

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 7:00 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 Assistant Fire Chief Tom Johnson, Mark Sohlden, Manager of the MCRC, Dennis McKee Consumers Energy, Kenn Kott MRA, Deputy Clerk Karen Clouse, Dan Revolt, and Keith Brown, PEG. Mary Lou Ursum, Dan Ursum, and Glen Haglund arrived at 7:12pm, 7:25pm, and 7:40pm respectively. Fire Chief Chuck Barron arrived at 8:00pm.

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

Minutes of the March 10, 2016 Manistee Township Board and minutes of the March 30, 2016 Special Board meeting were provided. Treasurer Jankwietz made the motion to approve both sets of minutes as written, seconded by Trustee Finout. All in favor; motion carried.

Treasurer Jankwietz gave the Treasurer's report for the month of March 2016. The receipts were \$33,882.89; expenditures were \$46,006.53, leaving a balance of \$230,998.76 in the General Fund as of March 31, 2016. A motion was made by Trustee Dontz to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Trustee Finout. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Manistee Township Planning Commission ~ Approved March minutes are not available until after the planning meeting on Thursday, April 21, 2016.

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

Correspondence on the Household Hazardous Waste/Clean Sweep Day was available in the Board's packet, to be addressed later on the agenda.

There being no public comment at this time, Supervisor Dennis Bjorkquist continued the meeting stating County Commissioner Jeff Dontz was unavailable for today's meeting; however, he did provide a summary of the County Commission meetings via email.

Trustee Finout, as Zoning Adm, reported on the activity in the Zoning office for March. There were no complaints and 2 receipts issued; 1 (one) for new house and 1 (one) for a detached garage. The garage permit was denied; the applicant may appeal the decision.

Fire Chief Chuck Barron was absent; he was called out by the forest service for a fire.

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

Oaks Prison Meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2016 at 10am at the Oaks.

Supervisor Bjorkquist stated the Drain Commissioner, Thomas Smith, was to meet with prospective contractors for the Cromer/McGuinness Drain at a mandatory pre-bid meeting held at the Township Hall. No report or correspondence have been received from Drain Commissioner Smith regarding this meeting.

Under unfinished business, the Onekama Township Funds Request continues to be tabled since there has not been any further correspondence from Mr. Dave Meister. Supervisor Bjorkquist will follow up with Mr. Meister on this issue.

Under New Business, Kenn Kott with the MRA addressed the board. During his first year as the MRA Director, community participation in the MRA activities has increased. Activities include flag football, soccer, baseball, basketball, skiing, tennis, etc. The MRA has scholarships available to families experiencing hardships; last year Manistee Township residents used five (5) scholarships valued at \$150.00 each. Mr. Kott presented the board with program fees for the next fiscal year with an option to commit for 2 years. Last year the board approved an annual fee of \$10,000.00, to be paid quarterly, for the MRA programs. As a result of higher program participation, the requested MRA program fee is less this year, \$8,900.00 to \$9,800.00 annually, to be paid in quarterly installments. The proposal will be discussed at the budget meeting. Mr. Kott stated they are still interested in using the Township's tennis courts for pickle ball. Supervisor Bjorkquist advised Mr. Kott that the township has applied for a grant to have the courts resurfaced and painted; a response should be available in a couple of weeks.

Dennis McKee with Consumers Energy came to inform the board and residents of the conversion of their current electric meters to the Smart Energy Program meters. The new program utilizes cell towers to transmit the total energy usage through a secure network. The program will allow the home owner to better understand their energy usage via the Smart Energy web portal. This change will eliminate the need for meter readers; however, there has not been any job lost as many employees have relocated within the company or retired.

