

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Gwinn Community Center
October 24, 2024**

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 Lauren, to approve the Minutes from the September 26, 2024 Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Bodenus, supported by Kevern, to approve the agenda with the additions of 13d. Snowmobile Trail Resolution, 13e. Industrial Development District Resolution and 13f. Semco Franchise Ordinance.

Public Hearing: Short Term Rental Ordinance Amendment: At 6:31 pm, Supervisor Boogren opened the public hearing. He asked if anyone had any questions or comments concerning the proposed amendment. No comments were offered. Supervisor Boogren closed the public hearing at 6:32 pm.

Public Comment: None

Department Reports: The following reports were placed on file: Assessing, Zoning, Senior Center, Fire, Library, Police, Public Works, General Operating Financial, Emergency Management and Water/Sewer Committee. He asked the Board if they had any questions. No questions or comments were offered.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Nordeen briefly went over a report that he distributed to the Board. Supervisor Boogren would like the Aho easement to be placed on next month's agenda.

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Boogren went over a report he included in the Board Packet and asked if anyone had any questions. He stated that there were loan questions that were sent to Escanaba and are awaiting a response.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Lauren, supported by Bodenus, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$67,750.97, as presented. Treasurer Kevern abstained. Motion carried 4-0.

**Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
10/24/24**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Airgas	PW Cylinder Rental	38.36
A. Lindberg & Sons	PW Gravel	540.50

American Welding & Gas	EMS Oxygen	28.40
Apex	A/Z Annual Software	520.00
Auto Value	Parts Various Dept	3,417.86
Bill Jamerson	SC Program	125.00
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	1,586.38
BS&A Software	Annual Tax System Support	1,322.00
Cassie Smith	Reimbursement for K9 Training Expenses	1,053.65
City of Marquette	Bacteriological Analysis	75.00
Drug Screen Plus	Drug Testing	48.00
Elcom	PD K9 Containment/Heat Alarm Install	1,680.00
Election Source	Election Supplies	116.15
Fraco	PD Concrete	1,683.88
Galls	PD Uniforms	169.35
Honor Credit Union	PD K9 Supplies	715.20
Integris	Computer Support	5,051.85
Leutz Racing	PW Backhoe Repair	6,739.90
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	40.99
Michigan Townships	Election Training for Clerks	25.00
Midway Rentals	PW Tools	305.91
Miller-Bradford & Risberg	PW Backhoe Rental	1,500.00
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	3,964.20
Motion Picture Licensing Corp	SC Movie Events	304.04
North Country Disposal	PW Dump Recycles / Transport Backhoe	1,035.00
NMU	PD Training	150.00
Northland Lawn Sport & Equip	PW Parts	650.40
O'Dea, Nordeen, Burink & Pickens	Attorney Fees	2,164.00
Pitney Bowes	Postage	1,066.10
Pomasl Fire	FD Uniforms	90.24
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	349.81
Range	Miss Dig Calls/EMS Radio Repair	705.45
Remy Battery	PD/CH Batteries	246.93
RMS	PW Parts	227.55
Standard Electric	Streetlight	311.05
State of Michigan	PD Print	432.50
The Mining Journal	Publishing	1,029.92
The Office Planning Group	Copier Maintenance	1,007.40
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Service	458.98
UPEA	Engineering	1,167.18
US Post Office	SC Box Renewal	84.00
USABlueBook	Water Parts	523.02
Wells Fargo	Various Dept Supplies	1,046.33

Wisconsin Pump Works	Sewer Pump	8,098.50
Wolverine Door Service	Emergency Services Bldg Door Repair	587.29
Zach Borrett	SC Reimbursement for Hiking Poles & Supplies	239.25
Total		52,722.52

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
10/24/24**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Ace	Various Dept Supplies	1,014.99
A Cut Above	PW Cemetery Tree Removal	3,300.00
A Lindberg & Sons	PW Gravel	568.40
Amazon	Various Dept Supplies	498.86
American Welding	EMS Oxygen	149.23
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	359.30
Country Mile Document	PD Shredding	57.80
Financial System	Panic Button Alarm Monitoring	263.40
ElectionSource	Election Supplies	157.20
Eric Jancsi	Reimbursement for Supplies	1,591.47
Honor Credit Union	Correction from AP Report 1	(564.07)
ImperialDade	PW Supplies	389.95
Jarrold Keni	PW Concession Stand Supplies	2,367.13
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	301.91
MDOT	MDOT M-35 W/S Project	11.67
MJ Construction & Plowing	PD Repair Chimney Hole	1,500.00
North Shore Compressor	FD Compressor Maintenance	757.33
Pickles Sewer Service	Clear Sewer Main	350.00
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	237.54
Safelite Fulfillment	PW Windshield Replacement	238.01
State of Michigan	Campground License Renewal	146.00
The Office Planning Group	EMS/Office Copier	1,187.73
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Svc	66.40
US Postal Service	SC Newsletter Postage	78.20
		15,028.45
	Original Bill Listing	52,722.52
	Total Accounts Payable	67,750.97

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 89436 - 89577
Voucher Numbers for Tax 2318 - 2323

ACTION ITEMS:

W/S Committee – Extend Sewer Connection Deadline (12a.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Kevern, to approve the recommendation of the Water/Sewer Committee, to extend the deadline for the sewer connections to September 30, 2025, and for the township to investigate ways to reduce the costs. Trustee Bodenus stated the work performed by the township will be done at cost. Motion carried.

