

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday July 9, 2015 at 7:30 P.M., at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were Supervisor Dennis Bjorkquist, Trustee Guy Finout, Trustee John Dontz, Treasurer Connie Jankwietz, and Clerk Dianne Taylor. Also present were Asst. Chief Tom Johnson, Deputy Clerk Karen Clouse, Dan Revolt, Manistee County Clerk Jill Nowak, Duane Anderson, Mary Lou Ursum, and Sally Reckow.

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

Minutes of the June 11, 2015 Manistee Township Board Meeting and July 2, 2015 special meeting were provided. Trustee John Dontz made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Trustee Guy Finout. All in favor, Motion carried.

Treasurer Jankwietz gave the Treasurer's report for the month of June 2015. The receipts were \$60,768.37; expenditures were \$58,599.07, leaving a balance of \$238,619.77 in the General Fund as of June 30, 2015. Motion was made by Trustee Dontz to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Clerk Taylor. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Manistee Township Planning Commission met Wednesday July 8, 2015. Trustee Finout stated proposed minutes were not yet available.

Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board and Manistee Township Planning Commission met on June 4, 2015 for the semi-annual joint meeting. Proposed minutes were available to the Board.

Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if anyone had anything to bring to the Board. Manistee County Clerk Jill Nowak asked to address the board. Clerk Nowak stated she was making the rounds to the various Township meetings, as she stated she would when she was re-elected. Clerk Nowak explained in depth her responsibilities as the County Clerk, from assuming all election duties to filing Domestic and Civil court proceedings. Clerk Nowak stated she works closely with all township clerks and that Clerk Taylor is doing a wonderful job. The new Concealed Weapons law now states that all duties are given to the County Clerk. Clerk Nowak gave an update on the status of new election equipment. The election equipment change is expected to be very costly. If the State does not budget enough for the equipment change, the Townships will be expected to pay the difference. The Manistee County Clerk Association does not agree with this. Some Michigan counties are scheduled to begin using the new election equipment in 2016; however, Clerk Nowak is proposing Manistee County wait until 2017 since the 2016 elections are expected to be quite busy. Clerk Nowak also updated the board on

the August Election, with one proposal for WSCC on the ballot. Onekama Township has added a road millage to the ballot for their area.

No other items were brought to the Board at this time.

County Commissioner Jeff Dontz was not available to give the County Commissioner report.

Trustee Finout, as Zoning Adm, reported on the activity in the Zoning office for June. There were requests for five (5) land use permits and one (1) land division permit. While Adm Finout received two (2) calls regarding weeds and long grass, there were zero (0) complaints made. Currently, Manistee Township does not have an ordinance regarding weeds and tall grass.

Asst. Chief Tom Johnson presented June report for the Manistee Township Fire Dept., as Chief Barron was absent. 8 meetings and/or training sessions were held; 22 medical runs, 4 fire runs. They had a total of 210 hours for meetings/training, 52 hours for Fire Suppression and 115 hours for Medical First Responder, totaling 377 billable hours for personnel. Truck #133 had the hydraulic pump replaced, which was still under warranty. Contact with Amor continues for lettering for the Ladder truck. Rescue #131 was in for a tune-up. All equipment is off the old #133 and is currently installed on the new #133. Talks are continuing with Harrietta regarding the sale of the old #133. Discussion occurred about the training equipment containers being put into position indicating a backhoe may be needed, at 1900.00 for a month, to complete the project. Trustee Dontz suggested they look into a contractor to keep cost down. A recommendation to bring Derek Nelson on as a probationary firefighter as he has completed training for Firefighter 1 & 2 and EMT training. Supv. Bjorkquist made a motion to accept Derek Nelson as a probationary firefighter for the Manistee Township Fire Department. Trustee Dontz seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried..

Supervisor Bjorkquist, as Liquor Inspector, reported no activity for June.

Oak Prison Quarterly Report was not available as the meeting was scheduled for 10 AM Thursday, July 9, 2015.

There being no unfinished business, the Board moved forward to new business.

Supv. Bjorkquist advised the Board that there have been issues with the Township's garbage services. Several complaints have been made to the Township that not all resident garbage is being picked up. Supervisor Bjorkquist reminded residents that weekly pickup is Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Trash is limited to two (2) 32 gallon bags or containers per household per week. Each bag or container must be 30 pounds or less. Trash should be at the street by 7:00 AM. If a household has more

trash than the household allowance, additional trash bags can be purchased at the Township Hall. A package of ten (10) bags cost \$25.00. Recycle bins for glass, metal, and plastic is located at the Fire Hall. A Grass and Leaf dumpster is also located at the Fire Hall. Please put glass, plastic and metal in the recycle containers and leaves and grass in the leaf dumpster. Steps and a landing have been built next to the leaf dumpster to provide easier access for residents. Paper and cardboard should be taken to MCC or the PCA semi located at the MAPS bus garage on US 31 These are services made available to the residents by the Township, please do not mis-use.

Clerk Taylor addressed the board regarding the August 4, 2015 special election. Absentee applications continue to be mailed out and we are receiving ballots back in. Please come out and vote. Treasurer Jankweitz asked County Clerk Nowak to clarify the Onekama Township request on the ballot. It is for road renewal, not the school.

Supv. Bjorkquist gave an FYI that seal coating is currently taking place from Bar Lake to Lakeshore and US31 to Farnsworth Rd. Please be cautious if traveling in that area.

Treasurer Jankweitz stated that she personally took a ride to Olson Rd after residents addressed the board at the June Township Board meeting. The road is in rough shape and is hoping something will be done. Supv. Bjorkquist stated he did as well and has tried to reach Manistee County Road Commission Field Foreman. However, he is on vacation. This issue will be pursued further.

Trustee Dontz addressed the board regarding the Sewer Project. Issues have occurred with the DEQ, thus postponing the start date. Elmer's has been awarded the contract, with the start date to happen soon.

The current bills for July totaling \$58,584.07 have been provided. Trustee Dontz made motion to pay the bills as they are received for the month of July. Trustee Finout seconded. Motion moved and supported. All in favor. Motion passed.

Manistee County MTA Meeting will be **Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at 7:00PM** at Dickson Township Hall, 1420 Brethren Boulevard, Brethren.

Bar Lake Improvement Board will meet **Monday July 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM** at the Manistee Township Hall.

Manistee Zoning Board of Appeals will meet **Tuesday August 4, 2015 at 7:00PM** at the Manistee Township Hall.

Manistee Twp Planning Commission meeting will be held **Thursday, August 6, 2015 at 7:00PM** at the Manistee Township Hall.

Next regular meeting of the **Manistee Township Board** will be held on **Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 7:30 P.M.** at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

Further comment from the public was offered at this time. Manistee Township resident of 47 years, Mary Lou Ursum, asked to address the board regarding Bar Lake. Ms. Ursum stated she read in the Manistee News Advocate there are discussions of putting the dune back on the West side of Lakeshore Rd. She feels this would be more of a safety issue than what is there currently. One cannot appreciate the view with a dune there. Furthermore, the continuous blowing of sand would still be a safety hazard for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists, contrary to public comment at the June Township Board Meeting. Ms. Ursum suggested that diagonal lines be painted to instruct beach goers the proper area to park. Supervisor Bjorkquist stated the board has not taken a position on this topic as yet. Per the Corp of Engineers Permit, the MCRC has the authority to move the sand towards the lake only.

There being no further business or public comments, it was moved by Treasurer Jankwietz, seconded by Clerk Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 8:07pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Taylor
Manistee Township Clerk