

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Gwinn Community Center
September 23, 2021**

Clerk Borrett called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Clerk Borrett, Treasurer Kevern and Trustee Heikkila

Board Members Absent: Supervisor Boogren and Trustee Bodenus

Also Present: A number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Minutes from the August 26th and September 13th Board Meetings, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the agenda, with the additions of 10j. FD – Add Reservist, 10k. FD – Hire Firefighter, 10l. FD – Dismiss Firefighter, 10m. Amend Licensing for Marihuana Regulatory Ordinance #1-2021, 10n. Road Committee – Negotiation for Road Work and the deletion of 10d. MCC1 Application. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Department Reports: The following reports were placed on file: Assessing, Senior Citizens Director, Fire, Library, Police, Emergency Management and Water Committee.

Attorney’s Report: Attorney Marin stated there was a pretrial conference for Mr. Bone, which he did not show, but contact was made and an agreement was met. If the agreement is not carried out, legal action will continue. There has been some follow-up with the Horseshoe Lake Campground issue. She will attend an upcoming meeting in October.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Kevern, supported by Borrett, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$136,896.68, as presented. Motion carried.

Forsyth Township Bills For Approval 9/23/21		
Vendor	Description	Amount
Auto-Value	Parts/Supplies-Various Departments	2,836.02
A1 Sport & Weld Supply	PW Welding Supplies	86.61
Airgas	PW FD Cylinder and Gases	1,169.37
American Welding	EMS Oxygen	174.51
Axon Enterprises	PD Tasers	2,317.00
City of Marquette	Water Bacteriological Analysis	75.00
College Laundry & Rentals	Uniform & Carpet Service	453.90

Compudyne	Computer Support/Server Lease	1,439.36
Dalco	PW Supplies	363.75
Elcom	FD Pagers	3,512.20
Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes	Attorney Fees	7,859.00
Galls	PD Uniforms	751.07
Kountry Korner	PW Oil	844.92
Lee Desotell	PW Hall Brush	2,500.00
Marin Law Firm, PLLC	Attorney Fees	1,390.00
Marquette County Equalization	Assessing Contract April-Sept	53,502.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	261.93
Maurene Hakes	Reimbursement for Office Supplies	24.90
MI-AWWA	UP Fall Conference Training	180.00
MI Dept of Health	EMS License	150.00
MSU	A/Z Training	55.00
National Notary Assoc	Office Notary Renewal	136.14
North Country Disposal	Dump Recycle	250.00
North Country Septic	Portable Restroom	150.00
Northland Lawn Sport & Equip	PW Parts	190.83
Pitney Bowes	Postage Lease	421.29
Purchase Power	Postage	520.99
Pomasl	FD Supplies	313.66
Quill Corporation	Various Dept Supplies	354.51
R&R Fire Truck Repair	FD Repairs	315.00
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig/Locks	30.00
RMS	PW Parts	422.30
Snyder Drug	Various Dept Supplies	753.67
State of Michigan	PD Printing EMS QAA	455.61
The Mining Journal	Publishing	2,055.86
The Office Planning Group	Copier	728.60
TransUnion	Background Checks	75.00
Trophy Central	PD Plaque	26.40
UPEA	Engineering	631.40
Watkins Ross	Retiree Benefits Compliance	4,100.00
Wells Fargo	Supplies	1,104.91
Willey's Tire Shop	PW Tires	540.08
Zack Kevern	Reimbursement for Training	70.00
		93,592.79

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
9/23/21**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Emergency Medical Product	EMS Medical Supplies	495.25
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	864.62
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	342.16
Marquette County Road Comm.	Road Repairs	33,985.00
MCTA Treasurer	Board Banquet	40.00
North Country Disposal	Dumpsters/Recycling	4,100.00
North Country Septic	Portable Restrooms	125.00
Pride Printing	Transfer Station Slips	620.34
Pomasl	FD Boots	378.72
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	97.46
Signs Unlimited	PD Patrol/Active Lettering	730.00
State of Michigan	PD Token/VPN	114.00
Swick	Boiler Repair/Inspect	900.00
UPEA	Engineering	418.08
US Postal Service	SC Postage	93.26
		43,303.89
Original Bill Listing		93,592.79
Total Accounts Payable		136,896.68

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 84162 - 84304
Voucher Numbers for Tax 2050 - 2067

ACTION ITEMS:

Road Commission Reappointment (10a.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Heikkila, to approve reappointing Brenda Tregembo to the Roads Committee for another 2 year term. Motion carried.

