

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, January 15, 2015 at 7:30 P.M., at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were Dennis Bjorkquist, John Dontz, Guy Finout, Connie Jankwietz, and Dianne Taylor. Also present were Fire Chief Chuck Barron, County Commissioner Jeff Dontz, Deputy Clerk Karen Clouse, Dan Revolt, Gus Storm, and Keith Brown from PEG.

Supervisor Dennis Bjorkquist called the meeting to order. All attending stood and opened with the pledge to the United States flag.

Minutes from the December 11, 2014 Manistee Township Board Meeting were provided. There being no corrections, Trustee Dontz made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Clerk Taylor. All voted in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Jankwietz gave the Treasurer's report for the month of December. The receipts were \$14,247.25; expenditures were \$35,729.37, leaving a balance of \$169,082.68 in the General Fund as of December 31, 2014. It was moved by Supervisor Bjorkquist, seconded by Clerk Taylor to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Guy Finout reported the Planning Commission did have a meeting in December 2014. The Commission did meet in January 2015 as well; however, the minutes are not available as yet. Trustee Finout will follow up on minutes. There being no appeals, the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals meeting scheduled for January 6, 2015 was cancelled.

Clerk Taylor reported the Annual Audited Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2014 was completed and submitted to the Board. There are no compliance issues in the report and it was filed with the State of Michigan before December 31, 2014. Supervisor Bjorkquist complimented Clerk Taylor and Treasurer Jankwietz on a job well done. Clerk Taylor stated Gabridge & Company, Certified Public Accountants, were very pleased to work with the Township this year.

County Commissioner Jeff Dontz reported, based on the County Treasurer's preliminary report, that while additional money was committed to legal issues, the County year-end balances look good. The Manistee City library continues to research options to cover the costs of upgrading and/or replacing the current HVAC system. It is possible some costs may need to be brought before the voters at a later date. Mr. Dontz also met with Mr. Barker from WSMC. While the hospital was anticipating a loss due to critical access monies being taken away, early reports indicated WSMC will experience a gain,

in part, as a result of an increase in ER traffic and the opening of the Walk-In Clinic. WSMC received a bond rating of AA, the best you can receive. Mr. Dontz reported the Road Commission is committing to 18 miles of chip and seal in 2015; they received a new plow truck, and there has been interest shown in the Kaleva Garage property.

Trustee Finout reported on the activity in the Zoning office. Homeward Bound has applied for a permit for an addition to their building. The sanitary sewer/water committee met with Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in December. Current plans call for a lift station near the Sheriff Department; however, due to topographical limitations, another lift station needs to be put in near M-55. The ideal location would be on land near the MAPS bus garage (old Kennedy School). Trustee Dontz is meeting with MAPS to determine land availability and to put this item on the MAPS meeting agenda. There are no changes with the McGuinness Drain as yet.

Fire Chief Chuck Barron presented numbers for December 2014. 6 meetings were held; 23 medical runs, 7 fire runs, 23 first responder. They had 377 billable hours with 75 of those for the Fire Chief and 87 for the office. Testing has been completed on the trucks. Apparatus tone will be installed. The new truck should be arriving soon. Boon Fire Department has expressed an interest in #133; #131 had the water indicator repaired; #132 sidelights repaired; and, #135 lights were repaired. Tom Johnson met with Grand Traverse mobile to repair the radio background noise. The push button garage door openers were fixed. Jim Edmondson has built a rack to house blueprints. Gear has been distributed and the inventory on the PPE gear has been completed; they are in compliance with all equipment. No new applicants but currently recruiting. Tentative training dates have been looked at. Chief Barron presented the 2014 year-end report that was sent to the state: a total of 286 runs included 14 fires and 209 emergency medical calls. Since 2013, total calls have increased by 107. The new software for the Fire Hall, with a cost of 900 initially and an annual maintenance fee of 150/180 per year, allows inventory of trucks and hoses, gives specific dates for apparatus checks, expiration warnings, fire inspections, hydrant checks, incident reporting, ladders, etc. and is helping the department to do more and do it more efficiently. Chief Barron thanked everyone for attending the year-end party.

Supervisor Bjorkquist, as Liquor Inspector, stated there are no changes.

Oak Prison Quarterly Report will be handled by Clara Saari.

Revenue Sharing Board meeting scheduled for January 12, 2015 was cancelled.

Supervisor Bjorkquist presented Gus Storm with a charter member and service provider award for his many years of dedicated service to the Manistee Township Fire Department.

Supervisor Bjorkquist reported the Board of Review members need to be appointed for the 2015/2016 term. The former members, Dan Revolt, Paul Revolt, Tom Johnson, and

alternate, Todd Mallison, have all expressed an interest in serving again. Clerk Taylor suggested a motion to reappoint all at once; however, Treasurer Jankwietz requested recommended they each be appointed separately. Trustee Dontz motioned to approve the new committee members one at a time; Clerk Taylor seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Dontz motioned, seconded by Clerk Taylor, to appoint Dan Revolt to the Board of Review for the 2015/2016 term. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk Taylor motioned, seconded by Trustee Dontz, to appoint Tom Johnson to the Board of Review for the 2015/2016 term. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Dontz motioned, Clerk Taylor seconded, to appoint Paul Revolt to the Board of Review for the 2015/2016 term. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Dontz motioned, Trustee Finout seconded, to appoint Todd Mallison as alternate to the Board of Review. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Bjorkquist noted that it is often difficult for Mr. Mallison to attend the meetings; therefore, it may be necessary to appoint an additional alternate at a later date.

Supervisor Bjorkquist reported Mr. Sholden, Manistee County Road Commission, has notified him that the Dontz/Kott Road resurfacing project is slated for 2017.

Clerk Taylor reported an election is scheduled for May, 2015 and the voting machine testing is currently scheduled for April 8, 2015 at the Township Hall.

Bills for January totaling \$33,257.10 were presented. Trustee Dontz made motion to pay the bills as presented and received for the month of January. Trustee Finout seconded. Motion moved and supported. All in favor. Motion passed.

Trustee Dontz notified the board he will be absent for the February and March meetings; he requested Supervisor Bjorkquist to add a discussion of the culverts on Bar Lake Road to the next Board meeting agenda. Currently water runoff from spring melting runs over the roads, located mostly between Bentoski and Schoedel Roads.

Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Township Association will meet at the **Brown Township Hall** on **Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.**

The Manistee Township Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on **Tuesday, February 3, 2015** at the **Manistee Township Hall**, if there is an appeal.

Manistee Township Planning Commission will meet on **Thursday, February 5, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.** to discuss amendments for (1) banking in a commercial area and (2) easements for neighbors that do not have a driveway or street access to their property.

The next regular meeting for the **Cromer/McGuinness Drain** will be held on **Thursday, March 26, 2015** at the **Manistee Township Hall**.

The **Manistee Township Board of Review, Errors and Omissions**, will be held on **Monday, March 9, 2015** from **9:00 to 12:00 A.M.** and **1:00 to 4:00 P.M.**, and on **Tuesday, March 10, 2015** from **2:00 to 4:00 P.M.** and **5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.** at the Manistee Township Hall.

Next regular meeting of the **Manistee Township Board** will be held on **Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 7:30 P.M.** at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

Bar Lake Improvement Board will meet **Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.**

There being no further business or public comments to come before the board, it was moved by Trustee Dontz, seconded by Treasurer Jankqwietz, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Taylor
Manistee Township Clerk