

**Forsyth Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Gwinn Community Center  
December 15, 2022**

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

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

**Board Members Absent:** None

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve the Minutes from the November 17, 2022 Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

**Agenda:** Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve the agenda with the additions of 10m. HSA Funding Increase, 10n. Uniform/Mat Quotes and 10o. Election Security Grant. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None

**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 presented the Board with a report entitled General Tasks for the Month. He briefly went over the report. He will ask how the funds for citations are handled at county level. Supervisor Boogren asked Attorney Nordeen to proceed with the Crestview issue.

**Approval of Bills & Vouchers:** Motion by Lauren, supported by Bodenus, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$100,729.56, as presented. Treasurer Kevern abstained from the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Forsyth Township  
Bills For Approval  
12/15/22**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Auto Value	Various Dept Parts	1,117.97
Avis Meyer-Ketola	SC Reimbursement Tree Lighting	158.46
American Welding & Gas	EMS Oxygen	80.30
Barco Products	Dog Waste Bags	276.84
Crossroads Truck Repair	Garbage Truck Parts	301.00
Dalco	PW Supplies	414.75
Drug Screen Plus	Drug Testing	60.00

Election Source	Election Supplies	184.90
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Medical Supplies	361.37
Forsyth Township	Taxes for Property Purchased	138.90
Holiday Cleaners	EMS Dry Cleaning	21.93
Integris	Computer Support	4,754.20
Johnson Telecommunications	Telephone Relocation	294.40
Josh Preston	PW Reimbursement for Supplies	50.04
Lynn Rodgers	Reimbursement for Computer Supplies	13.56
Marquette County Clerk	Election Supplies	634.60
Marquette County Equalization	Assessing Contract Fee	26,751.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	409.19
Michigan Association of Planning	Zoning Books	436.00
Midway Rentals	PW Gloves	217.28
Mission One Exterminating Co.	PD Extermination	30.00
Modeltown Express	Fuel Various Dept	5,067.89
NFPA	FD Membership Dues	175.00
North Country Disposal	Dump Recycle	295.00
O'Dea, Nordeen and Pickens	Attorney Fees	2,147.14
Pomasl Fire Equipment	FD Boots	1,606.72
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	65.99
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig	1.17
State of Michigan	EMS QA Assess/NPDES Permit Fee	715.73
Swick	FD Furnace Repair & Goldstar Renew	655.70
Transunion	PD Background Checks	75.00
UP Kubota	PW Parts	738.55
USA Bluebook	Water Parts	135.14
Wells Fargo	Various Dept Supplies	672.93
<b>Total</b>		<b>49,058.65</b>

**Forsyth Township  
Additional Bills For Approval  
12/15/22**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Airgas	FD PW Cylinder Rentals	110.17
American Welding	EMS Oxygen	78.22
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Medical Supplies	277.22
Ferno	EMS Medical Supplies	728.00
JF Ahern	Fire Equip Maintenance	61.90
Marquette County	Assessing and Tax Rolls	40,688.87

Menards	Various Dept Supplies	206.30
Mission One Exterminating	PD Extermination	30.00
MWEA	PW Membership	95.00
Pomasl	FD Boots	3,195.64
Quill	Office Supplies	617.66
The Mining Journal	Publishing	1,853.95
The Office Planning Group	Copier Maintenance	209.98
UP Engineering	Engineering Services	2,218.00
UP Health System	EMT Class	1,300.00
		<b>51,670.91</b>
<b>Original Bill Listing</b>		<b>49,058.65</b>
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>		<b>100,729.56</b>

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 86394 - 86526  
Voucher Numbers for Tax 2153 - 2159

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**PW – Transfer Station Attendant (10a.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve placing Tristian Jancsi in the Transfer Station Attendant position effective upon approval. Discussion ensued. Trustee Bodenus inquired about Mr. Jancsi having a CDL. Supervisor Boogren stated he did not have one, but could get one. Trustee Bodenus questioned the requirements and training costs. Supervisor Boogren explained, per TPOAM contract, we had to post internally first. Clerk Lauren stated, per the TPOAM contract, he does not meet the minimum requirements. Trustee Bodenus remarked, as he does not meet requirement, the contract states the position must be put out to the public. Supervisor Boogren referred to the Attorney. Attorney Nordeen stated the decision is the Boards to make. He then referenced a few points in the contract that referred to drivers licenses and training. Trustee Heikkila discussed the length of time to get a CDL. Roll call: Supervisor Boogren – yes, Clerk Lauren – no, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes, Trustee Bodenus – no. Motion carried 3-2.

**EMS – Amend Ambulance Billing Rate (10b.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve modifying the current Ambulance billing rate of Basic Life support call at \$400.00 to Advanced Life support at \$600.00, as requested. Clerk Lauren affirmed the service is qualified. Motion carried.

**EMS – Ambulance Repair (10c.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to approve repairing the 2017 ambulance, not to exceed \$3,500.00. Motion carried.

**EMS – Probationary Pay Increase (10d.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve paying EMS probationary personnel the same rates as regular EMS personnel. Motion carried.

