

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
American Legion Post 349
June 25, 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, UPEA Representatives Carr Baldwin and Matt Treado, Assessor Henry DeGroot, Chief Gordon Warchock, Superintendent of Public Works Eric Jancsi, Assistant Fire Chief Jason Stansky, Senior Director Brian Veale, ACTIVE Member Steve Rehn, ACTIVE Member Rich Johnson, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Roberts, supported by Adams, to approve the Minutes for May 28, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts, to approve the agenda with the additions of **10q. FOIA Fee Schedule, 11b. Assessing/Zoning Position and 11c. Museum.** Motion carried.

Public Comment: A resident commented on the “Big Box Stores” tax issues. They have started a movement called “BRITE” (Businesses Recognizing the Importance of Tax Equality) Stores. She asked the residents and Board to go into the local stores with the “BRITE” signs. Chief Warchock commended Police Secretary Julie Day, Corporal Brian Kjellin and Sergeant Adam LaFave for their hard work passing the Police Departments. first LIEN audit. Public Works Lead Man Recreation and Building & Grounds Leonard Fowler showed the Board pictures of the mess at the transfer station that Public Works has to clean up daily. In 11 days, there was 676 pounds of trash dropped off. These were not recycling items. The cameras are up and running. Library Board President Donna Adams thanked everyone who attended the Library Open House. It was a great success.

Department Reports: Police Chief Warchock informed the Board of how the ACTIVE program started in 1998. He further explained that it is a group of volunteers making the community a better and safer place to live. The ACTIVE members frequently put their lives at stake and make the Police Department’s job easier. Members Steve Rehn, Rich Johnson, and Dave Sherwin are an important part of our community. Corporal Brian Kjellin presented Steve Rehn and Rich Johnson with 15 year certificates along with award pins. Dave Sherwin was also a recipient, but could not be at the meeting due to prior obligations at the Marquette County Sheriff’s Department. Trustee Adams commented on a letter written by Corporal Kjellin regarding a lifesaving rescue that happened with the help of ACTIVE member Gaylord Hamm and Officer Jesse Cadwell. Mr. Hamm went above and beyond to make this rescue a success. Trustee Adams stated that the Assessing and Zoning Office is in need of a back door as part of their security needs. The cameras are functioning at the Transfer Station. There has already been excellent feed on the cameras. 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, Public Works, KI Sawyer Community Center, and Parks Committee.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Koch stated that the tax appeal with Superior Extrusion Incorporated was set for pretrial, which will be done by phone on July 14th. He explained that there was a new appraisal submitted after the pretrial statement was complete, which he opposed. He has contracted Sharon Frischman to perform a critique on the appraisal, as she has performed on the previous two appraisals. He is filing a motion for substituted service on the Vincent/Dunklee violation, as Mr. Dunklee has been avoiding service. There has been no progress with correcting the violation. Vincent is being served in Sault Ste. Marie. Mr. Morrison has not responded to the last two letters, which were written after the most recent inspection. US Supreme Court made a decision on signs. Our Ordinance may have to be amended. Supervisor Minelli asked Assessor DeGroot about the recent inspection of the Morrison fence. Per Assessor DeGroot, the inspection was within the current month, and the violation still stands.

Motion by Adams, supported by Roberts, to take the next step with the Morrison zoning violation. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling, \$80,758.46, as presented. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
6/25/15**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Airgas	PW Gases & Cylinder Rental	184.75
American Welding	EMS Gases & Cylinder Rental	37.86
Aramark	Carpet and Uniform Service	1,413.64
Auto Value	Parts for Various Departments	893.45
City of Marquette	Bacteriological Analysis	160.00
Compudyne	Computer Support & Software	193.75
Cooper Office Equipment	Senior Center Copier	329.42
Crossroads Truck Repair	Air Bag for G-Truck	338.71
Dalco	Tourist Park Supplies	101.82
Derick Johnson	Library Block Work	150.00
Duquaine Inc	PW Timer	60.00
Elcom Systems	PD Service Agreement	77.00
Emergency Medical Products	Ambulance Supplies	675.45
Froberg's Clothing	PW and Senior Center Boots	200.00
Galls	PD Uniforms	419.24
JF Ahern	Fire Extinguisher	1,484.13
Joe & Son's Service	PW Pallets and Tire Repair	34.45
Johnson's Printing	PD & PW forms	244.72
Kevin Koch PC	Attorney Fees	3,395.07

