

**Forsyth Township
Regular Board Meeting
Tailwinds Bar & Grill – Sawyer
September 22, 2011**

Supervisor Minelli called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board Members Present: Supervisor Minelli, Clerk Filizetti-Hartzell, Treasurer Nordeen & Trustees Roberts & Armatti. All present.

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

Public Comment: Comments received: Thank you for paving Serenity Drive. Clean efficient transfer station. Thank you for park at Aircobra, surprised how fast the job is proceeding. Neighborhood watch program in process of being organized at Sawyer. Question on status of zoning violations and what the township board is doing about resolving them.

Agenda: Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti & unanimously carried approving the agenda with the following additions: under Discussion Items add 11d. Economic Vitality Incentive Program; under Action Items add 13h. Sidewalk Costs – Clubhouse; 13i. Trick or Treat Date/Hours; 13j. Ambulance & Truck Bids.

Department Reports: Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Nordeen & unanimously carried to accept & place on file the following department reports: Ambulance, Assessing/Zoning, Clubhouse, Library, Public Works Department, Senior Citizen Director & Treasurer’s Report. No reports were received from the Fire Department, Police Department or Parks Committee.

Attorney’s Report: Attorney Koch stated the Manthey pre-trial will be held on September 23rd & to date Manthey has not requested a jury trial. Koch will ask the judge to award attorney’s fees in the Manthey case. Koch visited the Tousignant site this date stating that many of the same vehicles are still on the site with very few being removed. Minelli suggested the township hire someone to remove the vehicles, keep the money to cover the costs of doing so giving Tousignant any money left over. Motion by Minelli, supported by Armatti & unanimously carried to have Attorney Koch contact Tousignant by telephone, followed by a letter, informing him he has thirty (30) days, until October 22, 2011 to move anything he wants to keep prior to the township hiring someone to clean up the property.

Approval of Bills & Vouchers: Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Nordeen & unanimously carried to approve bills, (\$77,582.08), and vouchers as presented.

**Forsyth Township
Bills to be Approved**

22-Sep-11

Vendor	Description	Amount
Aigas	Rentals-EMS	272.57
Appex Software	Software Renewal-Assessor's Office	430.00
Aramark	Uniform & Carpet Service	922.32
Auto Value	Misc Parts/Supplies	497.70
Battery Zone	Batteries-Fire	377.48

City of Marquette	Water Analysis	60.00
Cooper Office Equipment	Copier Maintenance-Senior Center	327.17
Emergency Medical Products, Inc.	EMS Supplies	340.05
Froberg's Clothing	UPS Shipping-Water	55.10
Harris	Pace Certification-Billing System	60.00
Holiday 50 Minute Cleaners	Dry Cleaning	52.48
Joe & Son's Service Center	Tires-Police	392.82
Lasco	Computer Repairs-Police	190.00
MAS & B, LLC	Vehicle Repairs-Public Works & Police	401.00
Menards	Lock-Office	39.99
Michigan Association of Planning	Annual Membership Dues	60.00
Michigan Taser Distributing	Taser & Cartridges-Police	942.57
Modeltown Express	Diesel	118.79
Mr. Tire	Tires-Police	144.82
North Country Disposal	Recycling-Trans Station	200.00
Nye Uniform	Uniforms-Police	323.31
Overhead Door Company	Garage Door Repair-Police	283.75
Pomasl Fire Equipment	Parts-Fire	247.11
Pomp's Tire Service	Tires for Ambulance	600.66
Quill	Office Supplies-Office, Assessor	341.81
R&R Fire Truck Repair	Pump Tests & Repairs to 2022 & 2023-Fire	5,435.67
Range Telecommunications	Miss Dig Services	18.50
Snyders	Supplies-EMS, Police, Library	146.92
Superior Lock & Security	Replace Dialers for Sewer System	1,145.88
The Mining Journal	Publications	838.13
The Office Planning Group	Fax Cartridges-Police	192.47

