

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Gwinn Community Center
June 23, 2022**

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

Board Members Present: Supervisor Boogren, Clerk Lauren, Trustee Bodenus and Trustee Heikkila

Board Members Absent: Treasurer Kevern

Also Present: Attorney Nordeen, UPEA Representatives Ken Dillinger and Matt Treado, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Bodenus, supported by Boogren, to approve the Minutes from the May 19, 2022 and May 23, 2022 Board Meetings, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Bodenus, supported by Boogren, to approve the agenda with the additions of 11i. PD – Social Security Tax, 11j. Election Inspector Wage Increase and 12c. Crestview Drive Commercial Truck Hauling. Motion carried.

Public Hearing: Water System Improvement Project: Supervisor Boogren opened the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. He then referred to UPEA Representative Matt Treado. Mr. Treado introduced himself then read in required information regarding the DWRP Project Plan. He reiterated that the Resolution requested is to submit a plan to the State of Michigan for funding opportunities. When all funding options are presented, including grant options, a plan to proceed will be offered. The best fiscal option is to do line replacements when MDOT replaces M-35. The \$30 water increase stated in the hearing advertisement is the worst case scenario. Jill Froberg read a statement she wrote regarding meter installation after the 2012 project. She was concerned about the \$30 increase and why it would be stated on the current Public Hearing advertisement. Supervisor Boogren explained that the requirements were to show worst case scenario. He also commented on other community's rates. All water rates are used only for the water system, as required by law. Grant options are being pursued. Jim Jackson asked if UPEA was the same Engineering Company used during the last water project. He also commented on the Ready-to-Serve fees currently in place. Trustee Bodenus commented on the State requirements for lead service line replacements due to the Flint lead issues. He stated if we find them, they must be replaced. We are searching for grants to help pay for those costs. Gene Suardini asked where the mains were located. He asked why they weren't replaced during the last project. Supervisor Boogren and UPEA Representatives explained they were not done then, as they knew this MDOT project would be forthcoming. It is saving the water users money to replace the mains when MDOT is paying to replace the road. UPEA Ken Dillinger explained another community is paying in full for their lead replacements. Forsyth Township is looking for grant opportunities to supplement the replacement expenses. Steve Young asked if the notices could be placed on the water bills in the future. He was not aware of the notices placed on the public bulletin board, Township website or The Mining Journal newspaper. Supervisor Boogren closed the Public Hearing at 6:53 p.m.

Public Comment: Joanne Wilcox commented on Crestview Drive Commercial Truck hauling. Jill Froberg commented on the audit procedures for multi-use units on the water system.

Department Reports: The following reports were placed on file: EMS, Assessing, Zoning, Senior Center, Fire, Library, Police, General Operating Financial, Emergency Management and Water/Sewer Committee.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Nordeen thanked the Board for having his law firm represent Forsyth Township. He stated his is currently working on blight enforcement for Mango Properties, the Horseshoe Lake issue and the truck hauling issue on Crestview Drive.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Lauren, supported by Boogren, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$351,570.37, as presented. Motion carried.

Forsyth Township Bills For Approval 6/23/22		
Vendor	Description	Amount
Auto Value	Various Dept Parts	2,088.99
Adventure Center	PD Snowmobile Repairs	730.82
A Jacobson Landscaping	Landscaping	22,326.00
Airgas	PW/FD Cylinder Rental	112.13
All Phase	PW Lighting	203.68
American Water Works Assoc	PW Membership	238.00
American Welding	EMS Oxygen	100.28
Bichler Concrete & Gravel	PW Sand	479.31
City of Marquette	Water Testing	100.00
College Laundry & Rentals	Uniform & Carpet Service	323.00
Crossroads Truck Repair	PW Parts	17.00
Dalco	PW Supplies	266.36
Dylan Derouin	Reimbursement for Boots	175.00
Elcom	Various Dept Parts	2,591.06
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Medical Supplies	1,431.11
Fahey Schultz	Attorney Fees	2,386.00
Froberg's Clothing	PW Boots	175.00
Galls	PD Uniforms	87.45
Holiday Cleaners	EMS Dry Cleaning	107.95
Integris	Computer Support	1,453.00
Jerry's Small Engine Repair	PW Parts	131.66
JF Ahern	Fire Extinguisher Inspections	1,549.31
Kodiak Emergency Vehicles	Ambulance	240,073.50
Lee Desotell	PW Hauling	1,273.00
Maki Consulting	PW Computer Support	50.00
Marin Law	Attorney Fees	750.00
Marquette County Clerks Assoc	Clerk Membership Fees	20.00

