Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Gwinn Community Center
May 28, 2026

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

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

Board Members Absent: Treasurer Underwood

Also Present: Attorney Nordeen, Interim Manager Ray Anderson, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Hammond, supported by Lauren, to approve the minutes from the April 16th and May 11th Board Meetings, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Lauren, supported by Kevern, to approve the agenda, with the additions of: 11d. Ballfield Dugouts and 11e. Robare Sewer Project. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Cathy Ruprecht commented on the ERAIL program. She also commented on the need for volunteers for animal care during disasters.

Manager's Report: Interim Manager Anderson referenced a report that he provided each Board Member. He summarized items in his report. Manager Anderson explained he will also note the status of the items in his next report. He introduced himself to the attendants of the meeting and welcomed them to come into the office should they have any questions.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Nordeen had no written report. He stated there were no litigations at this time. He spoke to Mr. Jakubowski, and he is ready for his asphalt work.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Hammond, supported by Fowler, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling $318,087.64, as presented. Supervisor Kevern abstained. Motion carried 3-0.

Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
4/16/26

Vendor	Description	Amount
Amazon	PW PD Zoning Supplies	288.79
Auto Value	PW Parts	5,825.63
A1 Sport & Weld Supply	PW Parts	143.59
Adventure Centre	PD Snowmobile Parts	493.01
Airgas	PW Cylinder Rental	57.45
American Welding & Gas	EMS Oxygen	257.93
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	1,209.74
BS&A Software	Zoning Software	1,303.00

City of Marquette	PW Water Testing	100.00
Country Mile Document Destruction	PD Shredding	58.93
County of Marquette	Water Monitoring	7,395.00
David Spencer	FD Reimburse Fireworks Training	394.45
DSC Communications	FD PD Parts Siren Repair	4,005.34
ESRI	GIS Annual Subscription	684.00
Fire Hose Direct	FD Hoses	13,380.26
Freedom & Glory	PW Flags	1,107.12
Galls	PD Uniforms	156.52
Honor CU	Various Dept Supplies	533.41
Integris	Computer Support	7,011.49
Kim Davis	Reimbursement for Food for EMS Week	109.01
Kimball Midwest	PW Parts	575.60
Krystol Neadow	Reimbursement for Food for EMS Week	18.69
Marquette Embroidery	EMS Uniforms	492.75
Menards	Supplies Various Dept	1,098.57
Michelle Borrett	Reimburse for SC Food	25.02
Midway Rentals	PW FD Parts	4,051.96
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	1,205.19
My Web Maestro	Web Hosting	135.00
North Country Disposal	PW Dumpster	2,000.00
Northland	PW Parts	972.57
NMU	PD Training Dues	1,050.00
O'Dea, Nordeen, Burink, Pickens	Attorney	1,714.00
OK Industrial	PW Gloves	11.16
OK Rental Sales	PW Lawn Mower & Blades	27,038.44
O'Reilly Auto Parts	PW Parts	468.32
RDA Services LLC	Interim Manager	7,139.44
Pitney Bowes	Postage & Supplies	690.56
Pomp's Tire	EMS PD Tires	1,875.40
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	872.11
RD Services	Interim Manager Expenses	4,764.28
Snyder Drug Store	Supplies Various Dept	61.50
Spring City Electrical	PW Street Light Parts	1,364.40
State of Michigan	MiDeal Annual Subscription	180.00
State of Michigan	EMS QA Assessment, PD Prints	297.29
Swailes Plumbing	CH Repairs	1,657.00
The Office Planning Group	Fireproof Cabinet & Copier Maintenance	6,130.97
The Mining Journal	Publishing	1,758.00
TransUnion	PD Background Checks	100.00
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Service	641.18

UP Kubota	PW Repairs	764.99
UP Propane	Tank Lease	92.70
USA BlueBook	Water Parts	235.34
Wex Bank	Fuel Various Dept	3,521.71
Willey's Tire Shop	PD Alignment	100.00
Zack Kevern	Reimbursement for CDL Physical	115.00
Total		**117,733.81**

Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
4/16/26

Vendor	Description	Amount
Amazon	PD Supplies	37.76
A. Lindberg & Sons	PW Gravel	339.95
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	776.98
Anytime Fitness	PD Gym Membership	2,500.00
Country Mile Document	PD Shredding	58.93
Galls	PD Uniforms	235.06
Gordon Food Service	PW Concession Food	59.53
Heiman	FD Smoke Ejector	13,701.70
Integris	Computer Support	2,800.00
Jeff Pohlman	Reimbursement for Boots	217.30
Jefferson	FD Traffic Sign	758.98
Joel Johnson	EMS Reimbursement for License	175.00
Marquette County Road Comm	HMA Resurfacing	150,118.92
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	566.65
Michelle Borrett	SC Reimbursement for Food	125.02
Mikes Auto	PW Truck Repair	10,063.04
MML	Work Comp Policy Renewal	9,537.00
MTA	Membership Dues	5,394.73
O'Reilly Auto Parts	PW Parts	585.47
Phoenix Safety Outfitters	FD Bunker Gear	390.00
Pitney Bowes	Postage	1,009.75
Pomp's Tire	PW Tire	76.60
Quill	SC Supplies	143.17
Superior Lock & Security	PW Alarm Repair	200.00
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Svc	228.27
USABlueBook	PW Supplies	254.02

		200,353.83
	Original Bill Listing	**117,733.81**
	Total Accounts Payable	**318,087.64**

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 91987-92156
Voucher Numbers for Tax 2470

ACTION ITEMS:

PW – Playground Mulch (10a.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Fowler, to approve using wood chips as playground mulch. Clerk Lauren stated the chips were free. Motion carried.

