trustee Bodenus commented on the Supreme Court not hearing the “Big Box” case. He clarified that the result could have the potential to cascade all the way down to homeowners. This could affect all of us. Clerk Nordeen reminded everyone to go skating at the KI Sawyer Community Center. Trustee Adams asked when the lettering on the EMS trailer will be completed. Clerk Nordeen stated the final approval had been received today, so it will be started as soon as possible. Trustee Adams also asked what the status of photo IDs were. Clerk Nordeen spoke to Leutz sign, but will revisit the issue with him this week. Supervisor Minelli stated he spoke with the Police Department and they can do the basic IDs. Supervisor Minelli requested that Chief Warchock have the materials ordered and start the process of creating IDs for all township personnel.

Adjournment: Supervisor Minelli adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Filizetti
Clerk/Secretary

Jane Nordeen
Forsyth Township Clerk