

**Forsyth Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Gwinn Community Center  
February 26, 2015**

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

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

**Board Members Absent:** Treasurer Roberts, excused.

**Also Present:** UPEA Representatives Carr Baldwin and Matt Treado, Assessor Henry DeGroot, Library Board President Donna Adams, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Fire Chief Greg Orchard, Police Chief Gordon Warchock, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the Minutes for January 22, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the Minutes for February 5, 2015 Special Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

**Agenda:** Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the agenda with the following changes: delete **10m. Easement Survey** and add **10n. 2 EMTs**. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** A resident read a letter regarding pesticide use and how it is impacting the Monarch Butterflies and Bees. She would like Forsyth Township to be "Pollinator Friendly" by not using glyphosphate or neonicotinoids. She is a registered nurse and stated that pesticides are the number one cause of blood cancers. She would like to organize a group of volunteers to create "Pollinator Friendly" gardens and educate residents. Supervisor Minelli stated he would set up an appointment for the Public Works Superintendent and her to meet to discuss any pesticides that are being used and to set up any projects. Carr Baldwin stated he was a hobbyist Bee Keeper, and has noticed the decline in Bees. Nan St. Aubin asked if the Historical Center could be moved to a building without stairs. It is hard for the some of the elderly to accommodate the stairs. Supervisor Minelli stated they have not located a suitable building yet, but are continually looking. Pat Anderegg commented that the shooting range near her home is not legal. She stated she has been in contact with the Assessing and Zoning Office and the Chief of Police and is not satisfied with their actions. Supervisor Minelli stated he would look into the DNR law that she referenced. Library Board President Donna Adams thanked all who participated in the Library benefit.

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

Trustee Adams suggested a meeting with the Fire Department for needed equipment and options for acquiring such equipment. Supervisor Minelli explained that he has spoken with the Fire Chief and they have set up a 20 year rotation schedule for fire truck replacements. 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Fire Chief Greg Orchard and Clerk Nordeen explained that in order for the Fire Department to get quotes for the trucks,

they must have approval from the Board to move forward with the process. They have looked into other options for acquiring the equipment. Trustee Adams questioned the outstanding Zoning Violation and suggested taking legal action.

**Attorney's Report:** Attorney Koch was excused from the meeting but has submitted a report to the Board.

**Approval of Bills & Vouchers:** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Bodenus, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling, \$124,914.23, as presented. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Township  
Bills For Approval  
2/26/15**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Airgas	PW Gases & Cylinder Rental	186.03
Aramark	Carpet and Uniform Service	1,153.04
Auto Value	Parts for Various Departments	3,430.30
Bear Auto	PD Towing	200.00
Beauchamp Plumbing & Heating	Clubhouse Repair	79.39
City of Marquette	Bacteriological Analysis	100.00
Compudyne	Computer Support & Software	820.00
Dalco	Supplies for Clubhouse & KISCC	327.49
Elcom Systems	PD Service Agreement	77.00
Emblem Enterprises	PD Uniforms and Supplies	605.85
Emergency Medical Products	Ambulance Supplies	450.14
Fred Pryor Seminars	OSHA Compliance Training	179.00
Galls	PD Uniforms and Supplies	1,187.73
Harris	Flexibill Support	2,683.23
Home Team Sports & Apparel	Basket Ball Rims	2,071.75
Hydro Gate	Sewer System Parts	15,585.00
Jackson-Hirsh Inc	Ambulance Supplies	48.81
Johnson's Printing	PD Stationary	129.07
Kevin Koch PC	Attorney Fees	2,128.50
Leutz's Sign	EMS Trailer Lettering	765.00
Lowe's	PD Remodeling Supplies	606.19
Marquette County Clerks Assoc.	Annual Dues	20.00
Marquette County Conservation District	Tree Marking	38.79
Menards	Supplies for Various Depts	1,831.00
Michigan DEQ	Groundwater Annual Permit	1,500.00
Midwest Security	Monitoring	186.00
MWEA	Dues	65.00

