

**FORSYTH TOWNSHIP
COUNTY OF MARQUETTE, STATE OF MICHIGAN
PLANNING COMMISSION ORDINANCE
#5-2011 (Amended)**

At a meeting of the Forsyth Township Board, Forsyth Township, Marquette County, Michigan, held at the Gwinn Community Center on January 23, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., Township Board Member Clerk Lauren moved to adopt the following Ordinance, which motion was seconded by Township Board Member Treasurer Underwood:

WHEREAS, The People of FORSYTH TOWNSHIP did establish the Forsyth Township Planning Commission by resolution, and it is now desired to repeal the existing resolution and adopt this ordinance to insure proper record of the action is created, NOW THEREFORE, THE PEOPLE OF FORSYTH TOWNSHIP DO ORDAIN THAT SAID ORDINANCE SHALL READ AS FOLLOWS:

FORSYTH TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE to create a Planning Commission for Forsyth Township as authorized by P.A. 33 of 2008, as amended, being the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, M.C.L. 125.3801 *et. seq.* for the purpose of having planning and zoning in the Township, to create, organize, enumerate powers and duties, and to provide for the regulation and subdivision of land, coordinated and harmonious development of the Township; and to function in cooperation with other constituted authorities of incorporated and unincorporated areas within the state where the Township exists.

THE PEOPLE OF FORSYTH TOWNSHIP DO ORDAIN:

101. Creation: There shall be a Forsyth Township Planning Commission pursuant to P.A. 33 of 2008, as amended, being the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, M.C.L. 125.3801 *et. seq.*, hereinafter referred to as the Commission with the powers and duties as therein set forth and as hereinafter provided. This ordinance shall be officially known and described as the “Forsyth Township Planning Commission Ordinance.”

102. Membership:

- A.** The Commission shall consist of five (5) members and (1) alternate to be appointed by the Forsyth Township Supervisor and approved by the Forsyth Township Board. To be qualified to be a member and remain a member of the Planning Commission, the individual shall meet the following qualifications:
1. Shall be a qualified elector of the Township except;

2. Shall meet the conditions provided for each individual member in sections 102.C, 102.d and 102.E of this Ordinance, except the geographical location of the individual's residency may be considered optional.
 - B. Members shall be appointed for three-year terms. If a vacancy occurs, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as provided for an original appointment such that, as nearly as possible, $\frac{1}{3}$ of all terms continue to expire each year.
 - C. Ex officio members shall include one member of the Township Board, whose term of office shall coincide with his or her elected term of office on the Township Board; regardless of whether the individual is an employee of the township.
 - D. The membership shall be representative of the important segments of the community, such as the agriculture, natural resources, recreation, education, public health, government, transportation, industry, commerce and other segments with major interest in Township.
 - E. The membership shall also be representative of the entire geography of the Township to the extent practicable, but as a secondary consideration to the representation of the major interests.
 - F. Except as provided in this subsection, an elected officer or employee of the local unit of government is not eligible to be a member of the Planning Commission.

103. **Liaisons:** The Commission, in its Bylaws, may name "liaisons" to the Commission. The purpose of liaisons is to provide certain Forsyth Township and quasi-Forsyth Township officials' ability to participate in discussion with the Commission in addition to speaking in public participation, and nothing else.

104. **Training:** Appointed members of the Commission may attend educational programs designed for training members of Michigan planning commissions if the adopted Township budget for that fiscal year includes funds to pay for tuition, registration, and travel expenses for the training. Nothing in this paragraph shall deem a member who has not had training from finishing his term of office unless the member resigns or is removed by action of the Township Board.

105. **Members, Appointment and Terms:** At a minimum, during the first regular meeting of each calendar year the Township Board shall consider the applications received for vacant Planning Commission terms and appoint members to the Commission by a majority vote for a three year term of office which shall end December 31 at 9:00 a.m. of the designated year.

106. **Removal from Office:**
 - A. The Township Board may remove a member of the Commission for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance in office upon written charges and after a public

hearing. Failure to disclose a potential conflict of interest shall be considered malfeasance in office. Failure to repeatedly attend Commission meetings shall be considered nonfeasance in office.

