

**Forsyth Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Gwinn Community Center  
August 25, 2022**

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

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

**Board Members Absent:** None

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Kevern, supported by Bodenus, to approve the Minutes from the July 28, 2022 Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

**Agenda:** Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to approve the agenda with the addition of 11g. Cemetery. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Barb Willig commented on firearm usage and the Forsyth Township Police Department.

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

**Attorney's Report:** Attorney Nordeen stated he had been working on many items this month. The following are a list of some: easement, water and sewer issues, trail development, blight, illegal campground, Marihuana Ordinance compliance, Board vacancies, FOIA concerns, CDL licenses, review of contracts and land purchase.

**Approval of Bills & Vouchers:** Motion by Lauren, supported by Heikkila, to approve the bills and vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

<b>Forsyth Township Bills For Approval 8/25/22</b>		
<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Auto Value	Various Dept Parts	3,480.16
A Lindberg & Sons	Gravel	116.01
Airgas	PW/FD Cylinder Rental	112.93
American Welding	EMS Oxygen	158.10
City of Marquette	Water Testing	75.00
Coaching Systems	EMS Training	90.00
Code Electrical	Pump Repairs/Generators	11,687.50

College Laundry & Rentals	Uniform & Carpet Service	88.38
Dalco	PW Supplies	155.76
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Medical Supplies	1,118.68
Galls	PD Uniforms	447.84
Gordon Food Service	PW Concessions	210.35
Integris	Computer Support	819.86
Josh Preston	Reimbursement for Clothing Allowance	110.97
Lammi Fire Protection	FD SCBA Cylinders	140.00
Larry's Family Foods	Various Dept Supplies	928.58
Lee Desotell	Metal Hauling	339.00
Lexipol	EMS Training	1,732.50
Mag & Son Clothing	FD Uniforms	4,125.00
Marquette County Road Comm.	Dust Control	3,691.17
Medline	EMS Medical Supplies	123.91
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	395.44
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	1,738.15
Motorola	Emergency Management Radio	4,158.16
North Country Disposal	Dump Recycle & Community Clean Up	295.00
O'Dea, Nordeen and Pickens PC	Attorney Fees	724.00
Pomps	FD Tires	890.00
Pride Printing	Transfer Station Slips/Envelopes	1,132.50
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	416.71
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig	61.99
Remy Battery Co.	FD Batteries	230.00
Spring City Electrical Manufacturing	Light Pole	6,100.00
State of Michigan	Radio Activation	250.00
Superior Lock & Security	W/S Alarm Monitoring	359.88
Teleflex	EMS Medical Supplies	109.50
The Mining Journal	Publishing	3,046.38
The Office Planning Group	A/Z Copier	58.32
TransUnion	PD Background Checks	75.00
UPEA	Engineering Services	1,339.50
US Postal Service	SC Postage	86.53
USA BlueBook	Water Parts	142.28
Wex	Various Dept Fuel	477.74
<b>Total</b>		<b>51,838.78</b>

**Forsyth Township  
Additional Bills For Approval  
8/25/22**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	793.65
Michelle Borrett	Reimbursement for Food	154.57
College Laundry	A/Z Carpet Service	33.50
Dalco	CH Supplies	446.75
Elcom	FD Batteries	250.00
Election Source	Election Supplies	1,694.45
Galls	PD Uniforms	261.86
Integris	Computer Support	262.50
Marquette County Clerk	Election Cost	436.20
Menards	Supplies for Various Dept	203.90
Mission One Exterminating	PD Exterminating	30.00
Modeltown Express	Fuel for Various Dept	6,216.81
North Country Disposal	Portable Restrooms/Recycling	735.00
Peter Ghiringhelli	Reimbursement for Conference	16.00
Pomasl	FD Repairs	215.69
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	330.49
Superior Lock	Cameras	926.00
Swick Plumbing & Heating	Boiler Maintenance	795.00
UPPCO	Ball Field Installation	5,320.77
Watkins Ross	Retiree Health Care Plan	1,300.00
		<b>20,423.14</b>
	<b>Original Bill Listing</b>	<b>51,838.78</b>
	<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>72,261.92</b>

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 85760 - 85936

Voucher Numbers for Tax 2126 - 2129

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Zoning – 231 Maple Street (10a.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve demolition of 231 Maple Street, as recommended. Discussion ensued. Attorney Nordeen suggested getting the structure evaluated for safety. Motion amended by Kevern, support amended by Lauren, to pursue having the building inspected by a professional for structural integrity. Motion carried.

**Zoning – Mango Properties (10b.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve cleaning up 13 Mango properties, as recommended. Discussion ensued. Attorney Nordeen gave a brief history on the blight issues. Treasurer Kevern stated the clean-up may be beyond Public Works capability. Supervisor Boogren suggested the State or the County get involved. Trustee Bodenus suggested researching more opportunities. Motion amended by Kevern, support amended by Lauren, to approve the cleaning up of the 13 Mango properties to the capability of Public Works. Motion carried.

**Zoning - Training (10c.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, to approve training for the Zoning Administrator and Zoning Official/Assessing Assistant, totaling \$500, plus expenses. Motion carried.

