

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

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

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

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Attorney Kevin Koch, UPEA Representatives Matt Treado and Carr Baldwin, USW Union Staff Representative Chris Haddock, Assistant Fire Chief Greg Orchard, Police Chief Gordon Warchock, Superintendent of Public Works Eric Jancsi, Assessor Henry DeGroot, Assessing Officer/Zoning Administrator Rebecca Stachewicz, Historical Society Member Rick Wills, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve the Minutes for September 24, 2015 Regular Board Meeting, October 5, 2015 and October 12, 2015 Special Board Meetings, as presented. Motion carried.

**Agenda:** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Roberts, to approve the agenda with the additions of **10i. Tree Wrap, 10j. USW Union Contract, 10k. 300' of Blacktop at Seass Drive and 11b. Pending Speed Limit Legislation.** Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Pat Johnson thanked Adam Jacobson for doing such a nice job on the Boulevard. It also makes it much safer. Carl Bryzek asked why we needed another fire truck. The trucks look new. There was a 0% increase for social security which makes it harder for the people on social security to pay for the 13% increase in the water rates. He may put in his own well and bypass the entire water system. Pat Anderegg stated she was paying double for her water bill, as she has a business at her home. How will meters work in that case? UPEA Representative Matt Treado explained that if the space is one legal place, as in one parcel number, it will have one meter. If it is two legal spaces, it will have two bills. He would be happy to look at her specific situation and talk with her later. She then stated the boulevard looks nice, but asked who owned it. Supervisor Minelli stated that MDOT owns the Boulevard, but we maintain it. She questioned how much of our taxes are going for all the upgrades. He believes the money for the timber harvest should be used for the boulevard. Mrs. Anderegg stated she thought the timber harvest was being put back into the timber property.

**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: KI Sawyer Community Center and Parks Committee.

Trustee Adams asked Superintendent Jancsi if the trees that were voted on earlier in the year were planted. Superintendent Jancsi stated that Adam Jacobson informed him that those particular trees were not available, but he would honor his bid next year.

**Attorney's Report:** Attorney Koch stated there was a pretrial scheduled for the Dunklee/Vincent violation. There has been no response from Mr. Morrison regarding his violation. Attorney Koch will schedule a pretrial. He explained that he had been in contact with Rick Wills regarding the Memorandum of Understanding for the Historical Society relocation. They would like the Board to be more precise with regards to the other items in the Memorandum of Understanding. They would like it officially stated in the Forsyth Township Board Meeting Minutes.

**Motion by Adams, supported by Roberts, to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Forsyth Township Historical Society Museum, as presented, which includes the 25 year period.  
Motion carried.**

Supervisor Minelli instructed Secretary Filizetti to amend the date on the agreement to reflect today's date.

UPEA Representative Matt Treado explained that the Water and Sewer Project loan closed today. The interest rates came in lower than projected. The water rate was 2.0% and the sewer rate was 2.625%. They will be rerunning the budget analysis and present it to the Board for possible rate modification and solutions to some of the other issues addressed at the previous water meetings. He will also set up a meeting with the employees to update them on the project.

**Approval of Bills & Vouchers:** Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$123,102.82, as presented. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Township  
Bills For Approval  
10/22/15**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Airgas	PW Gases & Cylinder Rental	44.90
American Welding & Gas	EMS Gases & Cylinder Rental	316.93
Anderson Communications	FD Batteries	460.00
Aramark	Carpet and Uniform Service	1,509.30
Auto Value	Parts for Various Departments	663.97
Apex Software	Assessing/Zoning Sketching Software	470.00
Champion Glass & Countertops	KISCC Door Accessories	1,973.60
City of Marquette	Bacteriological Analysis	80.00
Compudyne	Computer Support	1,061.50
Digital Highway	PD Computer Components	1,062.60
Drug Screen Plus	Drug Screening	48.00
Elcom Systems	PD Service Agreement	77.00
Emergency Medical Products	EMS/PW Supplies	313.30
Emergency Vehicle Services	PD Coolant Sensor	61.28
Fox Negaunee	Ambulance Repairs	19.00

Fraco	PW Cold Storage Bldg Concrete	5,094.09
Galls	PD Equipment	947.87
Kevin Koch PC	Attorney Fees	6,629.17
KI Sawyer Heritage Air Museum	Room Rental for Board Meeting	75.00
Marquette County Road Commission	Install Signs	124.82
Menards	Supplies for Various Depts	2,017.28
Michigan Association of Chiefs	PD Advertising	50.00
Midway Rentals	PW Bldg Materials	462.98
Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone	Professional Services Water/Sewer Project	54,300.00
North Country Septic	Portable Restrooms	190.00
Pacific Telemanagement	Pay Phone	50.00
Pitney Bowes	Postage Machine Agreement	554.50
Pomasl	FD & EMS Supplies	1,868.78
Quill	Supplies for Various Depts	453.94
R&R Fire Truck Repair	FD Uniforms and Equipment	4,493.33
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig Calls	59.80
Sirchie	PD Supplies	128.15
Snyder Drug	Supplies for Various Depts	51.80
Standard Electric Co.	Streetlight Supplies	188.10
State of Michigan	Post-Filing Fees for Water/Sewer Project	1,460.00
Superior Lock	PD Keypad Repair	123.00
The Mining Journal	Publishing	104.40
US Postal Service	Box Renewal	46.00
UPEA	Engineering Services	168.00
UP Health System	Ambulance Supplies	80.71
US Target Inc	PD Ammunition	91.93
		<b>87,975.03</b>

