

**Forsyth Township Board
Public Hearing
Emergency Service Building
August 23, 2012**

Supervisor Minelli called the Public Hearing to order at 6:15 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Board Members Present: Supervisor Minelli present, Clerk Filizetti-Hartzell present, Treasurer Nordeen present, Trustee Roberts present, and Trustee Armatti present.

Also Present: Attorney Kevin Koch, Officers and Employees of Superior Extrusion, and a number of Township employees and interested citizens.

Subject: Superior Extrusions application for Industrial Facility Tax Exemption.

George LaBlonde, a representative for the Superior Extrusion, introduced himself, and thanked the board for taking the time to set up this Public Hearing. He stated that Superior Extrusion is a locally owned and managed company, and that they are expanding the business. In September of 2007 they were granted financial support and assistance from local entities, to move to Sawyer. SEI promised to create 40 new jobs, instead created 65 new jobs. In September of 2003 the Industrial Development District was created. In 2007, SEI took the steps to complete the IFT exemption. In November of 2007, in a board meeting, it was approved, but no action was taken. SEI would like to expand again. They were going through the processes of getting a new tax abatement, when they realized that the prior abatement had not been in place. They are willing to dismiss the new abatement, providing the old abatement goes through.

Dean Borlace, Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer for Superior Extrusion commented that they would like to expand the company, so they were looking at the possible financial aspects, especially because the Renaissance is expiring soon. This is when they discovered they were too late to qualify for the new IFT. He then explained the situation of how the IFT exemption had not been completed in the past, to Sarah Miller, who agreed to make a special exception, as long as it was completed by October 31, 2012, and submitted to Lansing.

Janet Yager, Director of Human Resources, stated that they currently have 120 employees, half of which live in Forsyth Township. She also noted that payroll in 2009 was \$2.9 million. It has now reached \$3.37 million. She believes SEI makes a difference in Marquette County, and certainly Forsyth Township. She asked the community to please support SEI.

Brad Kutcher, Vice President of Manufacturing, introduced himself. He again stated that SEI has grown, and made a significant impression on Forsyth Township. They started with 12-18 employees, and now have 122 employees, 55.3 % of which live in Forsyth Township. They also have significant clients, of which are Ford and General Motors. They are, in fact, the number one supplier in the Midwest. He appreciates the support of the community.

Supervisor Minelli explained that SEI has 3 years left on the Renaissance Zone. The Renaissance Zone gave the businesses 12 years of zero taxes. Forsyth Township has been very supportive of businesses moving out to Sawyer.

Supervisor Minelli Closed the Public Hearing after no further public comment. He then excused Clerk Filizetti-Hartzell, to attend to a family emergency. He continued with the regular Board Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Filizetti
Clerk/Secretary