

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Virtual Zoom Meeting 81208502424
June 24, 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 Steve Koski administrator of the virtual/teleconferencing meeting, Attorney Marybeth Marin, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Borrett, supported by Bodenus, to approve the Minutes from the May 20, 2021 Board Meeting, as presented. Roll call: Supervisor Boogren – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Bodenus, supported by Borrett, to approve the agenda, with the additions and amendments of adding 9l. W/S Committee – 41 E. Jackpine St. and 12a. Blight Letter and moving 10a. Marihuana Facilities to 9m. an action item. Supervisor Boogren stated 9k. has been taken care of, so should be deleted. Trustee Bodenus and Clerk Borrett amended to include deleting 9k. Roll call: Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Heikkila - yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus - yes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Attorney Koski explained the different ways to offer public comment. Judy Berkseth commented on a tax payment not received at the office. David Reuben commented on the zoning for the Marihuana Ordinance. Nathan Williams commented on the calls for the Ambulances.

Department Reports: The following reports were placed on file: Zoning, Senior Citizens Director, Library, Police and General Operating Financial. Supervisor Boogren will follow-up with the missing reports.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Marin stated the upcoming trial was rescheduled for August 26th. The 425 Agreement with West Branch is almost complete.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Boogren, supported by Bodenus, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$153,105.66, as presented. Supervisor Boogren stated the electric was added to the Ballfields building, but will be less to pay for when that actual construction takes place. Roll call: Trustee Bodenus – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – abstain. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
6/24/21**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	738.59
A Jacobson Landscaping	Grounds Maintenance	13,005.00
A. Lindberg & Sons	Ballfield Materials	24.27
A&M Northern Dreams	SC Senior Picnic - Skandia Area	479.40
American Welding & Gas, Inc.	EMS Supplies	285.03
Auto-Value	Parts/Supplies-VariouS Departments	840.88
Airgas	Supplies-Public Works & Fire	474.94
Bergdahl's	PW Parts	388.94
City of Marquette	Water Analysis	75.00
College Laundry & Rentals	Uniform & Carpet Service	480.60
Compudyne	Computer Support	957.36
Crossroads Truck Repair	PW Transfer Station	95.40
Dalco	PW CH Supplies	864.32
Elcom	EMS Pager Repair	145.00
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Supplies	1,212.86
Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes	Attorney Fees	10,878.00
Frobergs Clothing	PW Boots	139.99
Galls	Police Uniforms	267.74
Hannula Agency	Emergency Service Accident Policy Renewal	1,956.00
Harris	Forms	1,060.07
Ken Dillinger	Reimbursement for Ballfield Electrical	756.37
Larson's Radiator Service	PW Parts	748.53
Marin Law Firm, PLLC	Attorney Fees	850.00
Marquette County Land Bank	Demolition Reimbursement	3,976.00
Marthaler	PW Parts	178.25
Meadow Brook	FD Liquor Liability	750.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	493.43
Midway Rentals	Excavator Rental	8,407.00
Miller-Bradford	Bulldozer Cleaning	534.66
MML	Fireworks Liability	1,500.00
MTA	Dues	4,325.37
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	682.32
Nagelkirk	Flowers	323.97
North Country Disposal	Containers and Dumps	10,960.00
North Country Septic	Portable Restroom	260.00
Pomasl	FD Parts	2,398.25

Pride Printing	Transfer Station Slips/Envelopes	576.97
Purchase Power	Postage	520.99
Quill Corporation	Various Dept Supplies	669.92
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig	4.97
Remy Battery Co	PW Batteries	91.26
Shannon's Home Cooking	SC Senior Picnic - Gwinn Area	766.30
Spielbauer Fireworks	FD Fireworks	9,500.00
State of Michigan	PD/EMS Token/Prints/ EMS QA Assess	396.61
Teleflex	EMS Parts	109.50
TransUnion	Background Checks	75.00
UPEA	Engineering	380.00
UP International Trucks	PW Parts	336.64
US Postal Service	Box Renewal	156.00
Wells Fargo	Various Dept Supplies	2,175.31
Wolfe Communications	EMS Pagers	900.76
		88,173.77

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
6/24/21**

Vendor	Description	Amount
A&M Northern Dreams	Senior Citizen Picnic	79.90
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	1,060.89
Advance Auto Parts	PW Parts	259.42
Barco	Dog Waste Bags	90.16
Bergdahl's	PW Parts	228.68
Canon Financial	Copier	199.58
College Laundry	Carpet Service	203.46
Compudyne	Server Lease	302.00
Crossroads Restaurant	Senior Citizen Picnic	441.00
Elcom	PD Parts for Patrol Car	6,117.68
EJ USA	Water Parts	63.66
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Medical Supplies	379.80
Jerry's Small Engine	PW Mower Parts	872.65
Josh Preston	Reimbursement for Ballfield Parts	4.83
Ken Dillinger	Reimbursement for Ballfield Parts	46.60
Lynn Rodgers	Reimbursement for Rec Equipment	6,430.89
Marquette Embroidery	PD Uniforms	52.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	612.24
My Web Maestro	Website	388.80

