

Forsyth Township Board  
Regular Board Meeting  
Emergency Service Building  
March 24, 2011

Supervisor Minelli called the Truth and Taxation Meeting order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**Board Members Present:** Supervisor Minelli, Treasurer Nordeen, Trustee Armatti & Trustee Roberts.

**Board Members Absent:** Clerk Filizetti-Hartzell, excused

**Also Present:** Attorney Kevin Koch, a number of township employees & interested citizens.

Assessor De Groot explained the Truth in Taxation, the publications.

Truth in Taxation hearing closed at 6:14 P.M.

Supervisor Minelli opened the Budget Hearing at 6:15 P.M.

Deputy Treasurer Rodgers gave a brief rundown of the budget. Lynn explained that the census increased by 27%.

Supervisor Minelli called for any questions. None heard.

Supervisor Minelli closed the Budget Hearing at 6:20 P.M.

Supervisor Minelli called the Regular Meeting of the Forsyth Township Board at 6:30 P.M.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Nordeen, second by Armatti to approve the minutes of Feb 22 and Feb 24 as presented. Motion carried.**

### **Public Comment.**

Mr. John Filizetti stated that the project at the Archery Range was finished and thanked the Board for their assistance. May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Clubhouse at 2 P.M. there will be a get together and the Board is invited to attend.

Supervisor Minelli thanked John for the opportunity for these children and adults to have a place to shoot archery.

Lisa Johnson representing the group to open the former "W". Update was given regarding the monies donated and the effort to get assistance from Government. April 11, 6 P.M. at the County Courthouse there will be a meeting with West Branch Board and County Commissioners to possible have the County purchase the building. The hope is to be able to reopen without the pool and then in 1-2 years open up the pool. Maybe form a Recreation Authority. Letter writing to the Senators, Representatives would help.

Mr. Willie Maxwell had questions regarding alternative forms of energy and if that had been explored by the area. Wind energy in particular.

### **Approval of Agenda**

**Motion by Nordeen, second by Armatti to approve the agenda with the following additions; 11 j Farmers Market, 11k Adopt Budget, 11l Request Rescue**

**Equipment, 11m Adopt T in Taxation Resolution, 16 Closed Session for negotiations, 17 adjournment. Motion carried.**

**Board Reports**

Ambulance: Report placed on file  
 Assessing/Zoning: Report placed on file  
 Clubhouse: Report placed on file, see 11.i for action item  
 Emergency Management: Report placed on file, see 11c for action item  
 Fire Dept: No Report  
 Library: Report placed on file  
 Police Dept.: Report placed on file  
 Public Works Dept.: Board approved Paul Sirois to go to Water/Sewer Tech. School  
 Senior Citizen Director: Report placed on file  
 Parks & Rec.: Jane gave a brief rundown of activity

**Treasurers Report**

Report placed on file.

**Attorney's Report**

Kevin gave report on litigations. Kevin asked for direction with the Civil Rights Complaint. Motion by Minelli, second by Roberts to have Kevin respond to the complaint. Motion carried.

**Approval of Bills & Vouchers**

**Forsyth Township  
 Bills to be Approved**

**24-Mar-11**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
41 Lumber	Pine for Archery Lanes-Clubhouse	130.50
Airgas	Rentals & Supplies-EMS	73.28
Anderson Communications	Radio Repair -Fire	436.00
Aramark	Uniform & Carpet Service	749.62
Auto Value	Misc. Parts/Supplies	293.91
Beauchamp Plumbing & Heating	Parts for Water Repair	80.44
City of Marquette	Water Analysis	100.00
City Sales	Hydro Test & SCBA Refills-Fire	265.50
Compudyne	Computer Repairs	62.00
Cooper Office Equipment	Quarterly Copier Maintenance-Senior Center	270.00
Dalco	Building Supplies-Clubhouse	109.38
E & D Service	Repairs to Oil Heater-Public Works Garage	445.25
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Supplies	375.00
Froberg's Clothing	Boot Allowance-L. Fowler	100.00
Gwinn-Sawyer Chamber of Commerce	Dues	80.00
Harris	Water/Sewer Direct Payment Module & Annual Software Maintenance	10,061.03
Holiday 50 Minute Cleaners	Dry Cleaning-Police	49.02
Johnson's Printing	Envelopes	164.85
Kevin Koch, PC	Attorney Fees	1,159.46
Lifeloc	PBT Repair-Police	99.00
MAS&B LLC	Vehicle Repairs-Police	1,257.60
Menards	Supplies-Clubhouse	9.99
Michigan Municipal League	Liability & Property Insurance FY2011-12	55,036.00