Menards	Supplies for Various Depts	571.46
Michigan Sales & Equipment	PW Air Filter	6.16
Michigan State Police	PD Token	330.00
Nagelkirk's	Flowers for Beautification	856.31
North Country Septic	Portable Restrooms	190.00
Nye Uniform	PD Uniforms	5,887.68
Pacific Telemanagement	Pay Phone	50.00
Pitney Bowes	Postage Machine Supplies	169.97
Pomasl	FD Supplies	1,144.84
Quill	Supplies for Various Depts	317.92
Range	Miss Dig	18.50
Roy's Grading	Ball Diamond Grating	150.00
Sun Badge Co.	PD Badges	92.75
The Mining Journal	Publishing & Subscription Renewal	1,461.51
The Office Planning Group	Copier Maintenance	524.89
UP Health System	PD & Ambulance Supplies	147.22
UPEA	Engineering	1,474.19
UPSET	Pass through for KBIC Donation	15,295.32
US Postal Service	Box Renewal	114.00
Window Store	KISCC Window Repair	265.30
White Water Associates	Water Analysis	300.00
Wright Electric	GFI Weatherproofing for Campground	192.00
		39,953.48

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
6/25/15**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Ace Hardware	Supplies for Various Depts	1,573.98
Bergdahl's	Trimmer and Line	307.80
Carquest	Dump Truck Parts	22.99
CMP Distributors	PD Uniforms and Equipment	1,120.50
Congressman Dan Benishek's	Flags	581.95
Holiday 50 Minute Cleaners	PD Dry-cleaning	60.22
J T Motor Sport Inc	PW Shop Supplies	35.00
Jamar	Lift Station Valves	17,159.00
Johnson's Printing	PD Envelopes	74.09
Jerry's Small Engine Supply	PW Mower Parts	65.27
Joyce Styer	Birthday Cake	25.00
Marquette County	Permit to Move Clubhouse Garage	204.00

Menards	Supplies for Various Depts	620.39
Michigan Sales & Equipment	PW Air Filter	-6.16
Pomasl	FD Bunker Gear	8,167.84
Quill	Office Supplies for Various Depts	55.11
Smith Construction	Library Paving	10,650.00
US Postal Service	Senior Center Postage Permit	88.00
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		40,804.98
Original Bill Listing		39,953.48
Total Accounts Payable		80,758.46

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 68774-69002
Voucher Numbers for Tax

ACTION ITEMS:

Fire Dept – Band for 3rd of July (10a.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Bodenus, to approve paying \$500.00 to the band for the 3rd of July. Motion carried.

Fire Dept – Stay Back Pay (10b.): Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve stay back pay for 5 firefighters for July 23rd and 24th at \$75.00 per day. Motion carried.

Fire Dept – Training Funds (10c.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Bodenus, to approve training money for Fireman’s Tournament, totaling \$2,000.00. Assistant Fire Chief Stansky explained the training involved for the tournament. Motion carried.

Fire Bill (10d.): Supervisor Minelli explained that a resident wrote a letter requesting a fire bill be forgiven. No action taken.

MTA Professional Development Retreat (10e.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts, to approve the attendance of any Board Members at the MTA Professional Development Retreats in September. Motion carried.

Purchase Forklift (10f.): Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve purchasing a forklift truck from Earth Sense Energy Systems, if Eric sees fit, for \$2,500.00. Discussion ensued. Superintendent Jancsi stated he did not have time to inspect the forklift. Supervisor Minelli instructed him to make a decision within one week so that Mr. D’Ambrosio can find other candidates for the sale. Motion carried.

MCSWMA Recycling Agreement (10g.): Motion by Adams, supported by Roberts, to approve the Recycling Agreement from Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority as presented. Motion carried.

Employee Vacation Time Carry Over (10h.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts, to approve Leonard Fowler carrying over his vacation leave until the end of July 2015. Motion carried.

USDA – ADA Compliance (10i.): Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the bid from LaCourt Building for \$7,884.00 to comply with the USDA loan requirements to meet ADA building requirements. Discussion ensued. UPEA Representative Matt Treado explained the new requirements which entail completing the construction project prior to being eligible for the loan. Motion carried.

Increased quote for KI Sawyer Community Center (10j.): Motion by Bodenus, supported by Adams, to approve increasing the cost for window repairs/replacement to the KI Sawyer Community Center for additional \$213.32. Clerk Nordeen explained that the original quote was for repair. She found out that replacing would be more economical, as the cost would be minimally higher. Motion carried.

