Forsyth Township Board
Regular Meeting
Gwinn Community Center
September 24, 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, a number of township employees and concerned citizens.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2026 Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda: Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve the agenda with additions of: 10q. Emergency Services Building Furnace and 16. Closed Session: Consider Proposal for Employment, moving Adjournment to 17. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Rich Johnson commented on the upcoming Drug Take Back Day and the donation from CCI for our K9 officer. Neil Armatti commented on the Baseball Field Committee, grants Forsyth Forward are pursuing, and stated he would like to speak during 10h.

Department Reports: Supervisor Kevern placed the following reports on file: EMS, Assessing, Zoning, Senior Center, Fire, Library, Police, Public Works and General Operating Financial.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Nordeen presented a written report to the Board. He addressed certain items in his report. He will follow up on the burning of a building for the fire department training, EMS policies, Mike Jakubowski easement and Glen Boogren easement regarding the dry hydrant. He will talk to Commissioner Boogren about a mirror on the corner of Pearce and Stevenson, as it is currently a safety issue. Treasurer Underwood asked if the dry hydrant grant was lost. Attorney Nordeen stated it can be applied for next year.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve the bills and vouchers totaling $144,353.50, as presented. Supervisor Kevern abstained. Motion carried 4-0.

Forsyth Township
Bills For Approval
9/24/26

Vendor	Description	Amount
Airgas	PW Cylinder Rental	64.78
Auto Value	Various Dept Parts	2,123.32
A Cut Above Tree & Lawn Care	PW Cut Trees	1,500.00
American Welding & Gas	EMS Oxygen	150.66

Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	1,733.43
City of Marquette	PW Water Testing	75.00
Core & Main	PW Water/Sewer Supplies	3,597.87
DSC Communications	FD Radio and Antennas	1,373.01
Election Source	Election Supplies	774.35
ETNA	PW Parts	101.95
Gordon Food Service	SC Food	39.97
Great Lakes Glass & Calibration	PD Windshield	455.00
Honor CU	Various Dept Supplies	632.58
Imperial Brady	PW Supplies	917.40
Integris	Computer Support	7,003.13
Island Resort & Casino	Training Hotel	345.00
Jesse Cadwell	Reimburse for Training Expenses	398.00
Justin Beauchamp	Reimburse for Clothing	495.99
Kim Davis	Reimburse for Certification	226.50
Leif Lowe	Reimbursement for License & Uniforms	367.60
Marquette Embroidery	PD Uniforms	227.00
Marquette County Health Dept	Campground Inspection	196.00
Medline	EMS Supplies	63.60
Menards	Supplies Various Dept	1,283.47
Michelle Belcher	Reimburse Clothing	28.60
Midway Rentals	Sewer Camera	906.40
Modeltown Express	Various Dept Fuel	1,082.26
Nate Carter	Reimburse for Clothing	180.19
O'Dea, Nordeen, Burink, Pickens	Attorney Fees	1,408.00
O'Reilly Auto Parts	PW Parts	2,020.69
Quill	Various Dept Supplies	663.14
Range	Miss Dig Calls	120.67
RDA Services	Interim Manager Expenses	3,877.60
Snyder Drug	Various Dept Supplies	205.87
State of Michigan	PD Prints	168.00
Superior Lock & Security	PW Repair Cameras	3,351.43
The Mining Journal	Publishing	2,036.00
The Office Planning Group	Various Dept Copier Maintenance	1,559.29
Truck Equipment	PW Parts	117.56
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Service	705.54
UP Kubota	PW Parts	73.98
UPPCO	Transfer Station Phase 3 Electric	3,055.23
Wex Bank	Fuel Various Dept	5,600.62
White Water Associates	Water Analysis	789.34
Total		**52,096.02**