- B. A member who misses three consecutive regular meetings or a total of four regular meetings in any six month period, shall be referred to the Township Board for possible removal.

107. Membership; Vacancies: The Township Board shall fill any vacancy in the membership of the Commission for the unexpired terms in the same manner as the initial appointment.

108. Membership; Compensation: The Planning Commission members may be compensated for their services as provided by the Township Board. Expenses relative to travel shall be reimbursed by the Township when engaged in the performance of activities authorized by the Township Board, including, but not limited to, attendance at conferences, workshops, educational and training programs and meetings.

109. Meetings:

- A. The Commission shall meet at least four times per year and a majority of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the ordinary business of said Commission, with a majority of the quorum necessary to decide questions that arise at said meetings.
- B. The affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum shall be necessary for the adoption of motions.

110. Powers and Duties:

- A. The Commission shall have their powers and duties as set forth in P.A. 33 of 2008, as amended, being the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, M.C.L. 125.3801 *et seq.*; and P.A. 110 of the Public Acts of 2006, as amended, being the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, (M.C.L. 125.3101 *et seq.*).
- B. The Commission shall also have powers as determined by the Forsyth Township Board and as outlined in the Forsyth Township Zoning Ordinance.

111. Meetings; Records: The Commission shall adopt Bylaws for the transaction of business and shall keep a record of its resolutions, transactions, findings, and determinations, which records shall be a public record.

112. Approval, Ratification, and Reconfirmation.

All official actions taken by all Forsyth Township Planning Commissions preceding the Commission created by this ordinance are hereby approved, ratified and reconfirmed. Any project, review, or process taking place at the effective date of this Ordinance shall continue with the Commission created by this ordinance, subject to the requirements of

this Ordinance, and shall be deemed a continuation of any previous Forsyth Township Planning Commission. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and publication.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately after publication.

AYES: Supervisor Kevern, Clerk Lauren, Treasurer Underwood, Trustee Fowler, Trustee Hammond

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Ordinance declared adopted.

/s/ _____
Ronald Lauren, Township Clerk

Date

/s/ _____
Steven Kevern, Township Supervisor

Date

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that:

1. The above is a true copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Forsyth Township Board at a duly scheduled and noticed meeting of that Township Board held on January 23, 2025, pursuant to the required statutory procedures.

2. A summary of the above Ordinance was duly published in The Mining Journal newspaper, a newspaper that circulates within Forsyth Township, on _____, 2025.

3. Within 1 week after such publication, I recorded the above Ordinance in a book of ordinances kept by me for that purpose, including the date of passage of the ordinance, the names of the members of the Township Board voting, and how each member voted.

ATTESTED:

Ronald Lauren, Forsyth Township Clerk

**FORSYTH TOWNSHIP, MARQUETTE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
FORSYTH TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE NO. 5-2011 (Amended)
NOTICE OF ADOPTION**

Please take notice that on January 23, 2025, the Township Board of Forsyth Township adopted Ordinance No. 5-2011 (Amended), Forsyth Township Planning Commission Ordinance, in its entirety. Copies of the Ordinance may be obtained from the Forsyth Township Clerk, at 44 N. Johnson Lake Road, Gwinn, Michigan 49841.

The Ordinance has the following sections and catch lines: Section 101: Creation: Forsyth Township Planning Commission, Section 102: Membership, Section 103: Liaisons, Section 104: Training, Section 105: Members, Appointment and Terms, Section 106: Removal from Office, Section 107: Membership; Vacancies, Section 108: Membership; Compensation, Section 109: Meetings, Section 110: Powers and Duties, Section 111: Meetings; Records, Section 112: Approval, Ratification, and Reconfirmation. This Ordinance becomes effective immediately after publication.

Published by Order of the Township Board
Forsyth Township, Marquette County, Michigan
Ronald Lauren, Township Clerk
(906) 346-9217

Publication Date: _____, 2025