

**Forsyth Township Board
Public Hearing – Library Bond Proposal
Clubhouse
April 3, 2012**

Clerk Filizetti-Hartzell called the Public Hearing of the Forsyth Township Board to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board Members Present: Filizetti-Hartzell, Nordeen & Armatti.

Board Members Absent: Minelli & Roberts.

Also Present: Members of the Forsyth Township Library Board, architects John Larson & Mike Lempinen, Librarian Kathy Holman & a number of interested citizens.

Public Comment: Citizens requested they be allowed to comment after the presentation.

Library Bond Proposal: The Public Hearing was held in regard to the Bond Proposal for the construction of a new Library building off Iron Street. The bond would be paid off with monies raised by the passage of a voted millage, .46 the first year, 2013 and .56 after that for a period of thirty years.

At 6:32 Donna Adams, Library Board Chairperson, called the Library Board to order in order to make a presentation regarding the bond proposal and upcoming millage proposals on the ballot.

The new Library will cost 1.5 million and will be paid for from voted millage over a thirty year period. The millage proposal will be placed on the ballot on May 8, 2012 for residents to consider, along with a half mill for the operation & maintenance of the new building.

Mike Lempinen made a presentation, including a slide show, of the proposed new Library building, explaining the different areas, parking, etc.

Public Comment: Questions were asked as to why the Library didn't consider utilizing vacant buildings in the township, such as the middle school or Cattron's; recycling older buildings rather than building new. Some felt that Libraries are decreasing in usage, closing or cutting back, due to technology. Citizens voiced their concerns regarding the tax increase for such a project. Some preferred the Library stay in the downtown Gwinn area. Some Library patrons in the audience voiced their support; others stated a new Library isn't needed and were against such an endeavor. If the new millage doesn't pass at the May 8th election a new building will not be constructed.

Adjournment: Clerk Filizetti-Hartzell adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie Filizetti-Hartzell
Forsyth Township Clerk

