

**Forsyth Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Gwinn Community Center  
April 16, 2026**

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

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

**Board Members Absent:** Trustee Fowler

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Hammond, supported by Lauren, to approve the minutes from the March 24th, March 26th and April 7th Board Meetings, as presented. Motion carried.

**Agenda:** Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve the agenda, with the additions of 11m. PTO Sell Back, 11n. Lift Station Pump, 11o. Volunteer Interim Public Works Director, 11p. EMS – New Hires, 11q. PW – Purchase Lawn Mower, 12a. Robare Sewer Project, deleting 11h. Forsyth Forward Agreement and 17. Closed Session: Legal Opinion. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Dr. Craig Coccia of Forsyth Forward shared the mission of Forsyth Forward. Kris Aldridge commented on the condition of Iron Pin Trail.

**Public Hearing: Master Plan:** At 6:35 pm Supervisor Kevern opened the Master Plan Public Hearing. He asked the public if they had any questions or comments regarding the Master Plan. CUPPAD representative Emily Bosch asked the Board to approve the plan for adoption. Zoning Administrator Crystal Carter stated this hearing was for anyone wanting to make additional comments regarding the Master Plan. Clerk Lauren informed everyone that the Planning Commission has approved it. No other questions or comments were offered. At 6:36 pm Supervisor Kevern closed the Public Hearing.

**Department Reports:** Supervisor Kevern placed the reports on file and asked if the Board had any questions. No questions were offered.

**Attorney's Report:** Attorney Nordeen presented a written report to the Board Members. He stated there were no litigations presently. He is waiting for Mr. Jakubowski to reach out regarding the pending easement. He is still waiting on the Boogren easement. He is still pursuing the Medical Examiner payments, however they are being sued by several entities and are bankrupt. It was the consensus of the Board for Attorney Nordeen to cease pursuing the Medical Examiner payments.

**Approval of Bills & Vouchers:** Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$82,595.74, as presented. Discussion ensued. Motion amended by Underwood, support amended by Hammond to approve the bills and vouchers excluding Ron Lauren's check for Fireworks Training Mileage of \$245.46. Supervisor Kevern abstained. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve Ron Lauren's check for Fireworks Training Mileage of \$245.46. Clerk Lauren abstained. Motion carried 3-0.

**Forsyth Township  
Bills For Approval  
4/16/26**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Amazon	PD PW Supplies	438.02
Avis Meyers-Ketola	Reimbursement for SC Supplies	98.94
Baril Engine	PW Parts	1,366.84
Bonetti & Gay - Servpro	PD Flood Cleanup	1,079.75
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	1,545.25
Country Mile Document Destruction	PD Shredding	58.93
DLP Mqt Physician Practices	PD Physical	363.00
Drug Screen Plus	Drug Testing	68.00
DSC Communications	FD Radios	6,074.00
Honor CU	PD Training & Postage	439.91
ImperialDade	Water Bleach PW Supplies	1,228.03
Integris	Computer Support	13,728.51
Marquette Embroidery	PD Uniforms	640.25
MCTA	Dues and BOR Ad	390.00
Michelle Belcher	Reimbursement for Clothing & Supplies	62.40
MML	WC Audit	548.00
MTA	Election Training	100.00
Midway Rentals	PW Snowblower Rental	3,005.00
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	1,931.57
Northern Asphalt Repair Inc.	Snow Removal	3,278.00
Pitney Bowes	Postage	502.25
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	269.31
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig	104.61
Smith Construction	Hydrant Thawing	4,700.00
State of Michigan	PD Prints & Token	240.00
Traci Ball	Reimbursement for Cancelled Meeting	426.00
TransUnion	PD Background Checks	100.00
TriMedia	Cemetery Mapping	1,843.75
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Service	288.13
Wex Bank	Fuel Various Dept	3,823.89
Zack Kevern	Reimbursement for Clothing	498.13
<b>Total</b>		<b>49,240.47</b>

**Forsyth Township  
Additional Bills For Approval  
4/16/26**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	357.23
Aaron Johnson	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
A1 Sport & Weld Supply	PW Welding Supplies	519.14
Airgas	PW Cylinder Rental	58.49
American Welding & Gas	EMS Oxygen	141.71
Auto Value	Parts for Various Dept	3,613.00
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	723.32
Brandon Frenton	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
City of Marquette	Water Bacteriological Analysis	75.00
D2BG Designs	PW Signs	126.44
Fred Magdaleno	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Gordon Food Service	SC Coffee Group Food	91.86
Hyatt Regency	FD Fireworks Hotel	2,086.00
Jason Stansky	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
John Deatrck	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Kyle Dobson	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Kyle Fowler	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Marquette County	KI Sawyer 3rd Street Project	3,908.16
Mason Bruce	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	171.81
Nick Bjork	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Northern Machining & Repair	PW Holder Parts	800.00
O'Dea Nordeen Burink	Attorney Fees	2,164.00
Phil Kirkwood	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Phoenix Safety Outfitters	FD Bunker Gear	5,751.69
Pomp's Tire	PD Tires	568.00
Pride Printing	Envelopes	274.00
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	255.31
Rich Fowler	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Rob VandeZande	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Ron Lauren	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Ryan Proctor	FD Fireworks Mileage	245.46
Talsma Controls Co.	W/S Repairs	4,465.55
The Mining Journal	Publishing	1,854.00
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Svc	234.10

US Postal Service	SC May Newsletter Postage	70.06
White Water Assoc	Water Analysis	1,609.96
		<b>33,355.27</b>
	<b>Original Bill Listing</b>	<b>49,240.47</b>
	<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>82,595.74</b>

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 91876 - 91986  
 Voucher Numbers for Tax 2460-2470

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Master Plan Resolution (11a.):** Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to adopt the Forsyth Township Master Plan, as presented. Roll call: Supervisor Kevern – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Treasurer Underwood – yes, Trustee Hammond – yes, Trustee Fowler – absent. Motion carried.

