

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Gwinn Community Center
May 15, 2025**

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

Board Members Present: Supervisor Kevern, Clerk Lauren, Trustee Hammond and Trustee Fowler

Board Members Absent: Treasurer Underwood

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

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Lauren, supported by Hammond, to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2025 and April 24, 2025 Board Meetings, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Hammond, supported by Kevern, to approve the agenda with the additions of 14k. Quiz Bowl 2025 State Champion MDOT Sign Resolution and 14L. Ballfield Concession Stand Doors, deleting 14c. SC – Purchase Copier. Motion carried.

Presentation – Officer of the Year: Chief Kjellin introduced Officer Shelby Teigen. He then awarded her a plaque for 2024 Officer of the Year. Officer Teigan has been recognized by her peers for going above and beyond for her service to the community and fellow Officers. Chief Kjellin went on to recognize her accomplishments for completion of Field Training Officer School, Firearms School so she will take over the Firearms Training and recently graduated from the basic SWAT school. The Board thanked Officer Teigan for her service to the Forsyth Police Department and congratulated her on the award.

Presentation – Highline Internet: Bethany Leiter, Community Relations for Highline Internet, introduced herself. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to inform the public on Highline and presented Supervisor Kevern with a packet of information. She stated Highline had received a grant of \$188 million to provide internet access to under and unserved homes in rural areas in the UP. The internet is transferred through a fiberoptic cable. Ms. Leiter went on to inform everyone of the capabilities, speed, cost and process for receiving the service. She invited the residents to ask her questions in the lobby. Supervisor Kevern paused the meeting so anyone interested in speaking with Ms. Leiter could exit the room.

Retirement – Water/Sewer Operator Paul Sirois: Supervisor Kevern announced the retirement of Water/Sewer Operator Paul Sirois. He gave a brief synopsis of Mr. Sirois's time with Forsyth Township, then thanked him for his 14 years of service.

Public Comment: None

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

Manager's Report: Township Manager Paul Back introduced himself. He stated he has a passion for public service and a commitment for collaboration, transparency and progress. He looks forward to meeting the residents and working with the Board and Employees. He informed the residents and Board of flag football and cheerleading programs at KI Sawyer, Gus Macker in Gwinn, Road Closures for upcoming parades and recognition to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk for the recent election.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Nordeen passed out a report of general tasks he has completed for the month and tasks remaining. He went over a few of the items. He asked the Board if they had any questions. Trustee Fowler asked about weight limit signs on Crestview Drive.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Lauren, supported by Fowler, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$121,165.15, as presented. Supervisor Kevern abstained. Motion carried 4-0.

Forsyth Township Bills For Approval 5/15/25		
Vendor	Description	Amount
Auto Value	Various Dept Parts	1,115.50
Amazon	PD Supplies	42.36
Anytime Fitness	PD Gym Memberships	2,500.00
Barco	PW Pet Waste Bags	113.32
Bichler Concrete & Gravel	PW Baseball Diamond Sand	1,146.24
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	292.11
Carrot-Top Industries	PW Flags	1,683.88
Cook Sign Service	Office Sign Paint	217.00
Country Mile Document Destruct	PD Shredding	58.93
Eden Tree Service	PW Stump Grinding	350.00
Fahey Schultz	Attorney Fees	1,591.00
Fox Marquette	PD Parts & Alignment	867.77
Honor CU	Various Dept Supplies	810.61
Integris	Computer Support	4,225.66
Lunghamer Ford	PD Patrol Vehicle	47,931.00
Katie Holt	PD Uniform Hem	30.00
M&D General Contractor	Tourist Park Restroom Remodel	13,000.00
Maki Consulting	Tourist Park Computer	1,015.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	218.95
Michigan Assoc. of Planning	Zoning Membership Dues	75.00
My Web Maestro	Web Hosting	135.00
North Country Disposal	Blight Cleanup	932.00
Petty Cash	Tourist Park Change	100.00
Pitney Bowes	Postage	197.75
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	43.67
Red Power Diesel	FD Parts	304.62

Rotary Multiforms	Zoning Citations	340.65
State of Michigan	PW Composting Application	750.00
State of Michigan	PD Printing	84.00
The Mining Journal	Publishing	2,015.75
TransUnion	PD Background Checks	110.00
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Service	285.10
Wells Fargo	Supplies for Various Depts	1,602.05
Wex Bank	Fuel Various Dept	2,269.64
Zer0127 Motorsports	Emergency Services Building Sign	4,183.06
Total		90,637.62