Nortrax	Jack Hammer Parts	161.05
Nye Uniform	PD Uniforms and Supplies	653.70
Pacific Telemanagement	Pay Phone	50.00
Pomasl Fire Equipment	Ambulance and Fire Truck Parts	994.39
Pomps	PD Tire	121.79
Post Master	Postage	82.57
Quill	Supplies for Various Depts	1,215.98
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig Calls & FD Battery	98.66
Randy Heidtman	Senior Plowing	40.00
Remy Battery	Batteries for PD and Backhoe	266.99
Roger Hiironen	Senior Plowing	50.00
Salisbury Industries	PD Lockers	4,882.20
Sim Supply Inc	FD & EMS Bldg Supplies	76.99
The Mining Journal	Publishing	115.00
The Office Planning Group	Assessing Copier Contract	249.81
UP Health System	Employee Physicals & Ambulance Supplies	936.08
		<b>46,263.49</b>

**Forsyth Township  
Additional Bills For Approval  
2/26/15**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Ace Hardware	Supplies for Various Depts	783.09
Arrow International LLC	Ambulance Supplies	470.18
Emergency Medical Products	Ambulance Supplies	69.95
Galls	PD Uniforms	155.62
Holiday 50 Minute Cleaners	PD Dry cleaning	121.99
Hydro Gate	Sewer System Parts	(15,585.00)
Jamar Company	Sewer System Parts	17,143.00
Joyce Styer	Senior Center Cake	25.00
Lancour Building & Excavating	PD Remodel	23,858.24
Leutz Sign	PD Patrol Vehicle Lettering	225.00
Mike's Auto	PD Patrol Vehicle Repair	4,915.77
Michigan Township Assoc	BOR Training	99.00
Nip & Tuck	PD Uniform Alterations	62.00
Pomasl	FD Radio Supplies	95.27
Quill	Office Supplies for Various Depts	21.06
Remy Battery	PW Truck Batter	175.99
Snyder Drug	Supplies for Various Depts	114.73

Standard Electric Company	Streetlight Repair	243.22
The Stitch Witch	PD Uniform Repair	75.00
UPEA	Engineer for Various Projects	45,491.63
Winston Benz	Plowing	90.00
		<hr/>
		<b>78,650.74</b>
	<b>Original Bill Listing</b>	<b>46,263.49</b>
	<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>124,914.23</b>

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 67950-68149  
Voucher Numbers for Tax 1557-1563

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Dust Control (10a.):** Motion by Adams, supported by Bodenus, to approve the Marquette County Road Commission Dust Control with the addition of 75 S. Iron Pin Trail. Discussion ensued. There was a letter written by the resident at 75 S. Iron Pin Trail requesting dust control. Motion amended by Adams, supported amended by Bodenus, to approve the Marquette County Road Commission Dust Control with the addition of Iron Pin Trail up to the power line. Motion carried.

**Office Heating (10b.):** Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the quote form Beauchamp Plumbing & Heating for \$2,500.00, to add baseboard radiation to the office. Motion carried.

**KISCC Boiler Pump Upgrade (10c.):** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Adams, to approve the quote from Beauchamp Plumbing & Heating to upgrade the boiler pump at the KI Sawyer Community Center for \$1,000.00 after the name is changed. Motion carried.

**Ambulance Write-Offs (10d.):** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Adams, to approve the Ambulance Write-Offs, as presented. Motion carried.

**Fire Dept – 4<sup>th</sup> of July (10e.):** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Bodenus, to approve paying for insurance and bonding for the Fire Department for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Motion carried.

**Fire Dept – Fire Truck (10f.):** Motion by Bodenus, supported by Nordeen, to approve proceeding with the fire truck purchase process. Discussion ensued. Trustee Bodenus explained that in order to get quotes, the manufacturers were insistent on having Board approval before moving forward. 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Fire Chief Greg Orchard explained there were no costs required in quoting. He also explained the importance of this truck, not only to the residents of Forsyth Township, but also the residents of neighboring communities when mutual aid is needed. He also explained the strict specifications a truck must have to function in our communities. It must fit down unpaved roads with sharp corners and many obstacles. In a fire that occurred near one of the area lakes, our tanker was the only tanker in the area that could get to the location. The road conditions would not allow other tankers to reach the fire. Motion carried.

**Police Dept – Purchase ID Maker (10g.):** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Adams, to approve purchasing an ID maker. Motion carried.

