

**Forsyth Township Board
Special Meeting
Emergency Services Building
November 20, 2014**

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

Board Members Present: Supervisor Minelli, Clerk Nordeen, Treasurer Roberts, Trustee Adams and Trustee Bodenus

Board Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Assessor DeGroot, Forester Watkeys, Attorney Koch, a number of township employees, and concerned citizens.

Agenda: Motion by Adams, supported by Nordeen, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Timber Harvest Public Hearing: Supervisor Minelli opened the public hearing at 6:02 pm. Assessor DeGroot stated there is a proposed timber sale of 80 acres of Forsyth Township property. The parcel is located south of the Township baseball fields and surrounding the Water Tower on Johnson Lake Road (T45N R25W, N ½ NE ¼ of Section 28). The proposed timber harvest would be a modified clear cut to remove all merchantable forest products up to a diameter of 24 inches, except any White Pine and Northern Red Oak. It would leave a good amount of forest canopy in most areas, eventually having the appearance and possible use of a park-like setting. In 1998 there were plans drawn up for harvesting the various properties in Forsyth Township. This area needs to be harvested at this time. Mr. Watkeys stated some of the wood is over mature, and is no longer merchantable. The market for harvested wood is currently high. There will be approximately 2,000 cords of wood to be harvested. The expected revenue could be as low as \$35,000 and as high as \$50,000. Mr. Watkeys recommended moving fast on the harvest due to the maturity of the wood and the strength of the market. He presented options for Bond and Payment Schedules and Bid Notices. He suggested having the land surveyed if the Township is to have a full harvest, but if the survey is not done, there are land boundaries that could be used. He explained that due to the nature of the land, there may not be a need for replanting. It is land that is good for natural regrowth. All is dependent on how the Township will use the land after the harvest.

Public Comment: Supervisor Minelli opened the Public Comment portion of the meeting. Dale Vincent suggested opening a 30 hole disc golf course. His son is a sponsored player. He believes it will bring great revenue to the area. There are possible grants for such projects. Marie Bodenus questioned the growth rate, and if two years would affect the revenue generated for the harvest.

Board Member Comment: None.

Adjournment: Supervisor Minelli closed the Public Hearing at 6:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Filizetti
Clerk/Secretary

Jane Nordeen
Forsyth Township Clerk