

**Forsyth Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Gwinn Community Center  
December 16, 2021**

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

**Board Members Present:** Supervisor Boogren, Clerk Borrett, Treasurer Kevern, Trustee Bodenus and Trustee Heikkila

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Attorney Marin, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Borrett, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Minutes from the November 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

**Agenda:** Motion by Bodenus, supported by Kevern, to approve the agenda, as presented. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Emergency Manager, Myron Hillock, stated the Clubhouse was open as a warming shelter until the power is restored to all residents.

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

Trustee Heikkila asked for clarification on the Police computers. Chief Kjellin explained the reason for a new computer. Clerk Borrett asked if the Police garage door was completed. Chief Kjellin stated the repair had been completed. Trustee Bodenus asked if Semco had paid for the sewer repair. Superintendent Jancsi stated it was scheduled to be paid.

**Attorney's Report:** Attorney Marin stated there was Show Cause hearing on Wednesday, in which she is awaiting information. Forsyth Township will file a petition on the Dog Matter this week or next.

**Approval of Bills & Vouchers:** Motion by Boogren, supported by Borrett, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$76,713.46, as presented. Treasurer Kevern abstained from the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Forsyth Township  
Bills For Approval  
12/16/21**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Avis Meyers-Ketola	Reimbursement Tree Lighting	137.12
Ace	Various Dept Supplies	365.39
Auto Value	Various Dept Supplies	736.18

CareerCert	EMS Training	50.00
College Laundry & Rentals	Uniform & Carpet Service	400.57
Compudyne	Computer Support/Server Lease	1,256.00
Crossroads Mini Mart	EMS Fuel	76.45
Crossroads Truck Repair	PW Truck Repair	474.00
Dave Dziedzic	Reimbursement for Boots	215.16
DLP MGH	EMT Training	1,300.00
Elcom	PD Patrol Vehicle Repair	551.72
Fahey Schultz	Attorney Fees	3,946.00
Ferrellgas	Tank Rental	26.50
Galls	PD Uniforms	522.47
Jane Nordeen	FD Uniform Repairs	33.00
Marin Law Firm, PLLC	Attorney Fees	1,090.00
Medline	EMS Supplies	282.70
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	1,120.46
Michigan Municipal League	WC Audit	9,636.00
Midway Rentals	PW Uniforms	78.99
Miss Dig	Miss Dig Marking	1,653.83
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	4,124.59
NFPA	FD Dues	175.00
North Country Disposal	Dump Recycles	250.00
Quill Corporation	Various Dept Supplies	508.54
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig	33.15
Remy Battery Co.	Battery	118.54
State of Michigan	EMS Assess / PD Printing /PW Permit	754.50
The Mining Journal	Publishing	573.30
TransUnion	PD Background Checks	75.00
UPEA	Engineering	6,661.94
Upper Great Lakes	EMS Physical	177.00
UP Lab Testing	PW Testing	94.00
UP Off Road	PW Parts	58.12
VFW	Flags	600.00
Wells Fargo	PD/SC Supplies	453.62
Willey's Tire	PW Tires	1,850.02
Wolverine Door Service	PW Repair Cold Storage Door	
		<b>40,459.86</b>

**Forsyth Township  
Additional Bills For Approval  
12/16/21**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Airgas	PW Cylinder Rental	26.52
All-Phase	Streetlight supplies	287.04
Frobergs Clothing	PW Boots	180.00
Galls	EMS Uniforms	72.76
Marquette County Equalization	Assessing Contract	26,751.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	365.07
MWEA	PW Membership	80.00
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	158.85
The Office Planning Group	Copier	189.98
UPEA	Engineering	7,995.38
Upper Great Lakes	EMS Physical	92.00
US Postal Service	SC Postage	55.00
		<b>36,253.60</b>
<b>Original Bill Listing</b>		<b>40,459.86</b>
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>		<b>76,713.46</b>

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 84619-84726  
 Voucher Numbers for Tax 2081-2084

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**PD – Sponsorship Program (10a.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, to approve sponsoring 2 NMU Police Academy candidates, with a 5 year commitment contract, as presented. Discussion ensued. Trustee Heikkila commented on testing. Supervisor Boogren commented on wording in the contract. Clerk Borrett asked Chief Kjellin about how he determined the 2 candidates. He explained they were local and had ties to the community. There is one immediate opening and one probable opening in the near future. Trustee Bodenus commented on the candidates being locally invested. Chief Kjellin will explore grant possibilities. Supervisor Boogren stated he, Attorney Marin, Attorney Kuschel, and Chief Kjellin will work on the contract language. Motion amended by Boogren, support amended by Kevern, to approve sponsoring 2 NMU Police Academy candidates, with contract language to be approved by the Board at a later date. Motion carried.

**PD – Purchase Carpet (10b.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Carpet Specialist quote for \$5,391.93, as presented. Motion carried.