Patrol Vehicle Bid (10b.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve the bid for \$3,753.00 from Frederic Holmi for the 2009 Police Dodge Charger. Motion carried.

EMS – Critical Shortage Pay (10c.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the Critical Shortage Pay for EMS, as presented, with an effective date of September 15, 2021, and would like the EMS Committee to convene as soon as possible to discuss what it means financially for the Township and discuss how long the need is for. Discussion ensued. Trustee Heikkila will meet with EMS Director Baez. Clerk Borrett stated it should not be a long term issue. Motion carried.

MCC1 Application (10d.): Deleted

W/S Committee – 114 E. Sands St. (10e.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the recommendation from the Water/Sewer Committee for 144 E. Sands Street, as presented. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – NFS Fee (10f.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve taking no action for the Nonsufficient Fund fee, as recommended by the Water/Sewer Committee. Trustee Kevern explained the fees are passed on to the Township by the banks, therefore it is necessary to pass them back to the person who wrote the check. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – 145 E. Hwy M35 (10g.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Heikkila, to approve the recommendation from the Water/Sewer Committee for 145 East State Highway M35, as presented. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – 111 Pine St. (10h.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve the recommendation from the Water/Sewer Committee for 111 North Pine Street, as presented. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – 54 N. Mitchell St. (10i.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Heikkila, to approve the recommendation from the Water/Sewer Committee for 54 North Mitchell Street, as presented. Motion carried.

FD – Add Reservist (10j.): Motion by Borrett, supported by Heikkila, to approve adding Greg Ketola to the Firefighter Reserves, as recommended. Motion carried.

FD – Hire Firefighter (10k.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve hiring Ryan Proctor as a firefighter, as recommended. Motion carried.

FD – Dismiss Firefighter (10l.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve dismissing Dustin Milner as a firefighter. Clerk Borrett stated he could reapply at a later date. Motion carried.

Amend Licensing for Marihuana Regulatory Ordinance #1-2021 (10m.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Borrett, to approve the Ordinance Amending the Ordinance Authorizing and Permitting Medical and Adult-Use Marihuana number 3-2021, as presented. Roll call: Trustee Heikkila – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Bodenus – absent, Supervisor Boogren – absent. Motion carried.

Road Committee – Negotiation for Road Work (10n.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Borrett, to approve the Road Committee negotiating additional road work for Seass Drive. Treasurer Kevern explained where newer pavement was recently put in on Seass Drive and where the Road Committee suggested the quoted pavement should go. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Short Term Rentals (11a.): Clerk Borrett stated the Planning Commission heard short term rental problems at its recent meeting. Some of the problems include damage and wear-and-tear to private roads, noise, crowds, lake traffic and animal control. Residents were concerned about running a

business in a residential area and property rights. Those running short term rentals were also concerned about their property rights and income opportunities.

Employee Manual (12b.): Clerk Borrett concurred to wait for the entire Board to be present to proceed with changes to the Employee Manual. Trustee Heikkila would like the manual to be more like the union contracts.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Gwinn Area Community Schools (13a.): Clerk Borrett asked Superintendent of Public Works Jancsi to comment on the problem area. Superintendent Jancsi explained that a previous contractor had damaged the Schools sewer main. The School will pursue options with that contractor. However, the concern that has been articulated is the road repairs for such instances. Treasurer Kevern would like the Ordinance to be reviewed for the best solution for access to sewer lines under the roadways.

Public Comment: Dion Krysmalki, Kathryn Krysmalki, David Slater, Brian Pepp, Pat Gleason, Kate Beaver, Dan Beaver, Scott Sather, Bethany Kirkpatrick, Matt Zika, Nancy Zika, Bill Neumann, Brian Gleason, Larry Koskinen and Brian Nelson all commented on short term rentals. Jesse Allen commented on short term rentals and marihuana facilities. Briannah Wodetzki commented on marihuana facilities.

Board Comment: Clerk Borrett stated the Marihuana Ordinance is considered a work in progress and will change as the communities needs change. She thanked everyone for their comments and will work on short term rental solutions. Treasurer Kevern commented that some of the concerns happening at the short term rentals are laws being broken. Therefore, the residents should contact law enforcement when those things are happening. He then referred to Police Detective Stephen Mills. Detective Mills concurred. He then stated DNR will be contacted for lake violations.

Adjournment: Clerk Borrett adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Michelle Borrett
Forsyth Township Clerk