

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, August 13, 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 Fire Chief Chuck Barron, Drain Commissioner Thom Smith, County Commissioner Jeff Dontz, Deputy Clerk Karen Clouse, Dan Revolt, Dan Ursum, Sondra Nowak, Sara Tucker, Dan Jach, and Keith Brown with PEG. Ed Seng arrived at 7:58pm

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

Minutes of the July 9, 2015 Manistee Township Board Meeting, July 14, 2015 and August 7, 2015 Special meetings were provided. Trustee Dontz made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Trustee Finout. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer Jankwietz gave the Treasurer's report for the month of July 2015. The receipts were \$3,544.56; expenditures were \$190,171.03, leaving a balance of \$7,001.08 in the General Fund as of July 31, 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 July 8, 2015 and August 6, 2015. Proposed minutes from the July 8, 2015 meeting were provided in the Board packet.

Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board did not meet in July.

Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if anyone had anything to bring to the Board. Manistee Township/Bar Lake Resident Dan Jach asked to address the board. Mr. Jach stated Bar Lake had been chemically treated on August 5, 2015 between 2:00 PM and 3:30 PM. Mr. Jach provided the board with a picture of the worker treating the lake that he had taken that day. Mr. Jach witnessed children playing in the flow thru tunnel area the day after treatment. Mr. Jach's concern was that the flow thru area did not have proper signage stating when it had been treated and could be harmful. Mr. Jach did contact the DEQ and is waiting for a written report. Supervisor Bjorkquist thanked Mr. Jach and advised this topic would be discussed at the next Bar Lake Improvement Board meeting. No other items were brought to the Board at this time.

County Commissioner Jeff Dontz gave the Oaks Prison Report stating the prison water tower is being painted, Trinity is the name of the current Food Service company, and

the LED lights about should be installed soon. Commissioner Dontz stated Consumers Energy is looking at installing smart meters beginning in 2016. The Hazard Waste program will take place Saturday, August 15, 2015 at the Manistee County Road Commission. There are reports of an Oak Wood Fungus in the area. Oak trees should not be pruned between April and July to avoid transferring the fungus. Residents of Stronach are looking at constructing a bigger parking lot by the playground in Stronach. An MDOT study group was held to discuss a speed study west of West Shore Medical Center. The next meeting is September 22, 2015. Discussion suggested that the study would need to be done at two (2) different times of the year to compare regular resident traffic vs. summer tourism traffic.

Trustee Finout, as Zoning Adm, reported on the activity in the Zoning office for July. There were a total of 9 receipts with 1 request for garbage bags. No complaints were made. An agreement regarding the water project is getting closer to a resolution after meeting with the City representatives on Friday, August 7, 2015.

Fire Chief Chuck Barron presented numbers for July 2015 for the Manistee Township Fire Dept., 6 meetings and/or training sessions were held; 22 medical runs, 9 fire runs. They had 533 hours for July, 372 for personnel and 161 for Chief and officers. A quote of \$780.00 has been received to put the lettering on the new ladder truck. Rescue 135 received a new light bar and side lights over the tires. Work continues on the training facility located at the station. Pump and ladder testing will be coming up soon. 911 board will be replacing the radios as needed. An inquiry regarding the use of flashing lights at US31 and Hill Road was made at the US 31 corridor meeting; he waiting to hear back from MDOT. Trustee Dontz asked how the Fire Dept will be addressing the large brush pile on the Northern end of the property. Fire Chief Barron responded that it will be burned after the brush dries out and the weather conditions are favorable for burning.

Supervisor Bjorkquist, as Liquor Inspector, stated no significant changes for July.

County Drain Commissioner Thom Smith was available for an update on the McGuinness/Cromer Drain. Bids have been put out for the work on the drain. A list of property owners in the Drainage District is being assembled and will be sent to the Township Board when completed. All property owners involved will be notified by mail of the parcel assessment and expected work timeframe.

The groundbreaking ceremony was held on Thursday, August 13, 2015 on the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians property at the corner of US31 and M22 for the new sewer system. Representatives from the Tribe, State, County, Township, and DEQ were in attendance. The project will run down the US31 corridor from M22 towards M55 with completion expected in late fall of this year.

Supervisor Bjorkquist took this opportunity to personally thank Dan Revolt for all of his hard work at the Township Hall and Fire Department. Supervisor Bjorkquist also took this time to thank Allan Young, who maintains the trail that runs from Lakeshore Road to Hill Road. Mr. Young brought it to the Boards' attention that a near miss occurred on the trail near Hahn Road when bicyclists did not stop at the roadway and were nearly hit by a vehicle. Stop signs will be put up in that area.

Under new business, Manistee County Humane Society requested permission to hold their annual Tag Day to benefit the Homeward Bound Animal Shelter on August 21 and 22, 2015. The Board received their letter of request and granted permission through discussion, wishing them well in their efforts.

Clerk Taylor presented the board with an Elections Report from the August 4, 2015 special Election. The Township had 2,555 registered voters for this election. 320 Absentee Ballots were issued, with the return of 291 absentee ballots and 54 residents voted in person, totaling 345 voters. The Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and Election staff worked 168 hours preparing for the election. An additional 90 hours was worked, by staff and volunteers, on Election Day bringing the total hours worked on this election to 258 hours. Although the turnout was small, the township did have one of the highest turnouts in the county. Supervisor Bjorkquist extended his thanks to Clerk Taylor, Deputy Clouse and all of the Election workers for all the hard work.

Proposed motion was made to modify 2015/2016 operating budget to increase the Operating Transfer Revenue by \$250,000.00 and increase Operating Capital Outlay expenses by \$250,000.00 by transferring money from Savings into the Operating Budget. Motion made by Clerk Taylor. Seconded by Treasurer Jankwietz. Board count was as follows. Yeas: Trustee Finout, Trustee Dontz, Treasurer Jankwietz, Clerk Taylor, Supervisor Bjorkquist. Nays: 0

The current bills for August totaling \$188,745.42 were provided. Motion to pay the bills as they are received for the month of August was made by Trustee Dontz. Trustee Finout seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Manistee County MTA Meeting will be Wednesday, August 26 2015 at 7:00 PM at Filer Township Hall, 2505 Filer City Road, Filer City.

Bar Lake Improvement Board will meet Monday August 17, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Manistee Township Hall.

Manistee Zoning Board of Appeals will meet Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Manistee Township Hall.

Manistee Twp Planning Commission will be held **Thursday, September 3, 2015** at **7:00PM at the Manistee Township Hall.**

Manistee County Revenue Sharing Board will meet **September 4, 2015** at the **Manistee Township Hall at 5:00PM.** Deadline for requests is **August 26, 2015**

Next regular meeting of the **Manistee Township Board** will be held on **Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 7:30 P.M.** at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

There being no further business or public comments to come before the board, it was moved by Trustee Dontz, seconded by Trustee Finout to adjourn the meeting at 8:21pm. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Taylor
Manistee Township Clerk