15,459.07

**Forsyth Township
Bills to be Approved
Additions
22-Sep-11**

Vendor	Purpose	Amount
Ace Hardware	Misc. Supplies	596.15
Airgas	Rentals & Supplies-EMS	274.10
Emergency Medical Products	EMS Supplies	9.45
Galls	Police Equipment	73.94
Joe & Son's Service Center	Tires-Police	636.00
Kevin Koch	Attorney	1,588.57
Marquette General Health Systems	EMS Supplies	266.74
Marquette Medical Group	DOT Physical-Sirois	85.00
MAS&B, LLC	Police Car Repair	339.81
Menards	Ballfield Well Repairs	54.78
Michigan Police Equipment	Training Ammunition-Police	220.00
Neil's Trucking & Excavating LLC	June-August Transfer Station & Rock to Sawyer Park	4,164.00
North Country Disposal	Recycling	200.00
Pomasl Fire Equipment	EMS Supplies	189.29
Quill Corporation	Supplies-Assessor's	25.80
Superior Lock & Security	Surveillance System at Clubhouse	1,310.16
U.P. Concrete Pipe Co.	Mike's Auto Water Hook-up (To be Reimbursed by Mike's)	3,212.44
		13,246.23
	Original Bill Listing	15,459.07
	Total Accounts Payable	28,705.30

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Library: Library President Donna Adams addressed the board regarding the pre-application to the USDA for a loan, with Lynn Rodgers doing the work. Adams further stated that the Library is still working on the final dollar amount with John Larson, architect, who is committed to providing USDA with supporting documentation. Moved by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Roberts & unanimously carried approving Lynn Rodgers proceed with the loan pre-application process to the USDA to construct a new Library building. The pre-application process does not commit Forsyth Township.

EDC: Lynn Rodgers & Minelli met with the EDC board regarding the \$140,250.00 still owed to Forsyth Township under a promissory note. EDC has not made a payment since 2009 & now wants to pay \$500.00 per month on a note which should have been paid off in 2012. It is the consensus of the board that a larger payment can be made since their building was rented & will await the EDC board meeting in November to find out if they will comply.

Gwinn Ball Field Update: Superintendent of Public Works, Eric Jancsi, informed the board that the cost to upgrade & complete the ball field will cost between \$8000.00 to \$8,500.00 rather than the original estimate of \$4000.00 to \$4500.00. The MHSAA requirements must be met in order for the GHAA softball league to use the field. Work needs to be done this fall. Motion by Armatti, supported by Nordeen & unanimously carried approving ball field upgrades in an amount not to exceed \$8,500.00. This amount includes the original \$5,000.00 approved.

Economic Vitality Incentive Program: Lynn Rodgers explained the new requirements initiated by the State of Michigan in order to receive Statutory Revenue Sharing. Lynn asked for help in identifying services offered by the township & future plans of consolidation of services with other units of government. Three phases of reports are due with the first being October 1, the second January 1 & the third May 1.

OLD BUSINESS:

Page 42 (USW Contract) – Clubhouse Apt.: The USW Contract states, under Section VI. Clubhouse Apartment, states, “the current employee will work as Lead Man Recreation/Building & Grounds & Clubhouse Manager for 1 year and will be reviewed. He will remain at his current points and live at the clubhouse”. Discussion ensued regarding eliminating the Clubhouse Manager position, closing the apartment, increasing the employee’s wages to 18 points under the Lead Man Recreation/Buildings and Grounds. Lynn Rodgers stated the contract was just ratified and that the one year wording would follow the new contract date, not the old contract date. Motion by Armatti, supported by Nordeen to close the Clubhouse Apartment and notify the Clubhouse Manager that he has sixty (60) days to vacate the apartment. Motion passed 4 to 1. Minelli suggested the Clubhouse Manager be moved to 18 points. Discussion ensued regarding a possible grievance being filed by the union, concerns about eliminating the Clubhouse Manager position when a new contract was just ratified. Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen to move the Clubhouse Manager employee to eighteen (18) points contingent on his moving out of the Clubhouse apartment & if he does not vacate the apartment the eighteen (18) points is not effective. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

Replacement – Three Trees: Motion by Nordeen, supported by Filizetti-Hartzell & unanimously carried to purchase three (3) replacement trees at \$500.00 each for the boulevard.