**Zoning Violation (10h.):** Motion by Adams, to begin legal proceedings to find out if this is a business established in Forsyth Township without going through the proper reviews. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Minelli asked Assessor DeGroot if he had verified that this property was in violation. Assessor DeGroot confirmed, according to his interpretation of the Ordinance, this is a business operating without a permit. Trustee Bodenus stated that the office is located in Sands Township, and is operating at that location. He questioned if the area in Gwinn was used just for storage. Clerk Nordeen also stated that the office is operating in Sands Township. Assessor DeGroot has made attempts to contact the business regarding the propane tanks and trucks located at the property but has had no response. Trustee Adams reiterated that according to the Zoning Administrator, in accordance to the Ordinance, there is a violation. Supervisor Minelli requested that Assessor DeGroot check with Sands Township to see if the tanks stored in Forsyth Township can be moved to Sands Township. Motion failed.

**FOIA Policy (10i.):** Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) policy, as presented. Supervisor Minelli thanked the staff for putting the policy together. Motion carried.

**Engineering Contract for Sewer Project (10j.):** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Bodenus, to approve the engineering fees for the Sewer Project. Motion carried.

**Hire Full Time Police Officer (10k.):** Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve Chief Warchock hiring Officer Gill as a full time police officer. Discussion ensued. Chief Warchock explained a full time officer is needed to cover the demands of the 12 hour shifts. Motion carried.

**Refrigerator for KISCC (10l.):** Motion by Adams, supported by Bodenus, to approve purchasing a refrigerator for the KI Sawyer Community Center. Clerk Nordeen explained the Health Department is requiring the Center to have a dependable refrigerator to serve meals. Currently the YMCA is providing snacks, which do need refrigeration. Motion carried.

**Easement Survey (10m.):** Deleted

**2 EMTs (10n.):** Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve hiring 2 EMTs, Emma and Kyle. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Ball Field Well (11a.):** UPEA has been looking into the need for an auxiliary well. There are two options. The first is to put in a new well. The second is to install a new pump at the Kidder Shaft. Supervisor Minelli instructed UPEA Representative Carr Baldwin to draw-up a proposal and for Bookkeeper Lynn Rodgers to research the fund availability for both options. Trustee Bodenus, Trustee Adams, and Supervisor Minelli voiced their approval for a new well and generator.

**Budget Workshop (11b.):** Supervisor Minelli asked the Board to consider a date for the Budget Workshop. The Workshop will be held on March 14, 2015 at 10:00 in the Clubhouse, providing it is available.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Negotiation Letter (13a.):** Supervisor Minelli notified the Board that a letter had been sent to the Steelworkers Union Representative requesting to open negotiations. The current contract end is August 31, 2015. He asked the Board to consider candidates for the negotiation team.

**Public Comment:** Pat Anderegg stated the Shooting Range located by her home must have a permit to operate a business. She believes it is in violation. A resident commented that a fence by his house is very high. Assessor DeGroot has been in contact with the owner of the fence. Supervisor Minelli will follow up with Assessor DeGroot. The resident also wanted to comment on the numbering system on North River Drive and Fralick Heights. The numbering does not make sense. Another resident stated his property is addressed as North River Drive, however the property is on Carpenter Lane. He would like to work with the Water Project laborers to possibly correct the water that collects in his area every spring. He would also like to hook into the water system. One of his neighbors would also like to be hooked up to the water system. Supervisor Minelli advised him to talk to UPEA Representatives after the meeting to weigh his options.

**Board Member Comment:** Trustee Bodenus announced that the benefit for one of our residents was a very good event. He is very proud of the community for all the support. Supervisor Minelli commented that both the benefits held that weekend were well received. Clerk Nordeen thanked the Board for the Refrigerator purchased for the KI Sawyer Community Center. Trustee Adams stated he received an employee handbook for the Senior Center. It was very well developed. He thanked Senior Citizen Director Brian Veale for constructing the handbook. Supervisor Minelli stated the handbook needed to be reviewed. He then thanked the residents for attending the meeting and asked for input on which place the public would rather see the Board Meetings.

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Minelli adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Filizetti  
Clerk/Secretary

Jane Nordeen  
Forsyth Township Clerk