EMS – Hire EMT (10b.): Motion by Fowler, supported by Lauren, to approve hiring Abigail Racine to EMS. Supervisor Kevern welcomed her. Motion carried.

EMS – Purchase Pagers (10c.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Lauren, to approve EMS purchasing pagers from Wolfe Communications for $8,016.90, plus shipping. Trustee Hammond asked if they were 800's. EMS Director Kim Davis confirmed they were. Motion carried.

EMS – Purchase Birthing Mannequin for Training (10d.): Motion by Fowler, supported by Hammond, to approve EMS purchasing a Birthing Mannequin for $799.00, plus shipping. Motion carried.

Samsara Renewal (10e.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Fowler, to approve renewing the Samsara Contract for 3 years totaling $6,490.60, as presented. Supervisor Kevern questioned the use of the system. Clerk Lauren stated the system should be used. Interim Manager Anderson has used the system in the past and finds it helpful and informative. Motion carried.

PW – Garbage Truck (10f.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Lauren, to approve not repairing the Garbage Truck, as recommended. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Kevern stated more extensive repairs are needed. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Forsyth Forward – Grant Funding and Affiliation Agreement (11a.): Treado Engineering Representative Matt Treado presented the Board with a map that showed the proposed trail for the MDARD grant. The trail will be for biking. The plan is to ultimately meet up with the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. He explained the different phases of the project.

Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve the $30,000 match, with $15,000 to come out of the current budget and $15,000 to come from the upcoming budget. Roll call: Treasurer Underwood – absent, Clerk Lauren – yes, Trustee Flower – yes, Supervisor Kevern – yes, Trustee Hammond – yes. Motion carried.

Forsyth Forward Director Alan Cook explained the Affiliation Agreement. He would like to move forward. Supervisor Kevern would like to speak with Forsyth Forward about some aspects of the agreement at a later date. Interim Manager Anderson would like communications to improve. He thanked Forsyth Forward for their initiative. He also explained the Board has fiduciary requirements.

Motion by Lauren, supported by Hammond, to accept the Affiliation and Authorization Representative Agreement for Forsyth Forward, with the Township Manager to be the executor. Motion carried.

Transfer Station Costs (11b.): Supervisor Kevern stated Bookkeeper Carter had completed a cost analysis. Clerk Lauren asserted the Transfer Station must break even or make money. Supervisor Kevern explained $70,000 has been budgeted for two years for a compactor, skid steer and a couple of boxes. Lead Man Parks and Recreation Zack Kevern informed the Board a used compactor will be approximately $13,000 and a new box is $9,000. A used box would cost $3,000 - $7,000. Supervisor Kevern stated the boxes will be very helpful with community events. Trustee Hammond reiterated it would be $13,000, plus electrical, totaling $20,000 for just the compactor, 2 boxes at $9,000, plus skid steer at $17,000, which puts us under the $70,000 budgeted. Clerk Lauren does not agree with putting this much more money into the Transfer Station.

Motion by Kevern, supported by Hammond, to approve not exceeding $70,000 to get what is needed for the Transfer Station. Motion carried 3-1.

Ballfield Dust Control (11c.): Supervisor Kevern informed the Board that the county needs rain before they apply local dust control. Trustee Hammond will contact MJ VanDamme for the cost of dust control at the Ballfields.

Ballfield Dugouts (11d.): Supervisor Kevern updated the process and cost of the dugouts being constructed. Trustee Hammond stated he received two quotes from Little League. The concrete quote was $7,700 for 1 dugout. The T111 quote for 2 dugouts was $7,000. Engineer Treado stated the Ballfield updates were in the Master Plan. Trustee Hammond will contact Little League for a firmer quote.

Robare Sewer Project (11e.): Engineer Treado presented the Board with a plan for the Sewer Project. There are two goals; the Transfer Station and the Heric Drive project. Due to the recent flooding, this project may address more residents on Heric Drive. He explained the process of the upcoming project. He would like permission to go ahead with the next steps: property survey, arial survey, lift station design, the EGLE plan inspective element and bid solicitation process. Supervisor Kevern asked what they are expecting for funding, from the township. Engineer Treado would like 50/50 split of Engineering costs. He stated there is substantial benefit to other users of the line. There will be something in writing to assure other users will be using the line, prior to expecting the township to pay.

Motion by Kevern, supported by Fowler, to approve paying Treado Engineering and Development $2,500 to obtain property survey and easement generation for this project. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: Trustee Hammond stated the Jakubowski property user is waiting for asphalt. Supervisor Kevern commented on the flag and metal purchases by the VFW. He believes it is the Township's responsibility for these items as they are on township property. Attorney Nordeen stated the government cannot gift items but can pay or buy items. He then commented on the VFW parking lot, which is currently township property. It is the consensus of the Board to pay for the flags.

Closed Session:

At 7:35pm, motion by Kevern, supported by Fowler, to approve going into Closed Session for Collective Bargaining for the POAM and TPOAM Unions, pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(c). Roll call: Clerk Lauren – yes, Trustee Flower – yes, Supervisor Kevern – yes, Trustee Hammond – yes, Treasurer Underwood – absent, Motion carried.

At 8:58pm, motion by Kevern, supported by Fowler, to approve coming out of closed session. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Supervisor Kevern adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren
Forsyth Township Clerk