Mike's Auto Center	Towing-Police	75.00
Modeltown Express	Gas for Water Repair	35.42
MWEA	Annual Membership Dues	58.00
Petty Cash	Supplies-Police, Library & GO	176.15
Pomasl Fire Equipment	Hose & Couplings	1,709.63
Quill Corporation	Office Supplies-Office, Assessing	173.62
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig Service	18.50
Sawyer Auto Center	Plow Shoes	114.00
Snyder Drug	Supplies-Police & EMS Building	24.84
Standard Electric Supply	Lamps for Street Lights	55.22
Talon Research	Leak Detection-Water	600.00
<b>United States Liability Insurance Group</b>	<b>Liquor Liability Insurance for Firemen 4th of July</b>	<b>Options Attached</b>
UP Builders Association	Training-Sirois	218.00
UP Engineers & Architects	Easement Work-Water Project	937.40
UP Engineers & Architects	Comprehensive Plan Upgrades	985.20
Wells Fargo Credit Card	Office, EMS & Police Supplies; BOR Training	728.50
		<b>77,317.31</b>

**Forsyth Township  
Bills to be Approved**

**Additions**

**24-Mar-11**

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Ace Hardware	Misc. Supplies	510.35
Alcopro	PBT Supplies-Police	94.14
Compudyne	Computer Upgrades/Repair-Office	211.25
Dalmatian Fire Equipment	SCBAs-Fire	1,243.22
Full Throttle Bar & Grill	BOR Lunches & Dinner-March 14, 15, 21	117.27
Menards	Supplies-Tourist Park, Water, Clubhouse, Public Works	370.15
Michigan Taser Distributing	Taser Supplies-Police	83.40
Neil's Trucking & Excavating	Sand-Water Repair	420.00
Newman Traffic Signs	Street & Fire Signs	489.29
Standard Electric	Street Lights	123.16
State of Michigan	Boiler Inspections	240.00
		<b>3,902.23</b>
	<b>Original Bill Listing</b>	<b>77,317.31</b>
	<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>81,219.54</b>

Voucher Numbers for GO, Police, Clubhouse, Ambulance, Library, Water & Sewer: 57010-57228  
Voucher Number for Taxes: 1211-1221

**Action Items**

**Adopt Contract with MCRC:**

**11a. Motion by Nordeen, second by Armatti to adopt the contract with the Marquette County Road Commission for the improvement of Scorpion Street for the amount of \$130,601.37. Motion carried.**

**Eagle Scout Project Request:**

11b. Dillon Johnson is requesting the Board to support his Eagle Scout Project to construct benches to be placed in the cemetery either near the veterans memorial or thru out the cemetery. Dillon explained the construction, the cost and his plan to do fund raising for this project and the necessity of having the Township Board support his project.

Emergency Management:

11c. Emergency Management is requesting \$500 for Myron Hillock’s salary for the year and \$625.18 for all members to have security badges. **Motion by Roberts, second by Nordeen to authorize both amounts. Motion carried.**

Annual Water/Sewer Increase

11d. Annual Water/Sewer Rate Increase: **Motion by Armatti, second by Nordeen to not increase the water/sewer rates for this year. Motion carried.**

Bond Options

11 e. Bond Options were discussed. Lynn explained the difference between Revenue Bonds and Capital Outlay Bonds. Lynn stated that the USDA and Bond Authority recommended the Capital Outlay Bonds. **Motion by Armatti, second by Nordeen to apply for the Capital Outlay Bonds. Motion carried.**

Budget Adjustments

11 f **Motion by Nordeen, second by Armatti and unanimously carried to approve the presented Budget Adjustments.**

**FORSYTH TOWNSHIP  
BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS  
24-Mar-11**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>				
<b>Department</b>	<b>Department #</b>	<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		1,890,620	1,949,090	58,470
<b>Expense</b>				
Assessing	209	169,260	156,710	(12,550)
Clerk	215	12830	13000	170
Buildings & Grounds	265	106,070	97,270	(8,800)
Cemetery	276	14,430	15,000	570
Fire	336	92,870	95,160	2,290
Misc. Debris Committee	421	1,915	1,000	(915)
NMIS	426	1,040	1,800	760
Road Work	446	130,605	131,000	395
Misc. Expenses	895	18,600	22,600	4,000
Misc. Tax/Bad Debt Expenses	899	15,900	95,900	80,000
Capital Outlay	900	52,625	61,090	8,465
Transfers to Other Funds	965	563,720	538,720	(25,000)
			<b>Total</b>	<b>49,385</b>
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	1,308,286	4/1/10		
<b>Estimated Revenues:</b>	1,949,090			
<b>Estimated Expenses:</b>	(1,949,435)			
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	1,307,941	3/31/11		

<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>				
		<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		602,600	618,525	15,925
<b>Expenses</b>		624,645	616,720	(7,925)
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	131,001	4/1/10		
<b>Estimated Revenues:</b>	618,525			
<b>Estimated Expenses:</b>	(616,720)			
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	132,806	3/31/11		

<b>AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT</b>			
	<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Revenue	103,885	108,460	4,575
Expenses	166,715	166,715	0
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	136,419	4/1/10	
Estimated Revenues:	108,460		
Estimated Expenses:	(166,715)		
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	78,164	3/31/11	

<b>CLUBHOUSE/RECREATION</b>			
	<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Revenue	305,130	281,085	(24,045)
Expenses	267,865	245,405	(22,460)
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	247,411	4/1/10	
Estimated Revenues:	281,085		
Estimated Expenses:	(245,405)		
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	283,091	3/31/11	