Varying from the agenda, Mark Sohlden with the MCRC provided the board with an agreement for the River Rd and Milarch Rd road project. This project is scheduled for completion within the spring/summer months of 2016. The estimated cost of this project is \$282,000.00 with it being a 4 way split between Manistee Township, Brown Township, MCRC, and LRBOI. The Manistee Township's portion is estimated to be \$70,500.00. After discussion, Trustee Dontz made the motion to accept the agreement, estimated cost of \$70,500.00, as presented. Treasurer Jankwietz supported this motion but with discussion. Treasurer Jankwietz stated her concern is if the estimated costs increased because someone does not participate, will be the Township be responsible for that increase. MCRC Manager Sohlden stated discussion between all four (4), or remaining three (3), parties involved would occur and then they would decide how to proceed with the unexpected increases. Roll call conducted by Clerk Taylor was as follows: Yeas: Trustee Finout, Treasurer Jankwietz, Trustee Dontz, Clerk Taylor, and Supervisor Bjorkquist. Nays: 0 Absent: 0 Motion Carried.

Manager Sohlden advised the board of the closing of the Little Manistee River crossing on Stronach Road. Traffic is anticipated to be re-routed through Manistee Township. There will be detailed detour signage and media releases in advance, with the project to be completed within a couple weeks.

Linda Finout was not able to attend the meeting, so Trustee Finout addressed the board for her. Ms. Finout is seeking board support to attend the kickoff meeting for Explore the Shores on April 20, 2016. The Board supported Ms. Finout's attendance at this meeting.

Zoning Board and Planning Commission Appointments that expire April 30, 2016 were addressed. Trustee Dontz made the motion to reappoint Linda Finout to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term. Clerk Taylor seconded. Taylor, Jankwietz, Dontz and Bjorkquist voted in favor, G. Finout abstained. Motion carried.

Trustee Dontz made the motion to reappoint Clara Kraus Saari to the Planning Commission for a 3 year term. Clerk Taylor seconded; all in favor. Motion carried. Clerk Taylor made the motion to reappoint Barry Elder to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3 year term. Trustee Dontz seconded; all in favor. Motion carried.

Mason-Lake Conservation District has requested support for their Household Hazardous Waste/Clean Sweep Day in the form of a service agreement. The event is scheduled for August 20, 2016. The cost is .32 cents per resident, totaling \$1,150.00. Trustee Dontz made the motion to accept the cost as stated in the Contract and Agreement for Services. Clerk Taylor seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Regarding the City Water contract, the final draft is not ready as of meeting time.

The bills for April totaling \$38,308.85 were provided. Trustee Dontz made the motion to approve the bills for April as they are received. Trustee Finout seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

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

Manistee County MTA Meeting will be Wednesday April 27, 2016 at 7:00 PM at Norman Township 1273 S. Seaman Rd. Wellston, MI 49689

Bar Lake Improvement Board – Monday, June 6, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

Manistee Zoning Board of Appeals – Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall.

Next regular meeting of the **Manistee Township Board** will be held on **May 12, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.**

Bar Lake Improvement Board met Monday, April 11, 2016 so Supervisor Bjorkquist asked Trustee Finout if he would like to address the board with any pertinent information. Trustee Finout stated there is a Lake Study Survey scheduled for mid-May and any treatment occurring in June would be based on that survey.

Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if there was any other public comment. Mary Lou Ursum asked to address the board regarding Bar Lake, the governing body over BLIB, the specifics of the initial petition, the Resolution, and RLS, the company hired to treat Bar Lake. Supervisor Bjorkquist thanked Ms. Ursum for bringing forth her concerns.

Mr. Glen Haglund addressed the board. After the BLIB meeting on April, 11, 2016, Mr. Haglund had concerns that RLS, the company hired to treat Bar Lake for invasive species, was not being entirely forthcoming about the current state of Bar Lake. Supervisor Bjorkquist thanked Mr. Haglund for his concerns.

Supervisor Bjorkquist stated he will be meeting with legal to verify the Township Boards' responsibilities regarding Bar Lake.

Fire Chief Chuck Barron arrived late and Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if he had anything to add prior to adjourning the meeting. Fire Chief Barron stated the Township Fire Dept received their

ISO rating which has improved from a rating of 6 to a rating of 5. Supervisor Bjorkquist thanked the Fire Chief and the firefighters for their hard work.

There being no further business or public comments to come before the board, it was moved by Trustee Dontz, seconded by Treasurer Jankwietz to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Taylor
Manistee Township Clerk