MCTA	Dues and Ad	346.33
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	2,308.76
Michigan Police Equip	Ammunition	430.00
MTA	Dues	4,584.90
Mission One Exterminating Co.	PD Exterminating	30.00
MJ VanDamme	PW Chloride	1,050.00
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	427.71
My Web Maestro	Website Annual Hosting	270.00
North Country Disposal	Dump Recycle & Community Clean Up	12,735.00
North Country Septic	Portable Restrooms	605.00
Northland Lawn Sport & Equip	PW Parts	898.13
O'Dea, Nordeen and Pickens PC	Attorney Fees	994.00
Pomasl	FD Gloves	999.39
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	790.39
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig	41.00
Recovery Systems	PW Bailer Wire	536.50
Remy Battery	PW Batteries	47.58
Snyder Drug Store	Various Dept Supplies	302.81
State of Michigan	PD/EMS Token/QA Assess	351.60
Superior Lock & Security	Cameras	10,215.60
The Mining Journal	Publishing	1,443.56
TransUnion	Background Checks	75.00
UPEA	Engineering Services	2,958.50
UP Health System	PD/EMS Testing/Supplies	1,008.00
UP International Trucks	PW Parts	128.63
UP Kubota	PW Parts	410.19
Wex	Various Dept Fuel	5,412.91
Willey's Tire Shop	PD Tires	528.80
Total		329,169.90

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
6/23/22**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	1,038.24
A Lindberg & Sons	Ballfield Gravel	914.67
A&M Northern Dreams LLC	SC Senior Meal	719.00
All Phase	Ballfield Lights	488.76
American Welding & Gas	EMS Oxygen and Cylinder	154.35
College Laundry	Uniform & Carpet Service	55.76

Integris	Computer Support Various Dept	350.00
Jesse Wright	Ballfield Concession Electric	1,166.00
Marquette County	Tax Deferment Ad	18.86
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	3.88
Michelle Borrett	Reimbursement for Senior Supplies	380.22
Midway Rentals	PW Parts	75.98
North Country Disposal	Clean Up and Recycles	11,385.00
Remy Battery	Office Battery	23.99
UPEA	Engineering	5,384.72
US Post Office	SC Postage	83.36
USA BlueBook	PW Parts	157.68
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		22,400.47
	Original Bill Listing	329,169.90
	Total Accounts Payable	351,570.37

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 85481 - 85602
Voucher Numbers for Tax 2112 - 2125

ACTION ITEMS:

EMS – Hire Paramedic and EMT (11a.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to approve EMS hiring Paramedic Alyson Sundberg and EMT Kayla Clemons, as requested. Motion carried.

EMS – Lexipol (Career Tech) Agreement (11b.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Lexipol (Career Tech) Service Agreement and Addendum for \$1,732.50, as presented. Motion carried.

A/Z – Zoning Amendment for Storage Containers (11c.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Bodenus, to approve the Zoning Amendment – Storage Container, as recommended. Discussion ensued. Motion amended by Boogren, support amended by Bodenus, to remove language regarding screening, remove language on physical size and acreage required, and refer instead to existing zoning ordinance setbacks. Roll call: Clerk Lauren – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – absent. Motion carried.