Northwestern University	PD Training	1,000.00
Paul Sirois	Reimbursement for Sand-Ballfields	148.78
Pomasl	FD Air Pak Repair	123.84
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	347.18
Range	Restroom Locks	1,376.00
Stryker	EMS Equipment	37,042.15
The Mining Journal	Publishing	459.59
UPEA	Engineering Services	807.50
UP Steel Center	Ballfield Repairs	99.36
US Postal Service	SC Postage	87.98
VFW	Reimbursement for Cemetery Flags	450.74
Wright Electric	Ballfield Electric Panel	5,154.53
		64,931.89
Original Bill Listing		88,173.77
Total Accounts Payable		153,105.66

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 83661-83797
Voucher Numbers for Tax 2043

ACTION ITEMS:

Transmission Line Easement (9a.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the Transmission Line Easement, as presented. Supervisor Boogren asked Attorney Matt Kuschel if the document looked standard. Attorney Kuschel confirmed. Roll call: Supervisor Boogren – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Trustee Bodenus - yes. Motion carried.

EMS – Hire EMT (9b.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve hiring EMT Pieran Suriano, as requested. Roll call: Trustee Bodenus – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes. Motion carried.

UP Health System Billing Amendment (9c.): Motion by Bodenus, supported by Boogren, to approve the UP Health System Marquette’s “First Amendment to Billing and Collection Services Agreement”, as presented. Roll call: Clerk Borrett – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes. Motion carried.

UPPCO Franchise Ordinance Renewal (9d.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, to approve the UPPCO Franchise Ordinance, as presented. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Boogren referred to Attorney Kuschel’s email. Attorney Kuschel will pursue an amended Franchise Ordinance. Roll call: Treasurer Kevern – no, Clerk Borrett – no, Trustee Bodenus – no, Supervisor Boogren – no, Trustee Heikkala – no. Motion carried.

SC – Purchase Office Equipment (9e.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Bodenus, to approve the Senior Center purchasing office equipment for \$1,351.97, as requested. Trustee Bodenus – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes. Motion carried.

Vacation Sell Back Request (9f.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, to approve Chief Kjellin selling back 80 hours of vacation, as requested. Supervisor Boogren stated the reasoning was due to COVID and the loss of an officer. Clerk Borrett – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes. Motion carried.

Audit Contract (9g.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the Audit contract, as presented. Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – Payment Plan (9h.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Borrett, to approve the 2021 Water/Sewer Payment Agreement, as presented. Supervisor Boogren questioned the process. Bookkeeper Rodgers stated everyone on the shut-off list will be mailed a plan. Supervisor Boogren would like one follow-up call for those that do not respond prior to their water being shut off. Roll call: Supervisor Boogren – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – NorthernAire Mobile Estates (9i.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the recommendation from the W/S Committee, as presented. Discussion ensued. Trustee Bodenus commented on residential credits in the future and the effect on the water and sewer budgets. Supervisor Boogren also commented on the subject. Roll call: Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – Ultra Clean Laundry (9j.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Borrett, to approve prohibiting supplemental water supplies, per Ordinance 7-2019. Supervisor Boogren commented on business use of water. Roll call: Trustee Bodenus – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Supervisor Boogren – no. Motion carried 4-1.

Emergency Services Building Air Conditioner (9k.): Deleted.

W/S Committee – 41 E. Jackpine St. (9l.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the recommendation from the W/S Committee, as presented. Trustee Bodenus – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes. Motion carried.

Marihuana Facilities (9m.): Motion by Bodenus, supported by Boogren, to approve the Ordinance Authorizing and Permitting Medical And Adult-Use Marihuana, as presented. Trustee Bodenus explained this was just the first step. There still needs to be an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Marihuana Facilities (10a.): Moved to 9m.

Employee Manual (10b.): Supervisor Boogren asked the Board to review the Employee Manual. He would like it to coincide with the two upcoming bargaining unit contracts. It will be addressed at next month's meeting.

American Rescue Plan Act (10c.): Supervisor Boogren gave a brief description of the American Rescue Plan Act. Bookkeeper Rodgers clarified some of the requirements for the payments.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Blight Letter (12a.): Supervisor Boogren commented on an anonymous letter received regarding blight. Blight issues are investigated twice weekly. He explained the legal process for blight issues.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: Trustee Heikkila commented on Blight Committee meetings. Trustee Bodenus is looking forward to the upcoming community events. Clerk Borrett and Supervisor Boogren thanked Public Works for a great job getting everything ready.

Adjournment: Supervisor Boogren adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Michelle Borrett
Forsyth Township Clerk