Police Dept – PBT Fees (10k.): Motion by Bodenus, supported by Nordeen, to approve increasing the PBT fees to \$5.00 per day or \$21.00 per week. Chief Warchock explained that other law enforcement offices are currently using the \$5.00 fee. He stated if the clients pay for a week in advance, it would remain at \$3.00 per day, but if paid daily it should be raised to the \$5.00 fee. Motion carried.

DNR GEMS Signs (10l.): Motion by Bodenus, supported by Nordeen, to approve allowing the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) to use GEMS (Grouse Enhanced Management System) light post signs. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Minelli explained that the signs promote Grouse hunting. Trustee Bodenus stated that we currently have a management area in our community. Motion carried.

Assessing/Zoning – Purchase GIS Layer (10m.): Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve purchasing a GIS parcel layer from County Equalization for \$650.00 for the Assessing and Zoning Office. Motion carried.

Assessing/Zoning – Security (10n.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts, to approve installing a panic button from Midwest Security in the Assessing and Zoning Office. Discussion ensued. Trustee Adams reiterated the need for a back door. There was no estimate provided. Motion amended by Nordeen, support amended by Roberts, to approve installing a panic button from Midwest Security not to exceed \$500.00. Motion carried.

Assessing/Zoning – Rezone Parcels (10o.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Adams, to approve rezoning 7 parcels, 52-05-266-037-00, 52-05-266-038-00, 52-05-266-039-00, 52-05-266-040-00, 52-05-266-041-00, 52-05-266-013-00, and 52-05-266-019-00, located at KI Sawyer to Industrial-1. Discussion ensued. The County, Planning Commission, and Assessing and Zoning staff all recommend the rezoning. It would expand options for business development. Motion carried.

Amend Sewer Ordinance (10p.): Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve Sewer Resolution S-02-215 amending the Sewer Ordinance, as presented. Discussion ensued. UPEA representative Matt Treado explained the amendment. Supervisor Minelli clarified that this resolution was not needed for funding and could be adopted at a later date. Roll call: Roberts – aye, Nordeen – nay, Adams – nay, Bodenus – aye, Minelli – nay. Motion failed.

FOIA Fee Schedule (10q.): Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts, to approve the FOIA Fee Schedule as presented. Discussion ensued. The increment for copying labor will be changed to 15 minute increments at \$2.50 each, per recommendation from several training classes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Fences (11a.): Trustee Adams stated the fences on Pine Street need mending and painting. Supervisor Minelli stated we need to find a temporary employee to work on them.

Assessing/Zoning Position (11b.): Supervisor Minelli explained that there was a vacancy due to an employee leaving. It was the Board consensus to re-advertise for the position. This should be done as soon as possible.

Museum (11c.): The research has been done and paying for the utilities for the Museum is a legal expenditure. Supervisor Minelli explained the utilities would be between \$6,000 and \$8,000. Rick Wills stated that the Museum Board would like to move to the old Library Position. Mr. Wills would like a Letter of Understanding. It was the consensus of the Board to have Attorney Koch draw up a Letter of Understanding for the Museum. Attorney Koch explained it would not commit future Boards, as monetary circumstances may change.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

Public Comment: A resident commented on the river walk located by Spruce Street. It is in bad shape, and is actually dangerous to walk. She would like extra police patrols and signs put up to deter 4 wheelers and dirt bikes from further ruining the walk. Superintendent Jancsi will start working on the project right away. Rick Wills thanked the Board for their support of the Museum move. Doug Beauchamp questioned the Board on the Sewer and Water extensions. Supervisor Minelli explained that it will not be going to the M553 and M35 corner. Mr. Beauchamp also questioned the lack of street lights. Chief Warchock suggested possibly using community service participants for painting the fences. Pam Withrow, Librarian, thanked Forsyth Township for the support of the new Library. Supervisor Minelli thanked all our employees and volunteers for their services.

Board Member Comment: Trustee Bodenus commented on an upcoming bill that would affect township speed limits. The bill will take townships out of the decision making for speed limits. Clerk Nordeen thanked the employees for helping her out at KI Sawyer Community Center. Trustee Adams commented on lower bids for the water project so we can reconsider the Sewer Ordinance amendment. Treasurer Roberts thanked the employees and volunteers. Supervisor Minelli would like lower bids for lower rates for the water and sewer utilities.

Adjournment: Supervisor Minelli adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Filizetti
Clerk/Secretary

Jane Nordeen
Forsyth Township Clerk