Forsyth Township
Additional Bills For Approval
9/24/26

Vendor	Description	Amount
A Cut Above Tree & Lawn Care	PW Cemetery Tree Cut	4,500.00
Ace Hardware	Various Dept Supplies	489.86
Amazon	PD Office Supplies	48.99
American Welding & Gas	EMS Oxygen	266.88
Bound Tree	EMS Medical Supplies	522.40
Canon Financial	Copier Lease	166.65
Country Mile Document	PD Shredding	58.93
DSC Communications	FD Radio Service	1,370.50
ETNA	PW Parts	109.10
Galls	PD Uniforms	193.00
Imperial Brady	PW Supplies	395.30
Integris	Computer Support	180.00
Menards	Various Dept Supplies	732.76
Midwest Truck Driving School	PW CDL Class	3,577.00
North Country Disposal	TS & Emergency Svc Portable Restroom	330.00
Pitney Bowes	Postage	502.25
Pride Printing	Transfer Station Slips	255.00
PNC Equipment Finance	Fire Truck Payment	73,414.46
Road Machine Supply	PW Parts	597.28
Sawyer Community Enrichment	Sawyer Parties	2,500.00
Superior Lock & Security	PW Repair Cameras	-3,351.43
The Office Planning Group	Various Copiers	1,604.33
TriMedia	Cemetery GIS	1,836.25
Unifirst	Carpet/Uniform Svc	120.35
US Post Office	SC Postage	74.28
UP International Trucks	PW Parts	667.34
White Water Assoc.	Water Testing	1,096.00
		92,257.48
	Original Bill Listing	**52,096.02**
	Total Accounts Payable	**144,353.50**

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 92608 - 92760
Voucher Numbers for Tax 2478 - 2487

ACTION ITEMS:

Office Insulation (10a.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve the quote from K2 not to exceed $10,000. Motion carried.

EMS and Fire Department Dual Role Policy (10b.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Hammond, to approve the Interagency Response Policy, as amended. Motion carried.

Sponsor Recognition and Naming Rights Policy (10c.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Fowler, to approve the Sponsor Recognition and Naming Rights Policy, as presented. Clerk Lauren suggested adding Manager. Attorney Nordeen will make the change. Treasurer Underwood would like all the leases for Township property looked at for trash and policing issues. Attorney Nordeen will go over the agreements to make sure they are all treated fair and equal. He will also revisit the VFW agreement. Supervisor Kevern mentioned the Pump Track area, which will also need an agreement. Motion carried.

Agenda Policy (10d.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Hammond, to approve the Agenda Policy, as presented. Motion carried.

WiMax Agreement (10e.): Motion by Kevern, supported by Fowler, to approve the WiMax Implementation Agreement, as presented. Motion carried.

MERS Act No. 88 Resolution (10f.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve the MERS Resolution for Adopting Act No. 88, as presented. Roll call: Supervisor Kevern – yes, Treasurer Underwood – yes, Trustee Fowler – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Trustee Hammond – yes. Motion carried.

CDL Course (10g.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve Nathan Carter's CDL training with Midwest Truck Driving School for $3,577.00, as presented. Motion carried.

Ballfield Development Committee/Group (10h.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Kevern, to approve forming a Ballfield Development Committee. Neil Armatti will be the Chairman of this committee. Mr. Armatti stated he has put together a team. He is working on money and contractors for the area. He would like the name of the entire area, which is comprised of the rodeo, ice track, ballfields and pump track, to be formally named "Forsyth Township Ballfield Community Center". This will help with grant opportunities. He stated that each area could have its own specific name, but the entirety would have one name. It was the consensus of the Board to name it as Mr. Armatti has suggested. Superintendent Kevern reminded the Board of naming concerns when seeking the last DNR grant. Motion carried.

EMS – Purchase Cones (10i.): Motion by Hammond, supported by Underwood, to approve EMS purchasing cones, not to exceed $1,200.00, as requested. Motion carried.

Zoning – Zoning Amendment 2026-Z3 (10j.): Motion by Lauren, supported by Underwood, to approve Zoning Ordinance 2026-Z3, as presented. Roll call: Clerk Lauren – yes, Supervisor Kevern – yes, Trustee Fowler – yes, Trustee Hammond – yes, Treasurer Underwood – yes. Motion carried.

