

**Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Gwinn Community Center
August 27, 2026**

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, Interim Manager Ray Anderson, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Hammond, supported by Kevern, to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2026 Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Lauren, supported by Underwood, to approve the agenda with the deletion of 10d. Heric Drive Sewer Extension Proposal. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Jeff Hart commented on burning issues. Dorothy Haley commented on water taste. Rich Johnson commented on Drug Take Back Day.

Manager's Report: Interim Manager Anderson referenced a report that he provided in the board packets. He asked the Board if they had any questions. No questions were asked.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Nordeen explained he did not have a report this month but announced there were no litigations or law suits.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Underwood, supported by Fowler, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling \$172,842.59, as presented. Supervisor Kevern and Trustee Hammond abstained. Motion carried 3-0.

**Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
8/27/26**

Vendor	Description	Amount
Airgas	PW Cylinder Rental	64.78
A Cut Above Tree & Lawn Care	PW Boulevard Maintenance	8,000.00
Amazon	PD & Election Supplies	179.66
American Welding & Gas	EMS Oxygen	1.60
Associated Constructors	PW Sod Delivery	50.00
Beauchamp Plumbing & Heating	CH Stove Repair	751.45
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	3,623.43

City of Marquette	PW Water Testing	75.00
Core & Main	PW Water/Sewer Supplies	7,464.85
Country Mile Document Dest.	PD Shredding	117.86
Crane Engineering	PW Lift Station Pump Repair	13,050.71
D2BG	PD Bottles & Stickers	500.00
DSC Communications	FD Pagers	4,870.00
Election Source	Election Supplies	118.77
Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes	Attorney Fees	39.50
Financial Systems Corp	Alarm System	515.40
FireHoseDirect	FD Parts	800.09
Galls	PD Uniforms	638.90
Gordon Food Service	SC Supplies	6.99
Great Lakes Glass & Calibration	PW Transfer Station Parts	420.00
Hantz Printz	PW Shirts	471.00
Harris	Checks	573.49
Honor CU	Various Dept Supplies	1,203.74
Imperial Dade	PW Supplies	1,684.82
Integris	Computer Support	13,164.56
J Wright & Co.	PW Electrical Repairs	2,239.85
JE Sports	PD Firearm	799.00
Kim Hawkland	Reimburse for Office Supplies	94.34
Kimball Midwest	PW Parts	1,613.33
Larry's Family Food	SC & Election Supplies	581.58
Larry Hammond	PW Topsoil	200.00
Lexipol	FD PD Training	3,015.95
Lori Cronick	Reimburse for Election Food	562.25
Marquette County Clerk	Election Supplies	2,418.46
Marquette County Road Comm.	Dust Control	9,452.67
Marquette Embroidery	PD Uniforms	91.00
Menards	Supplies Various Dept	230.29
Michelle Belcher	Reimburse Clothing	79.47
Michelle Borrett	Reimburse for Coffee Supplies	30.40
Michigan Townships Assoc.	Office Training	660.00
Nate Carter	Reimburse for School Books	311.74
North Country Disposal	PW Dumping & Portable Restrooms	1,555.50
NMU	PD Training	6,940.00
Northland	PW Parts	210.77
O'Dea, Nordeen, Burink, Pickens	Attorney Fees	1,591.69
O'Reilly Auto Parts	PW Parts	205.32
OK Rentals Sales & Service	PW Saw & Parts PD Hose Reel	1,732.37
Packer City Int'l Trucks	PW Parts	533.50

Phoenix Safety Outfitters	FD Bunker Gear	23,765.00
Pitney Bowes	Ink & Lease	635.64
Pomp's Tire	FD Tires	6,029.76
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	775.62
R&R Fire Truck	FD Parts	763.40
Range	Miss Dig Calls	136.22
RDA Services	Interim Manager Expenses	10,849.00
RMS	PW Parts	1,003.79
Samsara	Annual Renewal	2,121.60
Snyder Drug	Various Dept Supplies	340.50
Spectrum Printers	Election Supplies	411.00
State of Michigan	PD Prints	42.00
Stryker	EMS Service Contract	2,967.00
Swales Plumbing	CH & Transfer Station Repairs	1,142.00
The Mining Journal	Publishing	7,690.00
The Uniform Shoppe	FD Uniforms	587.65
TransUnion	PD Background Checks	100.00
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Service	700.46
UP Kubota	PW Parts	93.94
US Postal Service	SC Permit	20.00
Wex Bank	Fuel Various Dept	4,262.47
Total		157,973.13

**Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
8/27/26**

A Lindberg & Sons	PW Topsoil	132.00
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	614.69
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	867.79
Imperial Brady	PW Supplies	515.54
Kimball Midwest	PW Parts	317.82
LiquidSpring	EMS Parts	850.02
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	3,774.67
Michigan Assoc. of Planning	Zoning Membership Renewal	75.00
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	1,286.18
Nate Carter	Reimbursement for CDL Test	25.52
North Country Disposal	Transfer Station Portable Restroom	165.00
Pitney Bowes	Postage	1,009.75

Pomp's Tire	PD Tires	527.20
Quill	PW Supplies	51.58
State of Michigan	EMS QA Assessment	171.29
The Office Planning Group	SC Copier	399.98
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Svc	78.20
US Post Office	SC Postage	74.28
USABlueBook	PW Parts	333.61
White Water Assoc.	Water Analysis	3,599.34
		14,869.46
Original Bill Listing		157,973.13
Total Accounts Payable		172,842.59

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 92443-92607

Voucher Numbers for Tax 2471 - 2477

ACTION ITEMS:

Marquette-Alger Medical Control Authority Supplemental/Mutual Aid Agreement (10a.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve the Marquette-Alger Medical Control Authority Supplemental/Mutual Aid Agreement, as presented. Attorney Nordeen recommended the language in Section III o. should be noted as to the length of the contract and should be changed to 60 day notice with or without cause to terminate. Motion amended by Hammond, support amended by Underwood, to amend to approve with the change of with or without cause. Motion carried.

