

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Virtual Zoom Meeting 87117872191
January 28, 2021**

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

Board Members Present:

Supervisor Boogren: Remotely from Forsyth Township, Marquette County, Michigan
Clerk Borrett: Remotely from Forsyth Township, Marquette County, Michigan
Treasurer Kevern: Remotely from Forsyth Township, Marquette County, Michigan
Trustee Bodenus: Remotely from Forsyth Township, Marquette County, Michigan
Trustee Heikkila: Remotely from Forsyth Township, Marquette County, Michigan

Board Members Absent: None

Also Present: Attorney Steven Koski Administrator of the virtual/teleconferencing meeting, Attorney Marin, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the Minutes from the December 17, 2020 and January 4, 2021 Board Meetings, as presented. Roll call: Supervisor Boogren – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Borrett, supported by Boogren, to approve the agenda, as presented. Discussion ensued. Motion amended by Borrett, support amended by Boogren, to approve the agenda with the additions of 10i. Transfer Brush Truck to Wells, 10j. USW and POAM to Sell Back or Roll Over unused Personal Leave and 11c. Support Local Businesses. Roll call: Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Heikkila - yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus - yes. Motion carried.

Public Hearing – Recreational and Medical Marihuana Facilities:

Supervisor Boogren opened the Public Hearing at 6:34 p.m.

Supervisor Boogren explained that we are currently “opted out” of Medical facilities, this does not include individual growers. We have not “opted in” to Recreational. He asked for any public comment. Attorney Koski explained the many ways to offer a public comment. County Commissioner Bill Nordeen offered his support of the facilities. He furthered his comment with support for municipal revenues and resident jobs. Eric Curtis, small business owner in many areas, offered his support and interest in opening facilities. He commented on the money that goes back to the local community. Dale Weingartner offered his support. This will not only help residents, but bring in nonresidents to support local businesses. Trustee Connie Heikkila asked where the facilities will be located within the community. Supervisor Boogren stated it will have to go through zoning. Clerk Borrett stated she had spoken to our Police Department and they offered no negative comments. Trustee Bodenus asked if zoning would look at ventilation issues and location issues. Eric Curtis commented on ventilation and stated it was a sealed environment. Commissioner Bill Nordeen stated it could be regulated through zoning. Mark Brogman from Lower Michigan is working with Eric Curtis. He commented that Class C licenses can be stacked. He also commented on zoning. Mark Abraham who is an operator of an

operation in Warren, commented on the regulation of the facilities and endorsed stacking and co-locating. These facilities could go from seed to sale.

Supervisor Boogren closed the Public Hearing at 6:51 p.m.

Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve pursuing Recreational and Medical Marihuana Facilities. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Boogren stated we should opt in so we can further the pursuit. Clerk Borrett commented on security issues and asked if that is a State or Local regulation. Supervisor Boogren commented on the research that will be needed for zoning. A committee should be formed. Motion amended by Kevern, support amended by Heikkila, to Opt In to Recreational and Medical Marihuana. Roll call: Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Heikkila - yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus - yes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Department Reports: The following reports were placed on file: Assessing, Zoning, Senior Citizens Director, Library, Police, Fire Department, General Operating Financial and Emergency Management.

Attorney’s Report: Attorney Marin stated the most recent order regarding the Manninen issue did award Attorney fees. Township Officials can inspect the property. If the issue has not been rectified, additional Attorney fees may be requested. The Horseshoe Lake Campground issue is ongoing.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Bodenus, supported by Borrett, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$62,166.65, as presented. Roll call: Trustee Bodenus – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – abstained as his company is included in the Bills and Vouchers. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
1/28/20**

Vendor	Description	Amount
808 Motorsports LLC	PW Parts	96.59
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Parts	235.95
Airgas	PW/FD Cylinder Rental and Gases	719.59
American Welding	EMS Oxygen	72.19
Auto Value	Various Dept Parts	577.91
Automotive Electric	PW Parts	249.00
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	438.84
City of Marquette	PW Water Testing	75.00
College Laundry	Various Dept Carpet/Uniform Svc	390.43
Compudyne	Computer Support & Hardware	2,348.53
Drug Screen Plus	PW Testing	234.00
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Medical Supplies	1,585.24
Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC	Attorney Fees	8,160.00