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
5/15/25**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Amazon	PD PW Supplies	236.98
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	1,025.32
American Welding	EMS Oxygen	145.10
American Water Works	PW Membership	276.00
Anthony Baez	Reimbursement for Uniforms	666.00
Baril	PW Garbage Truck Repair	8,449.71
Bergdahls	PW Parts	188.95
City of Marquette	Bacteriological Analysis	75.00
DLP Marquette Physician Practices	PW Physical	236.00
Gordon Food Service	SC Food & Supplies	89.90
Hantz Printz	PW Shirts	1,295.00
Integris	Computer Support	4,961.39
Kimberly Hawkland	Reimburse for Tourist Park Supplies	95.39
Kody Peterson	Erosion/Dust Control Track/Rodeo Area	5,000.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	140.02
Michelle Borrett	SC Reimbursement for Supplies	40.64
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	700.16
Nicole Lemay	EMS Reimbursement for Uniform	51.99
NMU	PD Training	411.78
O'Dea, Nordeen, Burink & Pickens	Attorney Fees	1,661.38
Quill	Various Dept Office Supplies	390.36
State of Michigan	EMS QA Assessment	379.93
Stryker	EMS Procure Service Contract	1,088.00
Terri Larson	Reimburse for Tourist Park Supplies	333.76
Trophy Central	PD Plaque	29.50

Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Svc	214.95
USA BlueBook	PW Parts	2,344.32
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		30,527.53
Original Bill Listing		90,637.62
Total Accounts Payable		121,165.15

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 90392-90513
Voucher Numbers for Tax 2375

ACTION ITEMS:

Zoning – Zoning Amendment (14a.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve Ordinance 2025-Z3, Zoning Ordinance Amendment, as presented. Clerk Lauren clarified it was updating the camper use portion. Roll call: Supervisor Kevern - yes, Clerk Lauren - yes, Treasurer Underwood - absent, Trustee Fowler - yes, Trustee Hammond – yes. Motion carried.

Zoning – Camper Permit Fee (14b.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Kevern, to approve the Camper Permit and fee of \$25.00, as presented. Motion carried.

SC – Purchase Copier (14c.): Deleted

FD – Hire Firefighter Carter Stansky (14d.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Fowler, to approve hiring Firefighter Carter Stansky, as recommended. Motion carried.

FD – 4th of July Band (14e.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Kevern, to approve \$1,000.00 for the band for the 4th of July celebration, as requested. Motion carried.

PD – Purchase In Car Camera (14f.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Lauren, to approve the quote from 10-8 Video for an in-car camera totaling \$1,995.50, as presented. Motion carried.

PD – Purchase K9 Explosive Training Kit (14g.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve the quote from Tripwire South for a K9 Explosive Training Kit totaling \$3,900.00, as presented. Motion carried.

Department Supervisor Purchasing Policy (14h.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Lauren, to approve the amended Department Supervisor Purchasing Policy adding the Township Manager and omitting the Superintendent of Public Works. Discussion ensued. Attorney Nordeen reiterated the liability involved. The purchases should be legitimate purchases. Motion carried.

Letter of Intent - Bookkeeper (14i.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Kevern, to approve the letter of intent from Bookkeeper Rodgers regarding her upcoming retirement, as presented, with regret. The Board thanked her for her years of service. Bookkeeper Rodgers thanked the Board. Motion carried.

MCRC – HMA Paving Bid Tabulation (14j.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Kevern, to approve the Marquette County Road Commissions HMA Paving Bid Tabulation for \$471,049.75, as presented. Motion carried.

Quiz Bowl 2025 State Champion MDOT Sign Resolution (14k.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Kevern, to approve the Resolution requesting MDOT install signs on M35 and M553 informing the public that the Gwinn Area Community Schools were class C/D State Quiz Bowl Champions in 2025, as presented. Roll call: Treasurer Underwood - absent, Clerk Lauren – yes, Trustee Fowler - yes, Supervisor Kevern - yes, Trustee Hammond – yes. Motion carried.

Ballfield Concession Stand Door (14l.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Kevern, to approve placing doors on the ballfield concession stand, not to exceed the budgeted \$25,000.00. Supervisor Kevern stated the doors came in under budget, but they have not found an installer yet. Ken Dillinger said the materials are under \$10,000 and announced that Superior Extrusion Inc. is donating the countertops. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Public Comment: Ryan Lipinski commented on garbage in the woods near Sporley Lake. Supervisor Kevern stated the area is in West Branch Township. Mike Thompson commented on Water Reports and the condition of Scorpion. Pat Soyering commented on the condition of Serenity Road. Ryan Lipinski commented on the condition of Banshee Park. Brian Kjellin thanked Lynn Rodgers for her service. Lynn Rodgers appreciated her time and thanked everyone.

Board Comment: Supervisor Kevern welcomed Township Manager Paul Back. Attorney Nordeen updated the Board on the Road Commission.

Adjournment: Supervisor Kevern adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren
Forsyth Township Clerk