

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday December 10, 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, Assistant Fire Chief Tom Johnson, County Commissioner Jeff Dontz, Deputy Clerk Karen Clouse, Tamara Buswinka with Alliance for Economic Success, Steve Parsons & Virgil Johnson LRBOI, Dan Revolt, John Faher, Jim Scarlata, Dan Jach. Gary Lewis arrived at 7:45pm. Keith Brown, PEG, was absent and excused.

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

Minutes of the November 10, 2015 Manistee Township Board meeting were provided. Trustee Dontz made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Treasurer Jankwietz. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer Jankwietz gave the Treasurer's report for the month of November 2015. The receipts were \$29,364.83; expenditures were \$26,059.51, leaving a balance of \$40,588.35 in the General Fund as of November 30, 2015. A motion was made by Clerk Taylor to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Trustee Finout. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Manistee Township Planning Commission and Zoning Appeals Board had a joint meeting on December 3, 2015. Accepted minutes for November 3, 2015 meeting were available for the board in their packet. December 3, 2015 meeting minutes were not available yet.

Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if anyone had anything to bring to the Board. Mr. Dan Jach asked why there are not any "No Weapons" signs posted anywhere on township property. According to Trustee Finout and Commissioner Jeff Dontz, it is not a legislated requirement for townships. Jim Scarlata had a concern regarding some changes on his taxes. Treasurer Jankwietz advised him he needed to address the Board of Review Errors and Omissions session on December 16, 2015.

County Commissioner Jeff Dontz addressed the board. The county has renewed their contract with Area 31 Recycling for the next three (3) years. Diane Banks, WSMC, reported that the hospital has added 20 beds. The Walk-in Clinic saw approximately 7,000 people. The Manistee County Recreation plan committee published a draft of the plan November 30, 2015 with a final draft up for approval in February 2016.

Trustee Finout, as Zoning Adm, reported on the activity in the Zoning office for November. There were a total of 3 receipts. No complaints were made. The Planning

Commission approved the Dahm funnel development pending DEQ approval on the site plan. No change regarding pursuing city water for the Township residents. No conversation with the Drain Commissioner regarding the Cromer/McGuinness Drain.

Fire Chief Chuck Barron presented numbers for November 2015 for the Manistee Township Fire Dept., 5 meetings and/or training sessions were held; 15 medical runs, 6 fire runs. They had 324 hours for November, 252 for meetings/training and 72 for Chief and officers. Work continues on the ladder truck. All trucks have been winterized. Chief Barron is working with Zoning Adm. Finout on land use for the training facility. The fire dept. has received one (1) new applicant; however, the applicant has only completed 90% of the required training. ISO results should be available next month. Chief Barron reminded everyone to check their furnaces and smoke detectors for winter.

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

The Oaks Prison quarterly report should be available for either the January or February 2016 board meeting.

There is nothing new to report on for the Cromer/McGuinness Drain. Drain Commissioner Thomas Smith had suggested to Supervisor Bjorkquist that he would be attending the December 10, 2015 Township Board meeting; however, he did not arrive.

Under unfinished business, the Board has reached out to representatives for the Portage Lake Channel offering support, with no formal request being made to the board as yet.

Supervisor Bjorkquist stated the Revenue Sharing board will meet on Monday, December 14, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. to award grants.

Supervisor Bjorkquist addressed the board regarding the road projects that were discussed at the November 10, 2015 meeting but not acted upon. Trustee John Dontz made the motion to complete the Milarch Rd to River Rd project and repair Olson Rd. from M-55 to the corner. Treasurer Jankwietz supported the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Under new business, Tamara Buswinka, from the AES, presented to the board a video presentation on M-22 Pure Michigan By-way Designation in Manistee County and a presentation on the US 31 Corridor Planning. The AES is currently seeking support and resolutions from the boards of 10 communities on the M-22 Pure Michigan By-way designation, which could offer the Township preservation, economic, community, and education benefits without any financial obligation. Ms. Buswinka put on a short power point presentation for the board and did leave the Resolution of Support for the board to review. Ms. Buswinka also presented a power point presentation on the US-31 Corridor Planning to the board. This presentation showed how the Township could improve

lighting, landscaping, and walkability for the Township residents and draw more businesses to the Township's portion of the US-31 corridor. Ms. Buswinka suggests working with Wade Trim, Inc. to evaluate and provide recommendations for improving the corridor. Steve Parson and Virgil Johnson, LRBOI, did speak on behalf of Ms. Buswinka and offered their support to the project. Ms. Buswinka left the packet detailing the scope of the proposed project for the board to review and discuss. Ms. Buswinka would like to be added to the agenda for the January 14, 2016 Township Board Meeting.

Supervisor Bjorkquist presented the Township's property tax bill for their portion of the Bar Lake cleanup to the board for approval for payment. Trustee Dontz made the motion to pay the property tax bill be paid as presented. Clerk Taylor seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

The current bills for December totaling \$51,975.01 have been provided. Motion to pay the bills as they are received for the month of December was made by Trustee Dontz; Clerk Taylor seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

Manistee Zoning Board of Appeals - Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall.

Manistee Township Planning Commission – Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall.

Next regular meeting of the **Manistee Township Board** will be held on **Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.** at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

Manistee County MTA Meeting will be **March 23, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at Norman Township 1273 S. Seaman Rd. Wellston, MI 49689**

Supervisor Bjorkquist reminded everyone that the township board meeting start time for 2016 will be 7:00p.m. instead of 7:30p.m. Supervisor Bjorkquist did confirm to Mr. Jach he will be getting the posts up at the Bar Lake entrance as previously indicated.

There being no further business or public comments to come before the board, it was moved by Trustee Dontz, seconded by Clerk Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Taylor
Manistee Township Clerk