First Amendment to Life Support Agency Restocking Agreement (10b.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Fowler, to approve the First Amendment to Life Support Agency Restocking Agreement, as presented. Motion carried.

Water Service Line Inventory Potholing – Change Order #1 (10c.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve the Water Service Line Inventory Potholing Change Order #1, as presented. Motion carried.

Heric Drive – Sewer Extension – Proposal (Treado Engineering) (10d.): Deleted

Equipment Rental Request – Midway Rentals (10e.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve the Equipment Rental Request from Midway Rentals for \$8,400.00, as presented. Trustee Fowler asked Working Foreman Kevern if the cleanup and chipping would to be completed this year. Foreman Kevern affirmed. Motion carried.

Hosting Christmas & Easter Parties (Ryan Lipinski) (10f.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Hammond, to approve hiring Ryan Lipinski to host children's Christmas and Easter parties for \$2,500.00. Attorney Nordeen clarified these parties will be open to the public. Motion carried.

Paving Request – Tobacco Shop (10g.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve the Oberstar bid totaling \$13,100.00, as presented, to pave the Tobacco Shop. Motion carried.

Resolution of Support for Bicycle Maintenance Stations at Sawyer (10h.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Hammond, to approve the Resolution of Support for Bicycle Maintenance Stations at Sawyer, as presented. Trustee Fowler questioned the location. Zoning Administrator Carter believes it will be located near the KI Sawyer school on Township property. Motion carried.

Engineering Services – Forsyth Township Lagoons (10i.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Fowler, to approve the Coleman Engineering proposal for lagoon testing and investigation services, not to exceed \$25,000.00, as presented. Supervisor Kevern introduced Scott Nowack from Coleman Engineering. Engineer Nowack went over the proposal and possible outcomes. Motion carried.

Request for Appeal – Manager’s Decision on Employee Termination (10j.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve the Manager’s decision on an employee termination. Motion carried.

W/S Committee Recommendation (10k.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve adjusting the Bruce water and sewer bill, as recommended. Motion carried.

W/S Committee Recommendation (10l.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Hammond, to approve adjusting the Rearick water and sewer bill, as recommended. Motion carried.

Approval: Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Forsyth Township & POAM (10m.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Fowler, to approve the POAM Collective Bargaining Agreement, as presented. Motion carried.

EMS SOP’s (10n.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Lauren, to approve the first half of the EMS Standard Operating Procedures, as presented. Attorney Nordeen suggested it be contingent upon legal review. Motion amended by Hammond, support amended by Lauren, to approve the first half of the EMS Standard Operation Procedures contingent upon legal review. Motion carried.

EMS Disciplinary Policy (10o.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve the EMS Disciplinary Policy, as presented. Attorney Nordeen suggested it be contingent upon legal review. Motion amended by Hammond, support amended by Underwood, to approve the EMS Disciplinary Policy contingent upon legal review. Motion carried.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2026-Z2 (10p.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve the Zoning Ordinance – As Amended #2026-Z2, as presented. Trustee Fowler questioned the fence description in landscaping. Zoning Administrator Carter will discuss that with the Planning Commission. Roll call: Supervisor Kevern – yes, Treasurer Underwood – yes, Trustee Fowler – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Trustee Hammond – yes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Township Manager (11a.): Treasurer Underwood stated he had been approached by residents regarding the Township Manager. We have spent \$167,000.00 on searching for and having a manager. He believes there isn’t a good return for the money.

Motion by Underwood, supported by Kevern, to suspend the position of Interim Township Manager and forego looking for a replacement. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Kevern has learned a lot and believes there has been a lot of knowledge brought to the table. He is interested in Interim Manager Anderson's consulting services. Trustee Hammond believes a full-time manager with a good fit, would benefit the township. Interim Manager Anderson explained the benefits of having a manager in our community. Motion amended by Underwood, support amended by Kevern, to suspend the search for 30 days and shift Interim Manager Anderson to a consultant effective August 29th. Roll call: Trustee Hammond – yes, Trustee Fowler – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Treasurer Underwood – yes, Supervisor Kevern – yes. Motion carried.

M-35 Fencing (11b.): Supervisor Kevern stated the fencing along the boulevard was put in with a grant and has been deteriorating. Trustee Hammond will go door to door to gather information on if the residents would like it to stay, or tear it down. Zoning Administrator Carter reminded the Board that if it is put back on the homeowners, uniformity may be hard to enforce. The right-of-way will also come into play. Research will be done before a decision is made.

Facility Safety Audit (11c.): Interim Manager Anderson stated it would be appropriate to do a safety audit. He has done research and found that MIOSHA and TriMedia perform the audits. TriMedia has provided a quote. MIOSHA will be at no cost. Trustee Fowler explained how the MIOSHA audit will work. It was the consensus of the Board to have MIOSHA perform the audit. Supervisor Kevern stated UPPCO does training as well. He would like to incorporate that into our safety.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Public Comment: Dorothy Haley commented on the blind corner at Pearce and Stephenson.

Board Comment: Trustee Fowler thanked Interim Manager Anderson for all his hard work. In recognition of the recent tragedy, Supervisor Kevern commended all first responders in our Township for all they do every day. Clerk Lauren reminded the Board that Board Secretary Linnee has an upcoming retirement, so a replacement will need to be addressed.

Adjournment: Supervisor Kevern adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren
Forsyth Township Clerk