**Zoning – 135 E. Sands St. (10e.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Heikkila, to approve proceeding with removing the dilapidated mobile home at 135 E. Sands Street. Discussion ensued. The owner of the property has recently passed. Attorney Nordeen will reach out to the family for a deed. He also suggested amending the ordinance regarding certified mail. Motion carried.

**Zoning Appoint Board of Appeals Members (10f.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to approve appointing Jim Delmont and reappointing Ross Underwood to the Board of Appeals, as recommended. Motion carried.

**Zoning – Appoint Planning Commission Members (10g.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to approve reappointing Art Ontto, Jim Nowak, George Bodenus and Ross Underwood to the Planning Commission, as recommended. Motion carried.

**Zoning – Appoint Blight Committee Member (10h.):** Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to approve reappointing Pat Johnson to the Blight Committee, as recommended. Motion carried.

**Zoning – Appoint Board of Review Members (10i.):** Motion by Lauren, supported by Bodenus, to approve reappointing Jim Nowak, Maureen Hakes, Dwight Sunday and Chris Adams to the Board of Review, as recommended. Motion carried.

**W/S Committee – 29 N. Smith St. (10j.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve adjusting the Water/Sewer bill for 29 N. Smith Street, as recommended. Motion carried.

**W/S Committee – 248 W. Jasper St. (10k.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Bodenus, to approve taking no action for the Water/Sewer bill for 248 W. Jasper Street, as recommended. Motion carried.

**W/S Committee – 191 N. Spruce St. (10l.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Bodenus, to approve adjusting the Water/Sewer bill for 191 N. Spruce Street, as recommended. Motion carried.

**HSA Funding Increase (10m.):** Motion by Bodenus, supported by Kevern, to approve increasing the HSA funding, to reflect the Health Insurance deductible increase. Motion carried.

**Uniform/Mat Quotes (10n.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve the quote from UniFirst for uniforms, supplies and mats, as presented. Clerk Lauren reminded the Board of the fire at the previous uniform company. Supervisor Boogren would like the quote for one year only. Motion carried.

**Election Security Grant (10o.):** Motion by Lauren, supported by Heikkila, to approve purchasing up to \$4,500 of eligible election supplies, which will be entirely refunded by the 2022 Election Security Grant. Clerk Lauren gave a brief synopsis of the grant and process. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Office Building (11a.):** Clerk Lauren explained because of the water leak, the Clerk’s office is now located at the Assessing and Zoning Office. Superintendent of Public Works Eric Jancsi is meeting with UPEA Representative Ken Dillinger and contractors. Supervisor Boogren questioned the viability of the building. Trustee Bodenus questioned the process for a historical building and options available. Attorney Nordeen suggested the idea of an independent adjuster.

**Motion by Kevern, supported by Bodenus, to give Ron the option to hire an independent adjuster. Superintendent Jancsi invited the Board to do a walk through with him and the adjuster. Motion carried.**

**Mass Notification System (11b.):** Treasurer Kevern stated he was interested in pursuing a Mass Notification System. Clerk Lauren does not see a need, as the county uses a free system. Supervisor Boogren informed the Board that this issue had been looked into years ago. Trustee Bodenus does not want to spend money on something that is not well used. Emergency Manager Myron Hillock explained the differences between Smart 911 and RAVE. He will research the possibilities of sharing expenses of Everbridge with neighboring municipalities and the county.

**Funding of PFAS Processor (11c.):** Supervisor Boogren referred to the letter from the Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority regarding costs for new requirements due to emerging PFAS contaminants. Tipping fees will be increasing. It was the consensus of the Board to not pursue a millage, however, Transfer Station fees will eventually increase.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Hunting on Township Property (12a.):** Trustee Bodenus expressed his desire to make sure proceeding with this issue is done correctly. Supervisor Boogren is only concerned with the property at the ballfields. Attorney Nordeen will contact the DNR and further research this issue.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Public Comment:** Myron Hillock commented on the Mass Notification Systems. Michelle Borrett commented on the Senior Center moving into a new building if it is constructed. Bill Nordeen commented on a soccer field.

**Board Comment:** Treasurer Kevern introduced John Kay from UMIRA. Mr. Kay thanked the Board for giving UMIRA the opportunity to race in Forsyth Township. He then informed the Board that he was contacted by Motor Trend, who is interested in filming at the ice track this winter. There have been other large companies that have published articles about the ice track. Trustee Bodenus questioned the fire inspection that was going to be done at the Clubhouse. Superintendent Jancsi said they are scheduled to meet next week. Clerk Lauren thanked the staff for all their efforts with the recent office flood. Supervisor Boogren would like UPEA to involve Trustee Bodenus in the MDOT Water Project. He then reminded the Department Heads of the Capital Improvement list and upcoming Budget. The Board will need to come up with ARPA funding requests. Santa will be at the Emergency Services Building next Friday. There will be a tree lighting for fallen hero Steven Hattamer on the evening of December 25<sup>th</sup>. A Community Dinner on Christmas day will be held at the UP North Event Center.

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Boogren adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee  
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren  
Forsyth Township Clerk