

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were Supervisor Dennis Bjorkquist, Trustee Guy Finout, Treasurer Connie Jankwietz, and Clerk Dianne Taylor. Trustee Dontz was absent and excused. Also present were Assistant Fire Chief Tom Johnson, Mark Sohlden, Manager of the MCRC, Deputy Clerk Karen Clouse, Dan Revolt, Bob and Barb Rishel, and Keith Brown, PEG. Fire Chief Chuck Barron was absent and excused.

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

Minutes of the February 18, 2016 Manistee Township Board meeting were provided. Trustee Finout 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 February 2016. The receipts were \$173,319.87; expenditures were \$31,215.06, leaving a balance of \$238,711.53 in the General Fund as of February 29, 2016. 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 met on March 3, 2016. Accepted minutes for the February 7, 2016 meeting were in the board packets; March 3, 2016 meeting minutes were not available yet.

Manistee Township Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet; no appeals to be heard.

Supervisor Bjorkquist reminded everyone that the Manistee Township Board Of Review ~ Appeals ~ will meet Monday, March 14, 2016 from 2pm - 5pm and 6pm – 9pm and Tuesday, March 15, 2016 from 9am – 12pm and 1pm – 4pm.

Miscellaneous correspondence was included in the Board's packet, no discussion followed.

There being no public comment at this time, Supervisor Dennis Bjorkquist continued the meeting stating County Commissioner Jeff Dontz did not have anything to present to the board since the Commission meeting would be held after the Township Board Meeting. In addition, the Supervisor stated the Revenue Sharing Board will meet at the Manistee Township Hall on April 11, 2016 to hear verbal presentations.

Trustee Finout, as Zoning Adm, reported on the activity in the Zoning office for February. There were no complaints and 2 receipts were issued; 1 (one) for signage at WSMC and 1 (one) for a home addition on Bar Lake. At the Planning Commission meeting on March 4, 2016 the members agreed to attend a work session on March 16 to discuss the US31 Corridor Access Management Plan. Zoning Adm Finout and Treasurer Jankwietz met with the Township Attorney last week to discuss the proposed LRBOI Sewer Use Ordinance and the City Water Agreement.

Assistant Fire Chief Tom Johnson presented highlights of the February Fire Dept activities, as Fire Chief Chuck Barron had been called out of town. Ladder Truck 131 had the master stream valve replaced and there are some issues with the Rescue Vehicle.

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

No report on the Oaks Prison.

Supervisor Bjorkquist stated the Drain Commissioner, Thomas Smith, was to advertise for Cromer/McGuinness drain bids in the newspaper on February 24, 2016. To date, no one has noticed the advertisement in the local newspaper; however, Drain Commissioner Smith has asked to rent the township hall on two separate dates in April and May to meet with contractors.

Under unfinished business, the Onekama Township Funds Request continues to be tabled until Mr. Meister can attend the Manistee Township Board meeting.

Mr. Amas Soorus presented information to the Board on the Little Manistee River Watershed Management Plan at the February 18 meeting. After discussion, the Board has agreed to reaffirm the Resolution that was adopted on October 10, 1996. Trustee Finout made the motion to reaffirm and follow the guidelines of the October 10, 1996 Environmental Protection Resolution and decline to enter into a partnership with the Little Manistee River Watershed Conservation. Treasurer Jankwietz seconded the motion. Roll call conducted by Clerk Taylor was as follows: Yeas: Finout, Jankwietz, Taylor, Bjorkquist. Nays: None Absent: Dontz Motion carried.

*Manistee Township
Manistee County
Original adoption Date ~ October 10, 1996
Reaffirmed Date ~ March 4, 2016*

The Manistee Township Board supports sound environmental protection including watershed management. However, we believe the township government should have the final decision as to how land use should be regulated.

We question the need for additional regulation by the DNR in light of the fact that Manistee Township already has watershed zoning in place. Our Zoning, coupled with existing statutes work together to protect the watershed.

It is our position that local governments are best able to regulate land uses through balancing the need for resource protection with managed development and property rights.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously at the regular monthly board meeting of the Manistee Township Board on October 10, 1996.

This Resolution was re-affirmed unanimously at the regular monthly board meeting of the Manistee Township Board on March 10, 2016. Trustee Finout made the motion to reaffirm and follow the guidelines of the 1996 Resolution with the regard to the Little Manistee River Watershed and decline the partnership request from Mr. Amas Soorus on behalf of the Little Manistee River Watershed Conservation; Treasurer Jankwietz seconded. Upon roll call vote the following voted: Finout, Jankwietz, Taylor and Bjorkquist.

Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: Dontz
Supervisor Bjorkquist declared the motion passed.

Under new business, Mark Sohlden, Manager of the MCRC, along with Bob Rishel of the MCRC, presented basic facts and information regarding the MCRC to the board. The information included 2015 Budget information, history of the road commission, office contacts, MCRC normal work hours, staff, members of the MCRC board, distribution report of the local and primary roads including maintenance and expenditures, PASER Rating of five (5) 2015 projects completed, and county road commission duties. Mr. Sohlden presented information on some of the 2016 MCRC projects which may include completing Milarch Rd to River Road with

the assistance of Manistee and Brown Townships as well as the LBROI and MCRC. The seasonal weight limits have begun and patrolling of this limit will be enforced. Supervisor Bjorkquist complimented Mark Sohlden and the workers of the MCRC on a job well done for the 2015/2016 winter season. The Township only received one snow plowing complaint for the winter season.

The board members received the Asset Test criteria and the Federal Poverty Guidelines for review. Supervisor Bjorkquist stated he would entertain a motion to adopt the Asset Test and the Federal Poverty Guidelines to be used in the determination of Poverty Exemptions for 2016. These guidelines and tests will assist the Board of Review in their poverty exemption determinations. Treasurer Jankwietz made the motion to accept the Asset Tests and the Federal Poverty Guidelines as presented; seconded by Trustee Finout. All in favor, motion carried.

Prior to Clerk Taylor presenting the Election Report for the Presidential Primary held on March 8, 2016, Supervisor Bjorkquist thanked all of the people who helped to prepare for the election, calling it a well oiled machine, and to everyone who worked Election Day, a big thank you. Clerk Taylor presented the Election Report stating the voter turnout was 36%, which is a great turnout for the township. Absentee Voter turnout was at a high of 96%. Clerk Taylor went on to thank everyone that participated in this election, commenting on what a good crew the township has.

The bills for March totaling \$23,969.00 were provided. Trustee Finout made the motion to approve the bills for March as they are received. Treasurer Jankwietz seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

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

Bar Lake Improvement Board – Monday, April 11, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

Manistee Zoning Board of Appeals – Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 8:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall.

Manistee Township Planning Commission – Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Manistee Township Hall.

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

Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if there was any other public comment. There being no further business or public comments to come before the board, it was moved by Clerk Taylor, seconded by Trustee Finout to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Taylor
Manistee Township Clerk