

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Gwinn Community Center
July 17, 2025**

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

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

Board Members Absent: None

Also Present: Attorney Nordeen, CUPPAD Representative Emily Soucy, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Lauren, supported by Underwood, to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2025 Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Lauren, supported by Underwood, to approve the agenda with the Deletion of: 11a. Zoning – Pollination Permit Fee, addition of: Master Plan Future Land Use Map as 16., moving 16. Board Comment and 17. Adjournment down to 17. and 18. Motion carried.

Public Comment: George Sibley commented on EMS service. Jeff Hart commented on the Burn Ordinance along with Police services for nuisance fires in his neighborhood. Tom Ketola commented on nuisance fires in his neighborhood and the threat of forest fires. Bob St. Aubin commented on a nuisance fire in his neighborhood. Nan St. Aubin commented on a nuisance fire in her neighborhood. Dave Daughtery commented on roadside flooding in his front yard. Nan St. Aubin commented on roosters in her neighborhood.

Department Reports: The following reports were placed on file: Assessing, Zoning, Senior Center, Fire, Library, Police, General Operating Financial, Emergency Management and Water/Sewer Committee. Supervisor Kevern asked the Board if they had any questions. No questions or comments were offered. He then requested that the reports be taken off the agenda going forward. They will be addressed by Township Manager Back.

Manager's Report: Township Manager Paul Back updated the Board and Community on the following items: a vender is looking at the lagoon, the water deicer was received, a quote to fix the pump, the budget is looking good, DPW is installing missing light poles, there have been over 200 people signed up for transfer station vouchers so far, our first responders were present at a mock aircraft crash at the airport, Banshee Park is being rehabilitated, EMS is mutual aid for Turin Township, there are chip sealing road delays, and there is a road closure for the Firefighters Tournament.

Supervisor Kevern stated Manager Back has started his Town Hall meetings, with the first held at KI Sawyer Heritage Museum, which no one attended. These are scheduled quarterly. Manager Back explained how the meetings will be staged. The next one will be held in Little Lake at the American Legion on a date to be determined. He explained that these meetings will be the steppingstone for residents to speak their minds on issues that need to be addressed.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Nordeen informed the Board that he will have a report for the next meeting. He welcomed any questions.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Lauren, supported by Hammond, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$78,042.11, as presented. Supervisor Kevern and Treasurer Underwood abstained. Motion carried 3-0.

**Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
7/17/25**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Auto Value	Various Dept Parts	391.13
Airgas	PW Gas & Cylinder Rental	43.60
Amazon	PD Supplies	107.99
American Welding	EMS Oxygen & Cylinder Rental	145.10
City of Marquette	Water Testing	75.00
County of Marquette	Assessing Fee	26,751.00
County of Marquette	Summer Deferment Ad	23.25
Drug Screen Plus	Drug Testing	64.00
Elcom	FD Pager Repair, PD Patrol Vehicle Equip	3,637.98
Hantz Printz	PW Uniforms	954.00
Honor CU	Various Dept Supplies	583.00
ImperialDade	PW Supplies	518.85
Integris	Computer Support	835.10
J. Wright	PW Electrical Service	650.00
Loyal Tees	PD Uniforms	347.77
Marquette County Health Dept	PW Campground Inspection	196.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	416.52
Michelle Belcher	Reimbursement for Uniforms	26.81
Michelle Borrett	SC Reimbursement for Postage	74.19
Midwest Truck Driving School	PW Training	3,390.00
Modeltown Express	Fuel Various Dept	704.61
Nagelkirk	Beautification Flowers	1,458.56
North Country Septic	Sewer Line Cleaning, Portable Restrooms	917.50
Northland	PW Parts	254.92
NMU	PD Training	360.31
NAPCH	PD K9 Training	500.00
Pitney Bowes	Postage	571.48
Pitney Bowes	Ink	265.58
Pollardwater	PW Water De-Icer	4,414.29
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	388.75

Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig	89.65
Ross Underwood	Reimbursement Court Expenses	61.15
State of Michigan	PD Printing	84.00
The Mining Journal	Publishing	1,332.00
The Office Planning Group	SC Copier Maintenance	474.99
TransUnion	PD Background Checks	110.00
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Service	235.06
Wells Fargo	Supplies for Various Depts	541.18
Wex Bank	Fuel Various Dept	3,076.98
Total		55,072.30

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
7/17/25**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	345.89
Integris	Computer Support	6,068.64
Lexipol	FD Training System	2,187.50
Marquette County	3rd Ave KI Sawyer Project	8,358.00
Midway Rentals	PW Tools	127.23
O'Dea, Nordeen, Burink & Pickens	Attorney Fees	1,602.38
State of Michigan	Water Exam Fee	45.00
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Svc	52.11
Zer0127 Motorsports & Designs	Emergency Svc Bldg Final Payment	4,183.06
		22,969.81
	Original Bill Listing	55,072.30
	Total Accounts Payable	78,042.11

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 90675-90838

Voucher Numbers for Tax 2376

ACTION ITEMS:

Zoning – Pollination Permit Fee (11a.): Deleted

Zoning – Mow 124/126 Crusader (11b.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Underwood, to approve mowing the grass at 124/126 Crusader, as requested. Motion carried.

Zoning – Clean-up 2098 E. Co. Rd. 456 (11c.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve proceeding with the clean-up of 2098 E. Co. Rd. 456, as requested. Motion carried.

Zoning – Mow 78 Pearce (11d.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve proceeding with the clean-up of 78 Pearce Street. Motion carried.

PD – Chief Sell Back PTO (11e.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Fowler, to approve the Chief of Police selling back 60 hours of PTO, as requested. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – 120 E. Sands Bill Adjustment (11f.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Fowler, to approve adjusting the Water/Sewer bill for 120 E. Sands Street, as recommended. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – 70 E. Sands “Let Run” (11g.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve a Let Run for 70 E. Sands Street January through April, as recommended. Supervisor Kevern would like it specified to be open ended. Motion amended by Underwood, support amended by Lauren to approve a Let Run for 70 E. Sands Street, open ended January through April. Motion carried.

W/S Committee – 176 N. Low Bill Adjustment (11h.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve adjusting the Water/Sewer bill for 176 N. Low Street, as recommended. Motion carried.

Cemetery Care for 18 Lots (11i.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Underwood, to approve the presented 18 cemetery lots to be classified as paid in full for Cemetery Care. Motion carried.

UPPCO Deed Offer for 247 W. Iron Street (11j.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Hammond, to reject the offer of a quit claim deed from UPPCO for 247 W. Iron Street. Attorney Nordeen gave the Board Members the history of the lot. He stated a neighboring property owner is interested in acquiring the lot. Attorney Nordeen will draft a letter to UPPCO with all the information. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority (14a.): Attorney Nordeen explained the intent of a letter sent out by Chairperson Randy Yelle. He continued with saying the landfill is struggling with recycling and is looking at options to recoup some of the costs. Recycling comes from other counties along with Marquette County.

Public Comment: George Sibley commented on EMS response time and Burn Ordinance enforcement. Bob St. Aubin commented on business recycling and a dilapidated house on Ash Street. Nan St. Aubin commented on children in the Park and nuisance fires. Jeff Hart commented on responding to nuisance fires.

Master Plan Future Land Use Map (16.): Emily Soucy, a CUPPAD (Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Regional Commission) Community Planner, introduced herself. She explained she was in the last stages of the Master Plan. She asked the Board for their input on the Future Land Use Map. Zoning Administrator Carter explained the meetings held by the Planning Commission and how they affect the proposed map. She further explained how the future zoning should follow the Master Plan. Some things are “spot zoned” and should be changed. Supervisor Kevern asked Ms. Soucy how to

proceed. Ms. Soucy stated she will take back the recommendations and put them into the map that will go back to the Zoning Administrator and Planning Commission for approval. Then there will be a final draft for the Board to approve.

Board Comment: Trustee Hammond complimented Public Works on the Boulevard. Supervisor Kevern stated that the cemetery looks great also. Treasurer Underwood wish the Firefighters well for the upcoming Tournament.

Adjournment: Supervisor Kevern adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren
Forsyth Township Clerk