**Forsyth Township  
Additional Bills For Approval  
10/22/15**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Ace Hardware	Supplies for Various Depts	21,326.04
Cannon Financial	Office Copier Lease	293.96
City of Marquette	Bacteriological Analysis	80.00
Dalco	Clubhouse & KISCC Supplies	396.33
Emergency Medical Products	Ambulance Supplies	79.00
Galls	PD Uniforms	366.63

Harris	PACE Certification	60.00
Holiday 50 Minute Cleaners	PD Dry-cleaning	171.73
Joyce Styer	Senior Center Birthday Cake	25.00
Marquette General Health System	EMT Courses	5,000.00
Michigan State University	Land Division Training	55.00
Nye Uniform	PD Uniforms	166.96
Quill	Office Supplies	879.81
RG Custom Masonry	PW New Building	5,450.00
State of Michigan	PD SOR Registration	30.00
The Stitch Witch LLC	PD Uniform Alteration	101.00
UPEA	Well Study	561.15
US Postal Service	Senior Center Newsletter Postage	85.18
		<b>35,127.79</b>
	<b>Original Bill Listing</b>	<b>87,975.03</b>
	<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>123,102.82</b>

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 69810-70043  
Voucher Numbers for Tax 1593-1600

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Cold Storage Building Bid Opening (10a.):** Supervisor Minelli asked Superintendent Jancsi how many bids were requested. Superintendent Jancsi explained he had contacted four different people. Supervisor Minelli state we had received only one bid. He opened the bid from Brian Jacobson for \$16,200.00. He explained it was for labor only. Superintendent Jancsi responded with a rough estimate of \$30,000.00 for materials.

Motion by Bodenus, supported by Adams, to approve the bid from Brian Jacobson for \$16,200 to construct the new cold storage building for the Public Works Department, labor only. Discussion ensued. Attorney Koch will draw up a contract with a 60 day completion date. Motion carried.

**Employee Health Insurance (10b.):** Supervisor Minelli stated there was an issue with an employee regarding the health insurance. He also referenced a letter from Attorney Koch. Trustee Adams stated he needed more information before he could make a decision on this subject. Attorney Koch explained that, if the Board chose to take action with his recommendation, it would only delay the decision, not the accrument. Motion by Adams, supported by Roberts, to table for clarification of language between the Union and Management. Motion carried.

He then asked USW Union Staff Representative Chris Haddock if he and the Board could get together to come up with some language that is appropriate. Mr. Haddock responded, Supervisor Minelli could put something together and Mr. Haddock would take a look at it.

**Fire Dept – Purchase Uniforms (10c.):** Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve purchasing Wildland boots, hoods, and Wildland suits for \$17,500.00, to come out of the AFG Grant funds with the Township portion being \$900.00. Motion carried.

**Fire Dept – Remove Fire Fighters (10d.):** Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve removing Fire Fighters Matt Herman and Tamra Eplett, due to lack of attendance. Motion carried.

**Assessing/Zoning Rezone Parcels (10e.):** Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve rezoning four (4) former Tailwinds parcels (52-05-101-026-00, 52-05-101-024-00, 52-05-101-025-00, 52-05-266-015-00) from C-2 to I-1. Assessor Stachewicz explained the change would make the property less restrictive. She also gave a brief description of the businesses associated with the I-1 zoning. Motion carried.

**Police Dept – Hire Two Full Time Police Officers (10f.):** Motion by Bodenus, supported by Nordeen, to approve hiring Kurt Martens and Trevor Boudreau as full time police officers. Police Chief Warchock explained that there were 8 candidates. All candidates were quite impressive. The committee unanimously selected Martens and Boudreau. He then went on to inform the Board on each Officer's experience. Motion carried.

**Police Dept – Hire Rate of Full Timer Officer (10g.):** Motion by Nordeen, supported by Adams, to approve starting pay for Kurt Martens at the two year pay rate, due to extensive experience. Motion carried.

**Budget Adjustments (10h.):** Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen, to approve the budget adjustments as presented. Bookkeeper Rodgers gave a brief description of the adjustments, along with the reasons for the adjustments. Motion carried.