Zoning – Zoning Amendment 2026-Z4 (10k.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve Zoning Ordinance 2026-Z4, as presented. Roll call: Treasurer Underwood – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Trustee Fowler – yes, Supervisor Kevern – yes, Trustee Hammond – yes. Motion carried.

Lionbear Ventures Grant Writing (10l.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Lauren, to approve the Lionbear's proposal for grant writing, as presented. Supervisor Kevern informed the Board that he and Zoning Administrator Carter had met with Lionbear. He stated a retainer is paid, then the group searches for priority grants. The group was recommended by the Landbank. Motion carried.

Appoint ZBA Positions (10m.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Fowler, to appoint Erin Langenberg as a fulltime member and Joe Barrrett as an alternate member to the Zoning Board of Appeals, as recommended. Supervisor Kevern stated there was one more applicant, but that applicant is currently employed with the Township, which makes them ineligible. Motion carried.

Credit Card Processing Provider (10n.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve transitioning credit card processing from Point & Pay to BS&A, as recommended. Motion carried.

Fire Dept – Hire Firefighter (10o.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Hammond, to approve hiring firefighter Josh Jensen, as recommended. Motion carried.

Heric Drive Sewer Project (10p.): Engineer Treado thanked the Board for trying to find a solution for Mr. Robare's sewer situation. He summarized prior request. They are now asking for only the force main to be owned by the Township. All property owners would be responsible for their lift stations and connections. Engineer Treado went into detail of the project and how it will be going forward. Discussion ensued. Attorney Nordeen informed the Board of his communication with the Health Department, which entailed the complicated possibilities of private sewer and the recommendation of a municipal line. Engineer Treado stated easements are difficult. Future sewer issues could be an issue for property owners. The pumps will be privately owned. Supervisor Kevern does not believe taxpayer money should be used in this project. An agreement could be made for future homes that tap into the system. Engineer Treado proposed that the Board approve with the use of the force main, easement and right away to get from Mr. Robare's property to the other side of the river, and table for a future discussion about operating agreements. Motion by Kevern, supported by Fowler, to approve proceeding with the proposed Heric Drive Sewer project. Superintendent Kevern requires that he be involved with the installation process. Motion carried 4-1.

Emergency Services Building Furnace (10q.): Motion by Underwood, supported by Fowler, to approve the quote from Swanzy Services for $4,932.86, to replace the furnace in the Emergency Services Building, as presented. Supervisor Kevern thanked Clerk Lauren for getting numerous quotes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

M-35 Fencing (11a.): Trustee Hammond went door-to-door to get the opinions of the residents on Pine Street that currently have fences. The majority would like to keep the fence. Supervisor Kevern asked resident Kay Guardi to speak, as she is a resident that lives on Pine Street. Ms. Guardi would like to keep the fences as it makes our community unique. The fences were part of a grant that makes the community beautiful. The maintenance should be performed by the Township, not the homeowners. She read an opinion from a professional painter that may help with future maintenance. Supervisor Kevern believes sections need to be replaced. Trustee Hammond agreed. Perhaps another grant could be attained for replacement. This will be revisited in the future.

OLD BUSINESS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: Treasurer Underwood, along with the rest of the Board, thanked all the first responders for the successful search that took place recently. Attorney Nordeen thanked the Magdeleno's for offering their camera footage that played a large roll in finding the little girl.

CLOSED SESSION: Consider a Proposal for Employment:

At 7:17 pm, motion by Kevern, supported by Lauren, to approve going into closed session to consider a proposal for employment pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(f). Roll call: Trustee Hammond – yes, Trustee Fowler – yes, Clerk Lauren – yes, Treasurer Underwood – yes, Supervisor Kevern – yes. Motion carried.

At 7:37 pm, motion by Kevern, supported by Fowler, to approve coming out of closed session. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Supervisor Kevern adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Linnee
Board Secretary

Ron Lauren
Forsyth Township Clerk