Froberg's Clothing	PW Boots	614.63
Galls	PD Uniforms	1,472.02
Harris	Forms	254.56
Holiday Cleaners	PD/EMS Uniforms	350.57
Lake Superior Community Partnership	Dues	300.00
Marin Law Firm	Attorney Fees	1,250.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	320.27
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	2,858.50
NFPA	FD Membership	175.00
North Country Disposal	PW Transfer Station Dumpsters	500.00
Northern Michigan University	PD Dues	1,200.00
Nye	PD Uniforms	14.00
Pomasl	FD Foam	425.00
Quill	Various Dept Office Supplies	626.76
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig	32.80
RMS	PW Parts	764.85
Riverside	PD Parts	878.72
Standard Electric	PW Lights	34.24
The Mining Journal	Publishing	447.01
The Office Planning Group	Office Copier	68.00
TransUnion	PD Background Checks	50.00
UPEA	Engineering	95.00
UP Lab Testing	PW Testing	105.00
US Postal Service	PD Box Renewal	94.00
Willey's Tire Shop	PD Tires	600.00
Wolverine Door Service	Emergency Services Building Repair	70.00
	TOTAL	28,784.20

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
1/28/20**

Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	218.55
BS&A	Office Software Switch	20,725.00
Canon Financial	Copier Lease	199.58
College Laundry	Carpet Service	43.25

Elcom	FD Pager	852.80
Galls	EMS Uniforms	80.84
Notary Service and Bonding Agency	Notary Change	50.90
Rich Johnson	Reimbursement for Postage	9.90
State of Michigan	Groundwater Permit	1,500.00
UPHS - Rampart	Billing	6,251.00
UPSET	Contribution	10,000.00
		39,931.82
Original Bill Listing		22,234.83
Total Accounts Payable		62,166.65

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 82908 - 83073

Voucher Numbers for Tax 1996 - 2020

ACTION ITEMS:

Budget Adjustments (10a.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Borrett, to approve the Budget Adjustments, as presented. Supervisor Boogren explained this was primarily restoring funding to the Library and Revolving funds. Roll call: Supervisor Boogren – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes, Trustee Bodenus - yes. Motion carried.

**FORSYTH TOWNSHIP
BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS
28-Jan-21**

GENERAL FUND				
Department	Department #	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue		2,886,340	2,881,385	(4,955)
Expense				
Cemetery	276	34,530	24,200	(10,330)
Fire	336	117,150	142,000	24,850
Public Works	441	131,350	154,900	23,550
Street Lighting	448	120,000	110,000	(10,000)
Transfer Station	528	62,215	64,515	2,300
Ambulance	651	150,950	160,650	9,700
Senior Center	672	229,385	211,900	(17,485)
Misc Office	895	24,800	27,800	3,000
Capital Outlay	900	236,925	216,925	(20,000)
Transfers Out	965	728,650	752,650	24,000
			Total	29,585
Beginning Fund Balance	1,702,377	4/1/20		

Estimated Revenues:	2,881,385		
Estimated Expenses:	(2,801,245)		
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	1,782,517	3/31/21	

Police			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	1,054,500	1,071,340	16,840
Expenses	1,128,620	1,145,120	16,500
Beginning Fund Balance	329,697	4/1/20	
Estimated Revenues:	1,071,340		
Estimated Expenses:	(1,145,120)		
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	255,917	3/31/21	

Clubhouse/Recreation			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	467,400	417,145	(50,255)
Expenses	605,530	488,270	(117,260)
Beginning Fund Balance	530,645	4/1/20	
Estimated Revenues:	417,145		
Estimated Expenses:	(488,270)		
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	459,520	3/31/21	

Revolving			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	70,000	76,000	6,000
Expenses	131,550	131,550	0
Beginning Fund Balance	1,082,483	4/1/20	
Estimated Revenues:	76,000		
Estimated Expenses:	(131,550)		
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	1,026,933	3/31/21	

Library			
	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	179,000	175,300	(3,700)
Expenses	185,420	166,170	(19,250)
Beginning Fund Balance	123,859	4/1/20	

Estimated Revenues:	175,300	
Estimated Expenses:	(166,170)	
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	132,989	3/31/21

Sewer	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	360,500	356,000	(4,500)
Expenses	438,175	446,875	8,700
Beginning Net Position:	970,961	4/1/20	
Estimated Revenues:	356,000		
Estimated Expenses:	(446,875)		
Estimated Ending Net Position:	880,086	3/31/21	

Water	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	648,000	618,500	(29,500)
Expenses	690,875	671,290	(19,585)
Beginning Net Position:	1,832,610	4/1/20	
Estimated Revenues:	618,500		
Estimated Expenses:	(671,290)		
Estimated Ending Net Position:	1,779,820	3/31/21	

Roads	Original/Amended	New	Difference
Revenue	326,500	329,000	2,500
Expenses	304,550	298,560	(5,990)
Beginning Fund Balance	356,702	4/1/20	
Estimated Revenues:	329,000		
Estimated Expenses:	(298,560)		
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:	387,142	3/31/21	

Water Rate Resolution (10b.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Water Rate Resolution, as presented. Roll call: Trustee Bodenus – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes. Motion carried.