**PD – Order Patrol Vehicle (10d.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Bodenus, to approve the Police Department ordering a patrol vehicle for \$36,174.00, plus equipment. Ordering the vehicle now will assure getting it by June. The KBIC have granted \$21,068 towards the purchase of the Patrol Vehicle. Motion carried.

**Hire Laborer (10e.):** Motion by Lauren, supported by Bodenus, to approve hiring an Equipment Operator in lieu of a Laborer, because CDL drivers are needed. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Boogren stated the vacant position is a Laborer. Clerk Lauren and Trustee Bodenus explained how we are in need of CDL drivers. Roll call: Trustee Heikkila – no, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – no, Clerk Lauren – yes, Supervisor Boogren – no. Motion failed 3-2.

Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, to hire Jarod Hardy and Tristan Jancsi as Public Works Laborers effective September 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussion ensued. Trustee Bodenus asked if there was only one in the current Budget. Supervisor Boogren explained we were short on other employees, therefore the addition would be supported by the budget. Trustee Bodenus suggested the nepotism paragraph in the Employee Manual should be addressed. Roll call: Supervisor Boogren – yes, Clerk Lauren – no, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Bodenus – no, Trustee Heikkila – yes. Motion carried 3-2.

Supervisor Boogren asked Attorney Nordeen to address the nepotism portion of the Employee Manual. Attorney Nordeen stated the Board would need to pointedly allow Superintendent of Public Works Jancsi to be a direct supervisor.

Motion by Boogren, supported by Heikkila, that Tristian Jancsi requires a direct Supervisor other than Superintendent of Public Works Eric Jancsi. Motion carried. Supervisor Boogren will review the job descriptions to verify who the direct supervisor will be.

**Asphalt Repair (10f.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve the quotes from Northern Asphalt Repair, totaling \$4,408.00, for repairs on South River Drive and Mitchell Street. These are for a water line repair and a water line installment. Motion carried.

**Land Purchase Agreement (10g.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Boogren, to approve the purchase agreement from Infinity Family Limited Partnership, as presented, for the purchase of 56 N. Johnson Lake Road. The purchase price is \$15,000 and is located across the street from the Emergency Services Building. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Easement (11a.):** Attorney Nordeen explained where the easement is located. He suggested an alternate path. Superintendent Jancsi stated it was not feasible to go through the alternate path, as it is located in a wet area. Trustee Bodenus would like a clause in the easement for the township not being liable for underground utilities in the future. Supervisor Boogren stated Iron Pin Trail should be the only easement needed.

**Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to authorize Attorney Nordeen to pursue the legal document that provides easement from Iron Pin Trail only and also captures the underground utilities concerns on any future work that may be required. Motion carried.**

**Device Replacement Schedule (11b.):** Supervisor Boogren requested Payroll/Billing Specialist Sirois get with Compudyne to submit a recommended schedule of replacements.

**CDL Bonus (11c.):** Treasurer Kevern wanted to acknowledge the concerns of low CDL licenses within Public Works. Supervisor Boogren suggested a bonus for CDL holders. Clerk Lauren asked if the union contract would need to be reopened for the additional pay. Trustee Bodenus would like to do more research on the financial implications and contact neighboring communities. Attorney Nordeen suggested CDL requirements may not be as expensive as thought. Supervisor Boogren asked Trustee Bodenus and Attorney Nordeen to do further research and present it to the Board next month.

**Wage/Pay/Stipend Review (11d.):** Treasurer Kevern stated Emergency Medical Services asked for an increase in pay last meeting. He suggested all departments pay be reviewed.

A committee of Clerk Lauren, assigned Clerk Staff, Fire Chief Stansky, EMS Director Baez and Trustee Heikkila, shall review the pay for Boards, Committees, Fire and EMS.

**Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, to appoint Trustee Heikkila as Liaison to the Fire Department. She will replace Supervisor Boogren, who is now a member of the Fire Department. Motion carried.**

**Roll-Off Truck (11e.):** Treasurer Kevern stated the expenses for hauling to the Marquette Landfill has been growing. Residents using the Transfer Station has increased. He would like to look into purchasing a Roll-Off truck. Superintendent of Public Work Jancsi will look into putting a truck in the capital improvement plan. Bookkeeper Rodgers will do a cost analysis for rates at the Transfer Station.

**Website Review (11f.):** Treasurer Kevern was approached by a resident regarding Board emails being posted on the website. Supervisor Boogren would like a solution for management of the website. Clerk Lauren suggested an intern from the High School. Supervisor Boogren suggested putting a general email address that will be reviewed by the Board Members, Attorney and Board Secretary. Board Secretary Linnee will have it implemented.

**Cemetery (11g.):** Treasurer Kevern stated the new block of the cemetery is ready to sell. He would like the rates to be reviewed prior to selling the lots. He would also like an ordinance to be implemented. A committee comprised of Treasurer Kevern, Superintendent of Public Works Jancsi and Payroll/Billing Specialist Sirois, will look at rates, software and developing an ordinance. Attorney Nordeen will pursue interest in purchasing land to expand the cemetery.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Comment:** Supervisor Boogren thanked everyone for their patience. Clerk Lauren thanked the Board for discussion on the various topics.

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Boogren adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee  
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren  
Forsyth Township Clerk