

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, August 11, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were Supervisor Dennis Bjorkquist, Trustee Guy Finout, Trustee John Dontz and Treasurer Connie Jankwietz. Also present were County Commissioner Jeff Dontz, Assistant Fire Chief Tom Johnson, Deputy Clerk Karen Clouse, Sarah Archer with Manistee County Recycling – Iris Waste Diversion Specialists, Dan Revolt, Sarah Padden, John Padden, Carol Padden, Bernd Croissant and Keith Brown, with PEG. Dan Jach arrived at 7:05pm. Clerk Dianne Taylor and Fire Chief Chuck Barron were absent and excused.

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

Minutes of the July 14, 2016 meeting of the Manistee Township Board were provided. Trustee Dontz made the motion to approve the minutes as written, Treasurer Jankwietz seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

Treasurer Jankwietz gave the Treasurer's report for the month of July 2016. The receipts were \$46,465.25; expenditures were \$43,328.89, leaving a balance of \$133,282.24 in the General Fund as of July 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 ~ accepted minutes from the July 7, 2016 meeting were provided to the board. No discussion; minutes placed on file.

Manistee Township Zoning Board of Appeals met on July 5, 2016; accepted minutes are not available yet.

Correspondence in the Board's packet included the Regional Resource Recovery Program and August 2, 2016 Primary Election Report; discussion to follow later.

Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if anyone had anything to bring to the board. Carol Padden asked to address the Board; Supervisor Bjorkquist requested Ms. Padden to please hold her comment until after Zoning Administrator Finout gave his report.

There being no further public comment at this time, Supervisor Bjorkquist asked County Commissioner Jeff Dontz to report on the County activities. Renovations on the Courthouse are expected to be completed in 2024. Work on the Cromer/McGuineas drain has begun. Joslin Cove has been sold under the Brownfield Authority. The development should include 40 to 42 units. The JAWS Unit is in the County's possession at a cost of \$1.00; the equipment will be sold with the proceeds going to the local Fire Departments. The County Commission will be adopting a new budget at the next meeting. Commissioner Dontz attended the Oaks Prison meeting on July 27, 2016. A new program at the Oaks has leader dogs being trained by prisoners, which is working well. It takes approximately 12-15 months to train the dogs. Pugsley is scheduled to be closed on September 24, 2016. BLIB met on August 8, 2016; the current cash balance of the BLIB is \$10,894.61 and it was reported that three (3) acres of the lake were treated for invasive species. Mr. Dan Jach asked to address the Commissioner and Board at this time. Mr. Jach is inquiring why he, and other residents, are paying assessments

on the property bordering the lake, when he is not a riparian owner (riparian is defined as a resident who owns property contiguous to the shoreline). Supervisor Bjorkquist asked Mr. Jach to put in writing his concerns and requests as to what he is looking for definition of and/or answers to. County Commissioner Dontz continued his report with the MCRC beginning work on Timber Ridge on July 26. The Kaleva Garage, which is a government owned property, is currently being rented to an individual; there is some question as to whether personal property taxes should be charged. West Shore Medical Center has been sold to Munson; the ambulance service will continue to operate locally. Munson will be absorbing WSMC debt of \$7 million plus investing approximately \$23 million over the next 4 years.

Trustee Finout, as Zoning Administrator, reported on the activity in the Zoning office for July. One (1) appeal has been made regarding an addition being added to an existing home, which is already constructed on the setback from the lakeshore bluff line. This appeal will be heard at the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for August 30, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall. There were two (2) complaints made; one (1) regarding trash, junk, lighting and noise violations; and, two (2), a land use permit violation. Zoning Adm. Finout went to the properties in question as the complaints are between neighbor A and neighbor B. Neighbor A was found to be in violation of the junk ordinance. Zoning Administrator Finout has addressed the issue in writing to the resident via USPS. The lighting complaint is not in violation and noise complaints are enforced by local police authorities. Neighbor B was found to not be in violation of building a new deck without a permit since the resident replaced rotted areas of the deck only. There were also four (4) receipts; a new home construction on M-55, and three (3) requests for additions. At the July 7, 2016 Planning Commission meeting, a proposed amendment to the current sign ordinance and a current version of the US31 Access Management Plan were distributed.

Assistant Fire Chief Tom Johnson reported on the activity at the Fire Department. There were six (6) calls for meetings and other training, nine (9) calls for fire suppression, and nineteen (19) calls for medical assistance, totaling 34 calls for a total of 257 hours. Personnel hours totaled 189, and chief and officer hours were 68. All apparatus are in good working order and the station is as well. Chief Barron is checking on bids for the footings for the training center. The Fire Department received \$5,782.00 from the Local Revenue Sharing Board and will be purchasing helmets, hoods and gloves. There is no word yet on the application for the FEMA Grant for SCBA's or the DNR 50/50 Grant. Currently recruiting new applicants. Still no word from MDOT on installation of flashing amber lights for current fire truck signs. Manistee Township residents should call 231-690-5329 for burn permits; however, currently NO burn permits are being issued.

Supervisor Bjorkquist reminded everyone that the Revenue Sharing Board Cycle 2 - 2016 meeting will be held on September 2, 2016 at 5:00 P.M.