<b>LIBRARY</b>			
	<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Revenue	166,485	132,155	(34,330)
Expenses	162,265	165,130	2,865
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	566,392	4/1/10	
Estimated Revenues:	132,155		
Estimated Expenses:	(165,130)		
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	533,417	3/31/11	

<b>SEWER</b>			
	<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Revenue	296,500	299,400	2,900
Expenses	239,690	245,005	5,315
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	925,096	4/1/10	
Estimated Revenues:	299,400		
Estimated Expenses:	(245,005)		
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	979,491	3/31/11	

<b>WATER</b>			
	<b>Original/Amended</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Revenue	472,000	455,600	(16,400)
Expenses	315,425	316,470	1,045
<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>	1,648,031	4/1/10	
Estimated Revenues:	455,600		
Estimated Expenses:	(316,470)		
<b>Estimated Ending Fund Balance:</b>	1,787,161	3/31/11	

Salvation Army Lease

11g Salvation Lease was discussed. **Motion by Nordeen, second by Armatti to propose a new lease for \$1.00 for five years. Motion carried.**

Sewer Bill Issue

11 h A taxpayer had been hooked up to another taxpayer's sewer system, which is connected to the townships system. For the past 12-14 years, taxpayer #1 has paid no sewer charge. Additionally there were two more facilities that were also connected to that same system, and those taxpayer's paid for sewer usage. After a long discussion the board felt it was only right to have anyone that is directly or indirectly using the sewer system pay for that service. **Motion by Roberts, second by Armatti and unanimously carried to bill that taxpayer for the past 7 years of service. Motion carried.**

Clubhouse Pool Tables

11i. Eric explained that the pool tables at the clubhouse are in need of refelting. The issue of bids was discussed, and the board decided to table this request until next month.

Farmers Market

11j Libby Buchler requesting to have the Farmer's Market from June 16<sup>th</sup> thru September, at the Nordeen Park on Thursday's from 5 P.M. to 7P.M., The Market Master is Libby Buchler.

Adopt Budget

11k **Moved by Nordeen, supported by Minelli, to pass a General Appropriations Act, consistant with the uniform chart of account prescribed by the department of treasury as formal approval of the April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 fiscal year budget, by department, for the following funds; General Operating, Police, Ambulance Equipment, clubhouse/recreation, revolving, library, sewer system and water system funds.**

**Roll vote as required**

**Nordeen – aye**

**Armatti - aye**

**Robert - aye**

**Minelli - aye**

Rescue Equipment

11l Lynn has requested permission to request the 2% monies from the Indians for new rescue equipment. **Motion by Nordeen, second by Roberts to support the request. Motion carried unanimously.**

Truth in Taxation Resolution

11m **Motion by Nordeen, second by Minelli to adopt the Truth in Taxation Resolution as follows:**

**TRUTH IN TAXATION**

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Act 5, Public Acts of Michigan, 1982, provides that without specific action taken by the Forsyth Township Board, the Board shall not levy ad valorem an amount more than the sum of the taxes levied at the base tax rate on additions within the taxing unit for the ensuing fiscal year plus an amount equal to the taxes levied for operating purposes for the concluding fiscal year on existing property; and

**WHEREAS**, said Act 5 provides that the Forsyth Township Board may approve the levy of an additional millage rate, within its present authorized or proposed millage rate, only after providing certain notice to the public and holding a public hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony and discussing the levy of an additional millage rate for the ensuing fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, this Forsyth Township Board has been advised by the Township Assessor that the Taxable Value for the 2011 tax year of property located within the taxing unit is approximately \$169,652,600 and

**WHEREAS**, Act 5, based upon the Taxable Value of the taxing unit, this would limit the

Forsyth Township operating tax levy to 6.0807 mills and extra voted mills of 3.7947 for the ensuing fiscal year;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. This Forsyth Township Board, pursuant to the said Act 5, proposes a levy not to exceed 6.0807 mills for operating purposes in 2011.
2. A public hearing shall be held on March 24, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gwinn Emergency Services Building for the purposes of receiving testimony and discussing the levy of an additional millage rate for the 2011 fiscal year.
3. The Forsyth Township Clerk has sent timely written notice of the time, date and place of the public hearing to the Marquette Mining Journal not less than six days prior to the hearing and complies with all requirements of said Act 5.
4. The Forsyth Township Clerk has posted notices of public hearing in compliance with the Michigan Open Meeting Act.

AYES:   4   NAYS:   0  

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Bonnie Filizetti Hartzell, Forsyth Township Clerk

**Discussion**

None

**Old Business**

None

**Correspondence**

None

**Public Comment**

Julie Shaw stated that the theme for Fun Daze was Honoring Veterans. She also stated that Butch Peterson did the pool tables the last time they were done, which was several years ago.

Randy Buchler thanked the board for their support of the Farmers Market.

Supervisor Minelli called for board comments. None heard.

The Board took a break and they went into Closed Session for negotiations at 7:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Maurene Hakes  
Secretary