**PD – Purchase Laptop (10c.):** Motion by Bodenus, supported by Heikkila, to approve purchasing a laptop for the Police Department for \$2,049.00. Chief Kjellin explained the need for the laptop. Motion carried.

**FD – Purchase Computers (10d.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Borrett, to approve purchasing 3 computers for the Fire Department, not to exceed \$3,500. Discussion ensued. Two desk top personal computers and one laptop will be purchased for the Fire Department, to come out of the contingency fund. Motion carried.

**Emergency Services Building Siren Timer (10e.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Borrett, to approve the West Shore Services quote for \$1,595.00, to repair the emergency siren to include a timer. Discussion ensued. He explained the siren will be limited to one minute and be silenced between the hours of 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Motion carried.

**NJK Management Zoning (10f.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, that no permit is required for the NJK Management Zoning Issue. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Boogren detailed the situation. He stated the Township’s Attorney stated a permit or waiver should be required. Supervisor Boogren would like all businesses treated consistently. Motion amended by Boogren, support amended by Kevern, to send the issue back to the Zoning Board of Appeals for adjudication. Motion carried.

**W/S Committee – 240 W. Flint (10g.):** Motion by Borrett, supported by Kevern, to approve the Water/Sewer Committee’s recommendation for 240 W. Flint Street, as presented. Motion carried.

**A/Z – ZBA Members (10h.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Borrett, to reappoint Nicole Merlo and James Nowak to the Zoning Board of Appeals for another 3 year term. Motion carried.

**A/Z – Planning Commission Members (10i.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, to reappoint Dan Tregembo and Neil Jo Armatti to the Planning Commission for another 3 year term. Motion carried.

**A/Z – Blight Committee Members (10j.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Borrett, to reappoint James Nowak, Wes Jourdan and Sherry Juidici to the Blight Committee for another 2 year term. Motion carried.

**A/Z – BOR Members (10k.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, to reappoint James Nowak, Maurene Hakes and Dwight Sunday to the Board of Review. Supervisor Boogren stated there were vacancies in Alternates to the Board of Review. He explained the time needed and type of job an Alternate would carry. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Short Term Rentals (11a.):** Trustee Heikkila explained a committee was formed for Short Term Rentals consisting of Zoning Administrator Hakes, Supervisor Boogren, Trustee Heikkila and 4 Residents. They met and came up with some ideas, but need to research legalities. Supervisor Boogren asked for an update at next month’s meeting.

**Shelter Locations (11b.):** Emergency Manager Myron Hillock explained the Emergency Services Building is not ideal for a shelter location. The Ambulance, Fire Trucks and First Responders still need to be

deployed during sheltering situations. He would like the shelter moved to a better suited place. Discussion ensued. Emergency Manager Hillock will look into the costs needed to use the Gwinn Community Center or the Gwinn High School as a community shelter. Assistant Emergency Manager Hammond suggested looking into the possible use of a generator currently being stored.

**Emergency Operations Center Location (11c.):** Emergency Manager Hillock stated that he looked at alternative locations for the Emergency Operation Center. He explained it was not ideal to have the Operation Team in the same building as the community shelter. The alternate place is at the Airport with the County of Marquette.

**Motion by Heikkila, supported by Kevern, for the Emergency Operations Center to remain in the office space over the Police Department. Motion carried.**

**Emergency Management Budget (11d.):** Emergency Manager Hillock suggested a generator could fit in the Capital Outlay portion of the Emergency Management Budget. Supervisor Boogren asked that costs be presented at the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Supervisor Boogren informed the Board of a dog attack that occurred in Little Lake. It killed another dog a mile away from its home. The residents fear for themselves and family members. Forsyth Township is in contact with District Court to get an order to euthanize the dog. Hopefully this court case moves quickly.

**Public Comment:** None

**Closed Session: Collective Bargaining:** At 7:28 p.m., motion by Boogren, supported by Borrett, to approve going into closed session to discuss Collective Bargaining. Roll call: Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Borrett – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes. Motion carried.

At 7:56 p.m., motion by Clerk Borrett, supported by Trustee Bodenus, to come out of closed session. Motion carried.

**Motion by Bodenus, supported by Boogren, to not accept the TPOAM contract, as presented. Supervisor Boogren stated that some legalities must be addressed. Roll call: Clerk Borrett – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkala – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes. Motion carried.**

**Board Comment:** Clerk Borrett wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Treasurer Kevern commented on a blight issue with Telkite. As there are other companies involved, he is giving them 60 days to rectify the situation before further action is taken. He also informed the Board of a new regulation regarding CDL licenses.

**Motion by Boogren, supported by Bodenus, to approach full time Public Works employees with an offer to pay for CDL licenses obtained before the date of class credits required to get them. Motion carried.**

Trustee Bodenus stated it would be advantageous to encourage other Public Works employees to obtain Water and Sewer Licenses.

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Boogren adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee  
Board Secretary

Michelle Borrett  
Forsyth Township Clerk