Office Door Glass Replacement - \$885.60: The glass on the office doors are fogging due to air leaks. Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Nordeen to purchase replacement glass for the township office doors at a cost of \$885.60. Motion carried.

Emergency Management Request: Motion by Minelli, supported by Armatti to purchase a laptop computer for Emergency Management in an amount not to exceed \$800.00. Motion carried.

2011 Tax Rate Request (L-4029): Total millage to be levied for 2011 is 9.8754 as follows: Allocated General Operating 1.1884, Voted General Operating 4.8923, Voted Clubhouse/Recreation 1.8017, voted Library .4965, voted Ambulance .4965, voted Police 1.000. Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Nordeen approving the 2011 Tax Rate Request. Motion carried.

Rezone Parcel 52-05-121-058-13 (Weidner’s Bldg.) from C-2 to PA: The rezoning was approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission & the Marquette County Planning Commission. Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Armatti & unanimously carried approving the rezoning of parcel 52-05-121-058-13, located at 44 N. Johnson Lake Road, Section 21, T45N, R25W.

Special Exception Request – Light Agricultural Activity in Lake Residential: Buchler submitted an application under Special Exceptions for 50 chickens & 5 sheep in Lake Residential Property with the Planning & Zoning Commission denying the request on September 8, 2001 with the Township Board referring the request back to the P & Z board. On September 8, 2011 the Planning & Zoning Commission again denied the Light Agricultural Request. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended the Township Board concur with their decision to deny the request. Motion by Minelli, supported by Roberts to deny the Buchler request for Light Agricultural Activity in a Lake Residential Zoning District. Roll call vote: Minelli – aye, Roberts – aye, Nordeen – abstain, Armatti – nay, Filizetti-Hartzell – aye. Motion carried.

Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Remove Special Exception Provision: Motion by Roberts, supported by Nordeen to accept the Planning & Zoning Commission recommendation to remove Special Exceptions from the Forsyth Township Zoning Ordinance. Motion carried.

Sidewalk Costs – Clubhouse: Motion by Minelli, supported by Armatti & unanimously carried to approve not more than \$5,200.00 to replace blacktop with concrete sidewalks at the Clubhouse.

Trick or Treat Date/Hours: The board previously permanently set the date, October 31st, and hours, 4 to 7. No action was necessary.

Ambulance & Truck Bids: Motion by Nordeen, supported by Armatti & unanimously carried to accept \$3,703.00 from Roger D. Koski for the 2002 Ford Ambulance & \$2,739.00 from Henry P. Ward for the 1995 Chevrolet Pickup with Plow.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The UP North Lodge: Owners of the Up North Lodge thanked the township board for paving Serenity Drive.

Public Comment: Compliment to Chief of Police, doing a fine job at Sawyer but concerned about Aircobra being used as a racetrack, further concerns from Day Care facility along with concerns for children along this road. Township will look into changing the 40 mile per hour speed limit. Thank you to board for the Banshee Park, a grant will be submitted for the park. Lynn was presented with donations in the amount of \$333.40 collected during the Banshee Street Park project picnic. Concerns were aired regarding ear marking of donations to the Sawyer parks within the Recreation funds. Jancsi brought up the plastic bales at the transfer station that the township can't get rid of. Trees and tables have been donated to the Sawyer Park.

Closed Session – Contract Negotiation Assessor/Zoning Administrator: Motion by Minelli, Filizetti-Hartzell to go into closed session at 8:20 p.m. to negotiate the Assessor/Zoning Administrator contract at his request. Roll call vote: Minelli – aye, Nordeen – aye; Roberts – aye; Armatti – aye; Filizetti-Hartzell – aye. Motion carried.
Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen & unanimously carried to return to open session at 8:25.

Board Member Comment: Roberts on garbage truck update. Armatti stated the parts for the garbage truck are supposed to be in the U.S., don't know where. Nordeen stated a work session will be held at 2:00 at the Aircobra on Saturday. Filizetti-Hartzell briefed the board on the digitalized media at the NMU Archives department; all township minutes can be done.

Adjournment: Supervisor Minelli adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Filizetti-Hartzell
Forsyth Township Clerk