FD – Training Expenses (11d.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Heikkila, to approve the Fire Department training expenses of \$3,000, as requested. Motion carried.

CH - Cameras (11e.): Motion by Bodenus, supported by Lauren, to approve purchasing cameras for the Gwinn Community Center, otherwise known as the Clubhouse, and Senior Center from Superior Lock and Security totaling \$6,852.00, as presented. Discussion ensued regarding the Clubhouse budget. Trustee Bodenus stated this was a safety issue. Motion carried.

UPEA Professional Services Agreement (11f.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Boogren, to approve the UPEA Professional Services agreement, as presented. Motion carried.

Water System Improvement Resolution (11g.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to approve the Resolution Adopting a Final Project Plan for Water System Improvements and Designating an Authorized Project Representative, as presented. Supervisor Boogren then read the resolution:

WHEREAS, **Forsyth Township** recognizes the need to make improvements to its existing water treatment and distribution system; and

WHEREAS, **Forsyth Township** authorized **UP Engineers & Architects, Inc.** to prepare a Project Plan, which recommends the construction of **the removal and replacement of aged water infrastructure**; and

WHEREAS, said Project Plan was presented at a Public Hearing held on **June 23, 2022** and all public comments have been considered and addressed;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that **Forsyth Township** formally adopts said Project Plan and agrees to implement the selected alternative (Alternative No. 1).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the **Township Supervisor**, a position currently held by **Joseph Boogren**, is designated as the authorized representative for all activities associated with the project referenced above, including the submittal of said Project Plan as the first step in applying to the State of Michigan for a revolving fund loan to assist in the implementation of the selected alternative.

Roll call: Clerk Lauren – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – absent. Motion carried.

Move July Regularly Scheduled Meeting Date (11h.): Supervisor Boogren deleted this item, as there will be a quorum at the July meeting.

PD – Social Security Tax (11i.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to approve the request from POAM members to cease withholding Social Security Tax, effective June 23, 2022. Motion carried.

Election Inspector Wage Increase (11j.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Boogren, to approve increasing Election Inspectors hourly rate from \$10.00 to \$12.00, the Chairperson additional flat amount of \$50.00 will not change. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

CDL Pay or Bonus (12a.): Clerk Lauren stated that the Public Works Department currently has 3 employees with CDLs. They currently have two vehicles that have CDL requirements. Other Public Works employees have chosen not to accept the offer to get their CDLs prior to the State requirement changes. The classes to hold a CDL are quite expensive. Treasurer Kevern believes there should be a bonus for the employees that do have a CDL. Supervisor Boogren requested financial outcomes for giving those employees that hold a CDL, a \$1.00 hourly increase per hour, a \$2.00 hourly increase per hour, or \$3,000 annual bonus. Bookkeeper Rodgers will send the results to the Board Members. Attorney Nordeen reminded the Board that an amendment to the contract would be needed if the Board desires to increase pay to any Union Member.

Property Purchase (12b.): Supervisor Boogren explained the fenced in area across from the Emergency Services Building has been offered to be sold to the Township. He asked Attorney Nordeen to research what a reasonable cost would be and to contact the landowner.

Crestview Drive Commercial Truck Hauling (12c.): Supervisor Boogren stated he received a letter from some of the residents on Crestview Drive with concern of the commercial truck hauling. Attorney Nordeen stated County Road EER should be extended, then Serenity Drive could be designated as a connector road. MDOT would make it suitable for such large truck. The Board instructed Attorney Nordeen to proceed with that plan.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Public Comment: Stacy Linnee commented on Dust Control. Joanne Wilcox commented on the safety of truck hauling on Crestview Drive. Eric Jancsi commented on Dust Control.

Board Comment: Supervisor Boogren thanked the residents for their attendance and UPEA for the information provided during the Public Hearing.

Adjournment: Supervisor Boogren adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren
Forsyth Township Clerk