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

Oaks Prison Meeting was July 27, 2016 at the prison. County Commissioner Dontz attended the meeting and provided the Board with a synopsis in his report earlier in the meeting.

Drain Commissioner Thom Smith was not in attendance. County Commissioner Dontz work has begun on the Cromer/McGuineas Drain.

Supervisor Bjorkquist asked for public comment again at this time. Carol Padden addressed the board regarding the decision that was made by Zoning Administrator Finout on Zoning

Complaint 1 (Neighbor A). While she appreciated the decision regarding the Junk ordinance violation, she interpreted the ordinance regarding outdoor lighting differently. Ms. Padden states the outdoor lighting in question shines in her windows and illuminates her property not allowing her to be outside to sit by the tree that was planted in memory of her son. Ms. Padden asked that the Board look into the outdoor lighting issue further and will be requesting the Zoning Board revisit the specific ordinance regarding outdoor lighting. Zoning Administrator Finout recommended to Ms. Padden that she ask the Appeals Board to overrule the Zoning Administrator decision.

Ms. Sarah Padden asked to address the board regarding Zoning Complaint 1 (Neighbor A.) Ms. Sarah Padden does not agree with the Zoning Administrator's decision, quoting Township Zoning Ordinances. Following discussion between the Board and Ms. Sarah Padden, the recommendation was to take the issue to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mr. Dan Jach is again requesting that posts be put up to mark township property along Bar Lake. Supervisor Bjorkquist responded to Mr. Jach stating the vendor previously used does not supply posts anymore and he has been actively researching other options.

Keith Brown, with PEG, stated the County is in need of more Commissioners.

Under unfinished business, the final draft of the Water Agreement with the City of Manistee was provided to the Board for approval. Before acting on the Agreement, Supervisor Bjorkquist thanked everyone that has been involved with this agreement. There being no further discussion, Treasurer Jankwietz made a motion to enter into the Water Agreement with the City of Manistee to provide water service for township residents; Trustee Dontz seconded the motion. The roll call vote conducted by Deputy Clerk Clouse was as follows: Yeas: Treasurer Jankwietz, Trustee Finout, Trustee Dontz, and Supervisor Bjorkquist. Nays: 0 Absent: Clerk Taylor. Motion Carried.

Supervisor Bjorkquist updated the Board and residents on the ongoing road projects. Work began July 26 on Olson Road and will complete as soon as the fog coating is applied. Repairs have also started on Milarch Road and are scheduled to be completed in 2016 by the MCRC.

Supervisor Bjorkquist stated the Sewer Ordinance is continuing to progress.

Prior to the August 2, 2016 Primary Election report, Supervisor Bjorkquist thanked everyone who worked on the election for the many, many hours spent preparing for election day, as well as all of the hours worked on election day. Deputy Clerk Clouse reported there were 2,584 registered voters for the primary election; total voter turnout was approximately 33%; Absent Voter Ballot return was at a high of 95%. A total of 329 hours were worked, with approximately 228 of those hours accumulated by the Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and Administrative Assistant. On behalf of Clerk Taylor, Deputy Clerk Clouse stated she would like to thank everyone that participated in this election, and on a personal level, thanked everyone involved for assisting in making her first election as Precinct Chair run as smoothly as possible. Supervisor Bjorkquist stated work has already begun on the next election, the Presidential Primary on November 8, 2016.

Under New Business, Sarah Archer, with Manistee County Recycling - Iris Waste Diversion Specialists was present to request the Board's participation, through a resolution, in a multi-jurisdictional project to develop a sustainable regional recovery program. Ms. Archer gave a lengthy overview of the recycling program, referring to the facility in Emmet County as a guideline, the impact the program could have on the community on a larger scale and the

creation of jobs for the local community. The recycling program would be created to accept everything from plastics to mattresses. A sample resolution was provided to the Board by Ms. Archer with the anticipation that all participating townships and cities would be completing their resolutions by the end of October. The Board agreed to research this program further and discuss at a future meeting.

The bills for August totaling \$16,212.21 have been provided. Trustee Dontz made the motion to approve the bills for August as they are presented and received. Treasurer Jankwietz seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried.

**Manistee County MTA Meeting will be Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at 7:00 PM at Stronach Township Hall, 2471 Main St. Manistee MI**

**Manistee Zoning Board of Appeals – Tuesday, August 30, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall.**

**Manistee Township Planning Commission Meeting – Thursday, September 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Manistee Township Hall.**

**Bar Lake Improvement Board – Monday, October 17 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.**

Next regular meeting of the **Manistee Township Board** will be held on **Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.** at the **Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.**

Supervisor Bjorkquist reminded everyone the Household Hazardous Waste Collection is August 20, 2016 from 9am to 2pm at the Manistee County Road Commission. Pamphlets listing acceptable items are available at the Township Hall. Ms. Sarah Archer, who is also on the Household Hazardous Waste Committee, stated volunteers are needed. She also reminded everyone that latex paint is not being collected this year. Dried up latex paint is now accepted through the weekly household garbage collection.

There being no further business or public comment to come before the board, it was moved by Trustee Dontz, seconded by Trustee Finout to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Taylor  
Manistee Township Clerk