Sewer Rate Resolution (10c.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the Sewer Rate Resolution, as presented. Roll call: Clerk Borrett – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes. Motion carried.

Fire Siren (10d.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Boogren, to approve purchasing a siren for the Fire Hall, not to exceed \$20,000. Supervisor Boogren explained the siren has been repaired many times, but continues to go out. The cost will come out of the contingency fund. Roll call: Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes. Motion carried.

PD – Order Patrol Vehicle (10e.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Bodenus, to approve the Police Department ordering a Patrol Vehicle. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Boogren explained the budget should be approved prior to using funds coming out of that fiscal year budget. Motion amended by Boogren, support amended by Bodenus, to hold this item until after the budget has been approved. Roll call: Trustee Bodenus – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes. Motion carried.

BSA Software (10f.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the BS&A software quote for \$2,645.00, as presented. Roll call: Clerk Borrett – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Trustee Bodenus - yes. Motion carried.

New Siren for Fire Hall (10g.): See 10d.

2 Fire Department Reservists (10h.): Motion by Bodenus, supported by Boogren, to approve adding Jim Picotte and Rich Thomas to the Fire Fighter Reserves. Roll call: Supervisor Boogren – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes. Motion carried.

Transfer Fire Department Brush Truck (10i.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Boogren, to transfer the fire truck to Wells Township. Supervisor Boogren explained this is a very old pickup that was given to Forsyth Township by the DNR, therefore it should be passed on to Wells Township in the same fashion. Roll call: Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes. Motion carried.

USW and Police Bargaining Units Sell Back or Roll Over Personal Leave (10j.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Borrett, to allow members of the USW and POAM to be allowed to sell back or roll-over existing current year personal leave. Supervisor Boogren stated this was a one-time event based on COVID. Roll call: Trustee Bodenus – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Medical Marijuana Ordinance Review (11a.): Supervisor Boogren stated this ordinance is for review. This will be looked at when zoning the Marihuana Facilities Ordinance. The spelling should be changed during that time, or this ordinance will be encompassed in the new Ordinance. As of now, the record will reflect this Ordinance has been reviewed.

Water/Sewer Late Fees (11b.): Supervisor Boogren explained the late fees had been suspended when the COVID stay at home order was initiated, as other municipalities had also done. The fees should be reassessed for the next fiscal year. The Water/Sewer Committee should discuss it at their next meeting.

Support Local Businesses (11c.): Supervisor Boogren stated he and Trustee Heikkila had discussed how to best support Forsyth Township business getting back to business. Perhaps a letter would be a good way to represent the support for Forsyth Township businesses reopening. Trustee Heikkila expressed her disagreement with the State of Michigan Pandemic regulations. Trustee Bodenus does not want to give Forsyth Township businesses a false sense of security, but would like to send a letter to State Officials to express the differences of the Upper Peninsula. Clerk Borrett expressed her concern for Forsyth Township business. Supervisor Boogren would like the letter sent to every level of State Government. Supervisor Boogren suggested adding High School extracurricular activities. It was the consensus of the Board to add High School activities to the letter.

Motion by Borrett, supported by Heikkila, to write a letter to our Legislators and nominating Supervisor Boogren to write the letter. Roll call: Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Heikkila - yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus - yes. Motion carried.

Supervisor Boogren went over the duties of each Board Member and the meaning of the Agenda and conducting business in an Open Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Public Comment: Library Director Leslie Makela thanked the Board for funding. Supervisor Boogren thanked the Library. Clerk Borrett thanked the Library. Gabe Logan commented on the Governor’s duties during COVID. Clerk Borrett expressed her condolences to Mr. Logan.

Board Comment: Supervisor Boogren thanked all. Clerk Borrett thanked all.

Adjournment: Supervisor Boogren adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Michelle Borrett
Forsyth Township Clerk