**Tree Wrap (10i.):** Supervisor Minelli explained the reasoning for the wrapping process. Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the tree wrapping estimate from A Jacobson Landscaping. Motion carried. Supervisor Minelli suggested that Superintendent Jancsi take pictures to see if the wrapping makes a difference.

**USW Union Contract (10j.):** Supervisor Minelli stated that there have been meetings between the USW Union and the Board. He then stated that USW Representative Chris Haddock said he would give the Board an answer at this meeting. Motion by Nordeen, supported by Minelli, to approve the Union make a presentation. Motion carried. Mr. Haddock introduced himself as the Staff Representative for the United Steelworkers representing the Local 3135-3. He then went on to state that the Union Negotiators and the Board had met several times. The Union Members had voted on the final offer made by the Board, which was unanimously voted down. He then asked the Board for additional dates. Supervisor Minelli asked the Board if they would like to continue with negotiations, or move on to the next phase. He then asked Mr. Haddock if he had a counter proposal for the Board. Mr. Haddock stated he did not have one at this time, but could have one if another meeting was schedule. Dates and times were discussed.

Motion by Minelli, supported by Adams, to meet one more time, Monday October 26, 2015 at the Emergency Services Building at 6:00 pm. Motion carried.

**300' of Blacktop at Seass Drive (10k.):** Supervisor informed the Board that the bridge on Seas Drive was being replaced. He requested a quote from Marquette County Road Commission to blacktop an additional 500 feet portion of the road. He received a quote for 500 feet totaling \$25,000 and 300 feet totaling \$15,000. He then asked the Board for a motion to extend the road 300 feet. No motion was made, therefore no action was taken.

***Supervisor Minelli called for a short break at 7:14 pm***

***Supervisor Minelli called the meeting back to order at 7:17 pm***

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Tahiti Vellos (11a.):** Supervisor Minelli called for Mr. Tahiti Vellos. He was not present at the meeting. No discussion was made.

**Pending Speed Limit Legislation (11b.):** Trustee Bodenus gave a brief description of a speed limit formulation change that is currently up for vote in Lansing. He explained the bill would eliminate the townships input. Please contact your State Representatives if you believe the townships should still have some say in the speed limit studies.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**Public Comment:** Carl Bryzek compared Gwinn to Detroit and advised the Union to reconsider their offer. Gwinn is not made of money, but they do spend it like it isn't theirs. He then gave his opinion on Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. The economy is going to crash. Don't get greedy. Mr. Haddock stated he would not reply to Mr. Bryzek's comments, but would make a statement that the Union refuses to go backwards. The Union Negotiating Committee has done its homework on the financial facts. Public Works Employee Daryl Johnson asked what the price was on the tree wrapping. Supervisor Minelli stated the maximum, if they did all 70 trees, was \$1,300.00. Mr. Johnson asked why not remove the trees that are going to die anyway. It would save money on the bid, plowing, and snow blowing. Police Department Secretary Julie Day stated that she has work for Forsyth Township for nearly 14 years. She stated that the employees are not trying to get rich, they are just trying to survive. With the changes to the contract, she is losing \$2.86 per hour. The new insurance saves the Township substantial money. She then asked the Board to please think about her statements. Pat Anderegg informed the Board about a safety article that was published in 2013. She stated at that time, Gwinn was a safe place to live. Now it isn't because of her neighbor. She then asked the Board why we do not have a Fire Arms Ordinance, and are we paying for the State Police and Sheriff's Departments to patrol our area? Rick Wills gave the Board a suggestion of planting trees that we may use for landscaping in the future. He then explained why the Historical Society needed clarification on the Memorandum of Understanding for the Historical Society relocation. He then thanked the Board and Attorney for the time and work they have provided on this subject.

**Board Member Comment:** Trustee Adams thanked the public for all their questions. Trustee Bodenus announced an informational meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 regarding the Dark Stores issue. Area leaders will provide information on the impact of this issue on the state. Clerk Nordeen responded to a request given to her by Trustee Adams at a previous Board Meeting, regarding attendance at the KI Sawyer Community Center after 8:00 pm. She presented her counts: October 12<sup>th</sup> had 12 people, October 13<sup>th</sup> had 17, October 14<sup>th</sup> had 35, October 15<sup>th</sup> had 42, October 16<sup>th</sup> had 35, October 17<sup>th</sup> had 60, October 19<sup>th</sup> had 25, October 20<sup>th</sup> had 30, and October 21<sup>st</sup> had 41. She reiterated that it was well used. If it closed before 9:00 pm, the children would be on the streets, not home. Crime has declined. Trustee Adams clarified that he had suggested closing both centers at 8:00 pm, for the safety of the children, particularly in the dark winter hours.

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Minelli adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Filizetti  
Clerk/Secretary

Jane Nordeen  
Forsyth Township Clerk