Hire Water Operator (12b.): Motion by Bodenus, supported by Lauren, to approve hiring Steven Collick as the Water Operator. Motion carried.

Hire Payroll/Billing Specialist (12c.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Boogren, to approve hiring Lori Cronick as the Payroll/Billing Specialist. Clerk Lauren stated that both the Water Operator and Payroll/Billing Specialist were very experienced. Motion carried.

Short Term Rental Ordinance Amended (12d.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve the amended Short Term Rental Ordinance, as presented. Roll call: Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes. Motion carried.

Health Care Resolution (12e.): Motion by Bodenus, supported by Lauren, to approve the Health Care Resolution Option Exemption, as presented. Roll call: Trustee Heikkila – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes. Motion carried.

PW – Purchase Well Parts (12f.): Motion by Boogren, supported by Lauren, to approve the Dorner quote for Well #6 Pump Control Valve totaling \$17,805.00. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Community Cleanup Costs (13a.): Supervisor Boogren stated this was an ongoing item. He would like to find a solution that makes the community clean-ups a more regular occurrence. Clerk Lauren said the Transfer Station would be a good spot, as it could be monitored and controlled.

Forsyth Forward Rental Proposal (13b.): Supervisor Boogren referenced the proposal from Forsyth Forward. He asked the Board if they had any thoughts. Treasurer Kevern would like Mr. Cook to get an estimate for repairs needed to get the building ready. Supervisor Boogren would like Attorney Nordeen to review the proposal for any legal issues. Forsyth Forward will be a Tourism Center and a Chamber of Commerce combination.

Signs (13c.): Supervisor Boogren ask the Board for any comments on the quote presented. The sign at the Clerk's and Assessing/Zoning Office needs to be combined. The Emergency Services Building sign is in need of repair. The Firemens Tournament will be held in Forsyth Township next year.

Motion by Kevern, supported by Boogren, to accept the quotes from Cook's Sign, as presented. Discussion ensued. Trustee Bodenus asked the Bookkeeper if it was feasible. Bookkeeper Rodgers stated the Emergency Services Building came in much higher than the Clerk's Office and is not in the current budget. Clerk Lauren stated the Emergency Services Building could hold until the next budget. Motion amended by Kevern, support amended by Boogren, to approve the Clerk's Office Sign quote, as presented. Motion carried.

Snowmobile Trail Resolution (13d.): Supervisor Boogren asked the Board if they had any questions. Trustee Bodenus affirmed this portion would be taken care of by the DNR.

Motion by Bodenus, supported by Lauren, to approve the Snowmobile Trail Resolution as presented. Supervisor Boogren reiterated that this is the Townships property only. There are private landowners on this trail that are not included in this resolution. Roll call: Treasurer Kevern – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes. Motion carried.

Industrial Development District Resolution (13e.): Attorney Nordeen explained if the Board would like to proceed with the IDD, a public hearing is required. He went over the need for clarification of area and requirements. Discussion ensued regarding the area, employees, dollar amount and years of abatement.

Motion by Bodenus, supported by Kevern, to set the criteria that the Industrial Development will bring about increased employment of at least two additional fulltime and year-round jobs; additional economic activity and an expanded property tax base or other public benefit and the investment by the applicant is at least \$500,000. Roll call: Clerk Lauren – yes, Supervisor Boogren – yes, Trustee Heikkila – yes, Trustee Bodenus – yes, Treasurer Kevern – yes. Motion carried.

Semco Franchise Ordinance (13f.): Attorney Nordeen stated the current ordinance has been in effect for 30 years. He went over the ordinance presented. There will have to be a public hearing prior to adopting.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Master Plan Progress Report (15a.): Supervisor Boogren asked if there were any comments regarding the Master Plan. No comments were offered.

Public Comment: Larry Hammond commented on the road closure for Halloween. He thanked the Board for their service.

Board Comment: Supervisor Boogren explained the decision to close M-35. Clerk Lauren thanked the Board Members for their service. Treasurer Kevern also thanked the Board for their service. Supervisor Boogren reminded the residents that November 20th is when the new Board is active. He will set up a meeting with the new Board to explain the duties of their positions. He then thanked the Zoning Department for the Blight clean-up of the township. He thanked the Board for their service and how well they worked together.

Adjournment: Supervisor Boogren adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren
Forsyth Township Clerk