

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 7:30 P.M., at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were Dennis R. Bjorkquist, John M Dontz, Connie L Jankweitz, and Deputy Clerk M. Rebecca Dinsen. Anderson absent. Also present was Fire Chief Chuck Barron, Zoning Administrator Guy Finout, Kayla Janicki, Sharon Janicki, Tom Johnson, Duane Anderson, Anthony Ganss, County Commissioner Jeff Dontz, Adam Gandolfi of Municipal Underwriters, Sally Reckow, Clara Kraus Saari, Vicki Sheffield of the MRA, and Keith Brown from PEG.

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Clerk Dinsen, and turned over to Deputy Supervisor Dennis R Bjorkquist. All attending stood and opened with the pledge to the United States flag.

The minutes of the September 11, 2014 Manistee Township Board meeting were provided. It was moved by Jankweitz, seconded by Dontz to approve the minutes of both meetings as provided. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer Jankweitz gave the Financial report for the month of September. The receipts were \$57,827.33; expenditures were \$40,679.95, leaving a balance of \$237,846.74 in the General Fund as of October 1, 2014. It was moved by Dontz seconded by Bjorkquist to accept the Treasurers report as presented. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The approved minutes of the August 7, 2014 Manistee Township Planning Commission meeting, were accepted, and placed on file.

Correspondence was received from various sources and given to each board member in their meeting packet.

Vicki Sheffield of the Manistee Recreation Association explained briefly the available programs of the MRA. Sheffield stated she will be leaving her position as Director of the MRA, at the end of 2014. The contract for the MRA and Manistee Township was given to each board member, for their consideration. Sheffield was thanked for her past years of service to the MRA and her presentation.

Ed Seng asked the township board to intervene with Connie Anderson, Assessor, as he has not been able to resolve an assessing problem. Bjorkquist stated he will contact Assessor Anderson and try to set up a meeting to discuss the problem.

County Commissioner Jeff Dontz gave a brief update on county news, including the settlement of Kettle Hole Drain, recycling status, the roof problems with the east annex to the courthouse, contract negotiations, the McGuineas Drain, and the other ongoing situations.

Zoning Administrator, Guy Finout stated August had three land use permits, and September had six land use permits. Finout is catching up on a number of items after a

brief vacation.

Fire Chief Chuck Barron, stated the Manistee Township Fire Department held seven training & meeting sessions. They responded to five fire and twenty-three medical runs during the month of September. Six burning permits were issued in September. Fire Prevention Day was held on Sunday October 5, 2014. There were more than 170 youngsters who participated. There are firemen who are working on Grants. All total with service, training, and daily duties the MTFD had 536 hours for the month of September. \$10,000.00 funding has been secured toward the construction of a fire training site that would be built with shipping containers. The shipping containers were delivered to the Fire Hall site. Permits will need to be secured, footings poured, some welding would be required, as well as a check of township liability insurance. Bjorkquist has checked with Attorney Wilson on the Automatic Aid Agreement with the Village of Eastlake. Wilson has a few typographical changes to be made in the agreement, and it will be ready for signing, by Manistee Township.

Clara Kraus Saari attended the Oaks Prison Liaison committee meeting. Saari stated there are 1114 prisoners and 330 staff at the Oaks. Overall Michigan is short staffed in their prisons, as the state no longer will pay for the required training. For the sixth year in a row the Oaks Prison staff again placed first in the state with their pistol shooting team.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been no other significant changes to any liquor licenses during the month of September.

Bar Lake Improvement has completed their second treatment, of Bar Lake. This treatment with Round Up was for phragmites. The prior treatment was for milfoil.

The Revenue Sharing Board grant application deadline has passed. Verbal presentations will be October 6, 2014, at the Manistee Township Hall.

Adam Gandolfi of Michigan Underwriters explained and updated the township board members on our insurance policy. This brought us up to date, and offers us opportunity to questions our insurance needs, and values.

There will be a meeting on the McGuineas Drain on October 30, 2014. They do not have a proposed district, or have any definite plans on the direction of the drain.

The Manistee Township Hall now has heat or air conditioning. The furnace room area drywall and insulation have been replaced, and new air and heating units have been installed. Today is the first day with heating and air conditioning! Thank you!

Due to the passing of Clerk, Joy Hutchinson, the board has been interviewing applicants for the Clerk's position.

The vacancy of the Supervisor's position was discussed. It was moved by Dontz,

seconded by Jankweitz to appoint Dennis R Bjorkquist to fill the unexpired term of John W Anderson, as Manistee Township Supervisor. Dontz, Jankweitz voting in favor. Bjorkquist abstaining. Motion carried. Congratulations Supervisor Bjorkquist!

Bjorkquist noted there was an accident at the Bar Lake outlet site, with a car crashing down the steps, and taking out the northern end of the hand rail. Bjorkquist is working to get the accident report, and follow the procedure for reconstruction.

There is a signed garbage contract with Waste Reduction for a percentage increase. There is a copy of that contract with an actual dollar amount of increase that is unsigned. By consensus Bjorkquist was given permission to sign the garbage contract with the dollar amount of the percentage.

Snow removal specifications were advertised to be opened at this meeting. There was only one bid received, and that was from Forbes who has been our contractor. The amounts remained unchanged with 4 wheel drive truck \$35.00 per hour, Sander \$35.00 per hour, and a Loader \$60.00 per hours. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Jankweitz to accept the snow removal bid of Forbes for the 2014 – 2015 year. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The family of John W Anderson will be holding an Open House on Saturday, October 18, 2014 from 1 until 4 PM at the Manistee Township Hall to honor his retirement after many years of service, to the people of Manistee Township. No gifts, just smiles and best wishes!

The current bills in the amount of \$67,146.12 for the month of October were presented.

It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to pay the bills as they are received for the month of October. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The Manistee County Road Commission would like all townships to endorse a permanent funding solution for Road Commissions throughout the State of Michigan. They had sent a copy of their resolution to the township. By consensus it was felt we should support a funding solution for road commissions.

Fire Chief Barron noted the township lost the opportunity on a good replacement truck for the department, because he did not know if he could spend the money. It was moved by Jankweitz, seconded by Dontz to allow the Manistee Township Fire Department to spend up to \$120,000.00 on a replacement truck for the 1978 model. Jankweitz assured those in attendance the major truck replacement fund would facilitate this purchase. Dontz, Jankweitz, Bjorkquist voting in favor. Motion carried.

The MRA Annual Contract was not acted on, and was tabled until the November 5, 2014 meeting.

The **Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association** will meet at

the **Bear Lake Township Hall** on **Wednesday, October 22, 2014, at 7:00 P.M.**

The next regular monthly meeting of the **Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board** will be held on **Tuesday, November 4, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.** at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street, *if there is an appeal.*

The next regular monthly meeting of the **Manistee Township Planning Commission** will be held on **Thursday, November 6, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.** at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

The next regular monthly meeting of the **Manistee Township Board** will be held on the first **Wednesday, November 5, 2014, at 7:30 P.M.** at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

The next regular meeting of the **Bar Lake Improvement Board** will be held on **Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:00 PM** at the Manistee Township Hall.

There being no further business or public comment to come before the board, it was moved by Dontz seconded by Bjorkquist to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 P.M. Bjorkquist, Dontz, and Jankweitz voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC  
Manistee Township Deputy Clerk