**EMS – Wage Language Correction (11b.):** Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve amending the wording for the EMS Wage Increase, as presented. Motion carried.

**Garbage Truck Repairs (11c.):** Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve repairing the Garbage Truck, not to exceed \$3,500.00. Discussion ensued. The repairs will be more than expected. Installation should be included. Motion amended by Underwood, support amended by Hammond, to approve repairing the Garbage Truck, not to exceed \$7,600.00. Motion carried.

**Millage Resolution (11d.):** Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve the Resolution to Adopt Millage Renewal Proposals for Township General Operating, Library and Police Millages, as presented. Supervisor Kevern explained they were renewals of millages already in place. Roll call: Treasurer Underwood – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Supervisor Kevern – yes, Trustee Hammond – yes, Trustee Fowler – absent. Motion carried.

**TriMedia Contract Addendum (11e.):** Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve the Contract Addendum Number 1 to TriMedia Proposal Number 2024-8864 for the Cemetery Mapping Project, not to exceed \$2,450.00, as presented. Clerk Lauren explained it was for additional headstones. Motion carried.

**ESRI GIS Subscription (11f.):** Motion by Lauren, supported by Underwood, to approve the ESRI quote for ArcGIS Online Creator User Type Annual Subscription of \$684.00, as presented. This will automatically renew each year. It is for the software the public can use to see specifics in the cemetery online. Motion carried.

**MML Manager Search Proposal (11g.):** Motion by Hammond, supported by Kevern, to approve option #1 for \$6,500, from the MML for a manager search. Clerk Lauren stated that our Interim Manager will also assist with the search. Motion carried.

**Forsyth Forward Agreement (11h.):** Deleted

**Purchasing Policy (11i.):** Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve the amended Purchasing Policy, as presented. Clerk Lauren explained it was adding the Interim Manager. Attorney Nordeen reiterated it is only for items that are currently budgeted. Motion carried.

**W/S Committee – 171 N. Tamarack St. (11j.):** Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve adjusting the water and sewer bill for 171 N. Tamarack Street, as recommended. Motion carried.

**W/S Committee – 245 W. Flint St. (11k.):** Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve adjusting the water and sewer bill for 245 W. Flint Street, as recommended. Motion carried.

**MCRC HMA Construction Agreement (11l.):** Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve the Marquette County Road Commission Construction Agreement, as presented. Supervisor Kevern stated this agreement was for upgrading Serenity Drive. Motion carried.

**PTO Sell Back (11m.):** Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve Chief Kjellin selling back 60 hours of PTO, as requested. Motion carried.

**Lift Station Pump (11n.):** Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve rebuilding the Lift Station Pump, not to exceed \$25,000.00. Supervisor Kevern stated the pump rebuild will cost more than initially expected. The manufacturer put a part in backwards, which ruined parts in the pump. Motion amended by Underwood, support amended by Lauren, to approve rebuilding the Lift Station Pump, not to exceed \$35,000 and have Attorney Nordeen pursue legal action. Motion carried.

**Volunteer Interim Public Works Director (11o.):** Motion by Hammond, supported by Lauren, to approve relieving Trustee Fowler as Volunteer Interim Public Works Director. This role will now be performed by Manager Anderson. The Board thanked Trustee Fowler. Motion carried.

**EMS – New Hires (11p.):** Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve hiring Jaime Vandezande, Krystal Neadows, and Joel Johnson as EMT's. Joel Johnson's license renewal of \$175 will be included. Motion carried.

**PW – Purchase Lawn Mower (11q.):** Motion by Underwood, supported by Kevern, to approve Public Works purchasing a lawn mower for \$26,909.00, as presented. Motion carried.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Robare Sewer Project (12a.):** Treado Engineering Representative Matt Treado and Mike Robare offered alternatives to the sewer tap in issues previously discussed. Engineer Treado would like to proceed with tapping in either immediately adjacent to the Flint Street lift station or along Depot Road. He asked the Board for their direction. Supervisor Kevern stated that Depot Road would pick up the Public Works buildings and the Emergency Services building. Engineer Treado will present the engineering plans and approximate cost of whichever the Board chooses. An easement will need to be required if Depot Road is used.

**Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve the concept of one of the two options, without any costs. Engineer Treado will present to the Board both options at next month's meeting. Mr. Robare will get quotes from contractors. Motion carried.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Transfer Station (13a):** Supervisor Kevern stated that previous comments of a large deficit in the Transfer Station were not an actual accounting of finances. Bookkeeper Carter gave the Board a close accounting of current expenses. Clerk Lauren stated Manager Anderson will review the Transfer Station costs.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**Public Comment:** Daryl Johnson commented on the Garbage Truck. Rich Johnson commented on the Drug Take Back Day.

**Board Comment:** Treasurer Underwood welcomed Jeff Pohlman as our new Water Operator. Supervisor Kevern congratulated Zoning Administrator Carter on passing her testing to further her education. Trustee/Emergency Manager Hammond commented on the cresting of the Escanaba River. Clerk Lauren announced the County is working on their Master Plan. He stated Interim Manager Ray Anderson has started his office hours.

**Closed Session: Legal Opinion:** Deleted

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Kevern adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee  
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren  
Forsyth Township Clerk