

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 7:30 P.M., at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were Dennis Bjorkquist, Guy Finout, Connie Jankwietz, and Dianne Taylor. Board member John Dontz was absent. Also present were Fire Chief Chuck Barron, Asst. Fire Chief Tom Johnson, Deputy Clerk Karen Clouse, County Commissioner Jeff Dontz, Dan Revolt, Ed Seng 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 February 12, 2015 Manistee Township Board Meeting were provided. Treasurer Connie Jankwietz made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Trustee Guy Finout. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer Jankwietz gave the Treasurer's report for the month of February. The receipts were \$98,130.13; expenditures were \$156,004.31 leaving a balance of \$130,968.24 in the General Fund as of February 28, 2015. Treasurer Jankwietz stated the expenditures were high for February due to the purchase of the ladder fire truck. It was moved by Trustee Finout, seconded by Clerk Taylor to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

The Manistee Township Planning Commission did not meet in March due to unforeseen circumstances; therefore, minutes from the February 5, 2015 meeting have not been approved as of yet.

Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board did not have a meeting in February.

Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if anyone had anything to bring before the Board; there were no requests or comments at this time.

County Commissioner Jeff Dontz presented the Manistee County activity. At the Manistee County Road Commission meeting, discussion took place regarding road extension for unimproved roads with a driveway attached to it in Onekama Township. This process would result in some road extensions being paved when the main road is just gravel. An Arcadia Township resident presented the MCRC with a power point presentation showing the damage to his home and property after the culvert that runs through his property was enlarged from 48 inches to 87 inches. The MCRC is working with the DEQ to resolve this issue so no further damage is done. Weight limit restrictions went into effect at 6 A.M. March 11, 2015. Interest is shown in improving Red Bridge in 2016/2018. Mike Edwards will be providing legal services at a lower rate. Temporary workers are still on the schedule for the MCRC and they are still recruiting a

mechanic. Discussion occurred regarding the Proposal for the May election with no action made. Centra Wellness and County Law Enforcement are looking to work together. The furnace at the Manistee County Library did stop working. Temporary repairs have been completed; however, the heating system is still in need of a permanent repair. County has upgraded their phone system. Discussion occurred regarding the Manistee Township Board taking over check writing duties for the Bar Lake Improvement Board. Treasurer Jankweitz stated she had given Charlie Ganss a report indicating current monies; however, she is checking with the Township's auditor on the legalities of providing check writing services for a small group of Township residents vs. the Township as a whole.

Trustee Guy Finout, acting as the Zoning Administrator, stated there was one (1) land use permit requested and granted in February for a new home. No complaints made.

Fire Chief Chuck Barron presented Fire Department information for February 2015, indicating 6 meetings and/or training sessions were held; 22 medical runs, and 3 fire runs. They had 399 billable hours including 84 for the Fire Chief and 89 for the office. New truck has been delivered to the Fire Department by Chief Barron and they are currently transferring equipment from #133 to Ladder #133. Some training on the new truck has begun, with ladder training beginning as weather permits. DOT inspection will be occurring one month early. A portion of the exhaust will need to be replaced on #134 and lights were repaired/replaced on #134 and #137. Another fire department has expressed interest in purchasing #133. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) bottles were received from Frankfort at no cost and the unit for the maps is almost complete; quotes for new hoses are coming in; and 16 Hi Visibility Traffic vests have been purchased. On March 28, 2015, a county wide emergency training session will be held at the Blacker Airport with all Township Fire Depts. The Meijer gas station and store will have the first NOX boxes in the county. The NOX box allows the Fire Department to gain access to a building without breaking down doors. Asst. Chief Tom Johnson is currently in charge of the NOX boxes. Still researching grants monies for a computer system to help with inventories and maintenance reports. Fire Inspections were done at the casino in February and a walk thru was done at the Meijer store. Meijer will take possession of the building on March 16, 2015 and expects to open mid to late April 2015.

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

Commissioner Dontz stated there was nothing pertinent to report at the Oaks Prison.

Under Old Business, there was no new information available on the Cromer/McGuinness Drain and further discussion on a possible subdivision developer fee split was tabled until additional information was available.

The Manistee Conservation District has provided a corrected invoice in the amount of \$1145.00 (instead of \$1300.00) for Manistee Township share of the Household

Hazardous Waste/Clean Sweep Collection Day scheduled for August 15, 2015 from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at the Manistee County Road Commission.

A letter was received from Charlie Ganss requesting the Township convert the current loan to the Bar Lake Improvement Board to a grant. Discussion was tabled until a full board is present to discuss the issue.

Supervisor Bjorkquist stated the Board of Review met March 9 & 10, 2015. As Supervisor, he is required to serve as secretary of the Board of Review. He thanked the BOR members Dan Revolt, Tom Johnson, Paul Revolt, and Todd Mallison for their great work and how well they represented the Township.

Supervisor Bjorkquist requested dialogue be started for any road projects residents of the Township would like to see occur.

Bills for March totaling \$35,978.51 were presented. Treasurer Jankweitz motioned to pay the bills as presented and received for the month of March. Trustee Finout seconded. Supervisor Bjorkquist questioned Chief Barron on the amount of the bill from Grand Traverse Mobile. Chief Barron stated the amount included three (3) separate invoices for transferring the radio from #133 to Ladder #133 and replacement/repair of lights on two other trucks. All in favor. Motion passed.

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

**The Manistee Township Zoning Board of Appeals** will meet on **Tuesday, April 7, 2015** at the **Manistee Township Hall**, if there is an appeal.

**Manistee Township Planning Commission** will meet on **Thursday, April 16, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.**

The next regular meeting for the **Cromer/McGuinness Drain** will be held on **Thursday, March 26, 2015 at 6 P.M.** at the **Manistee Township Hall.**

Next regular meeting of the **Manistee Township Board** will be held on **Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 7:30 P.M.** at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

Mr. Edward Seng addressed the board during public comment regarding the City of Manistee water issues. Mr. Seng is concerned about the Township working in the future with the City regarding water, since the City's last resource to expand is through the Township. His opinion was this action would not be advantageous for the Township. Mr. Seng questioned if the Board had considered becoming a Charter Township and has this option been researched? Supervisor Bjorkquist indicated there had been

discussion in the past; however, becoming a Charter Township was not deemed to be advantageous at that time. Mr. Seng thanked the board for their time.

There being no further business or public comments to come before the board, it was moved by Clerk Taylor, seconded by Treasurer Jankwietz, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 P.M. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Dianne Taylor  
Manistee Township Clerk