

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday September 8, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were Supervisor Dennis Bjorkquist, Clerk Dianne Taylor, Treasurer Connie Jankwietz and Trustee John Dontz. Trustee Guy Finout and County Commissioner Jeff Dontz were absent and excused. Also present, were Fire Chief Chuck Barron, Assistant Fire Chief Tom Johnson, Deputy Clerk Karen Clouse, Dan Revolt, Sara Tucker, Jim Snoeyink, Bar Lake Association President, and Keith Brown with PEG. Drain Commissioner Thom Smith, Carol Padden and Bernd Crossiant arrived late.

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

Minutes of the August 11, 2016 Manistee Township Board Meeting were provided. Treasurer Connie Jankwietz made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Trustee John Dontz. All in favor; motion carried.

Treasurer Jankwietz gave the Treasurer's report for the month of August 2016. The receipts were \$8,330.56; expenditures were \$27,130.45 leaving a balance of \$114,482.35 in the General Fund as of August 31, 2016. Motion was made by Trustee Dontz to approve the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Clerk Dianne Taylor. All voted in favor; motion carried.

Manistee Township Planning Commission met September 1, 2016. Minutes from the August 4, 2016 and the September 1, 2016 meetings were not available yet.

Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board met on August 30, 2016 concerning two (2) additions to an existing, non-conforming home at 4302 Lakeshore Rd. The variance was granted with the restriction that construction conforms to the drawings and sketches provided and meets MDEQ approval.

Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if anyone had anything to bring to the Board. Ms. Sara Tucker asked to address the Board regarding the future of the Lake Bluff Bird Sanctuary. Michigan Audubon Society is interested in pursuing a non-profit agency to take over the property. Ms. Tucker asked the Township Board to pursue the property for the residents of the Township. There will be a public meeting at 7 P.M. on September 15, 2016 at the Lake Bluff Bird Sanctuary located at 2980 Lakeshore Rd to discuss ideas and options for the future. Ms. Tucker asked if someone from the Board would attend; Supervisor Bjorkquist informed Ms. Tucker the meeting was already on his schedule. Ms. Tucker then asked to read a statement prepared by her to the Board. Given approval by the Supervisor, Ms. Tucker expressed her disapproval of the

Township Board's actions and decisions, and the legal opinion of the township attorney, regarding Bar Lake and the Bar Lake Improvement Board. Supervisor Bjorkquist asked if Ms. Tucker would like the statement to be made part of the public record; Ms. Tucker said yes so Supervisor Bjorkquist requested a written copy be made available for the minutes; Ms. Tucker said she would provide a copy of her statement to the township.

Jim Snoeyink, President of Bar Lake Association, addressed the Board asking if someone has been named to represent the Township on the Multi-County Trail committee. It was the Board's consensus that Ms. Linda Finout, Manistee Township Planning Commission Member, had volunteered. This will be confirmed and Mr. Snoeyink will be notified. Mr. Snoeyink also asked if the minutes from the Township meetings are going to be available on the township website. Clerk Taylor stated that area of the website is currently being worked on to bring it up-to-date; however, in the meantime, the minutes continue to be posted at the hall on the glass by the front door and written copies are available at the next meeting and by request.

Ms. Carol Padden addressed the Board regarding the complaint she made against her neighbor regarding the outdoor lights shining in her windows. Ms. Padden stated the neighbor has apologized and turned the lights off. However, Ms. Padden stated the neighbor in question has now constructed a fence with the finished side facing the property owner and is inquiring if anything can be done regarding this. Supervisor Bjorkquist stated Ms. Padden would need to meet with Zoning Administrator Finout regarding this matter when he returns.

There being no further public comment, the Board moved on to Reports.

County Commissioner Jeff Dontz was not present to report on activities for the County.

Supervisor Bjorkquist presented activities for the Zoning office, per Zoning Administrator Finout's request. There was an appeals meeting on 8/30/16 concerning two (2) additions to an existing, non-conforming home at 4302 Lakeshore Rd. The variance was granted with conditions as previously addressed on the Agenda. The Planning Commission met 9/1/2016. All members were present. Comments were compiled concerning the amendment to the sign regulation section of the zoning ordinance. Work on access management along the US-31 corridor was tabled until the October meeting. There were no new written complaints received during the month. The July complaint concerning "junk" will be reviewed for compliance when Zoning Administrator Finout returns the week of 9/19/2016. There were 7 receipts; construction of a fence, agriculture addition, detached garage, a new home, renovation of existing building to residential use, replacement of a commercial sign and an addition to a residence. Bar Lake Improvement Board met on 8/8/2016; the board authorized treatment of phragmites yet this year; and the next BLIB meeting is scheduled for 10/17/2016.

Fire Chief Chuck Barron reported in August 2016 the Manistee Township Fire Department had 5 meetings and/or training sessions, 12 medical runs, and 6 fire runs. Pump and Ladder testing was currently being conducted on the trucks. All apparatus are in good working order as well as the Station House. The Fire Dept. is looking into installing a rain gutter above the door and also still pursuing interest on a security system. Work on the conex containers for the training area is expected to begin soon. The Fire Department received \$5,782.00 from the Revenue Sharing Board and was able to purchase helmets, nomex hoods and gloves. The department will celebrate Fire Prevention Day with an open house October 9, 2016 from 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. at the station with games, refreshments and family activities. Assistant Fire Chief Tom Johnson and Firefighter Frank Post recently attended fire extinguishing training at the Airport. Continuing to recruit new applicants. Still no word from MDOT on installation of flashing amber lights for fire truck signs. Manistee Township residents should call 231-690-5329 for burn permits. Supervisor Bjorkquist expressed his thanks to all of the volunteer firefighters.

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

Drain Commissioner Thom Smith presented an update to the Board on the Cromer/McGuinness Drain project. Phase I is on schedule and on budget. The liner is expected to be installed on Monday, September 12, 2016. Phase II started Thursday, September 8, 2016. Trustee Dontz did question Drain Commissioner Smith on what the accurate amount of the budget was. Smith stated the amount was \$725,000.00, which is the amount the assessments were based on and given to the residents at an earlier open meeting. Supervisor Bjorkquist asked Smith to provide contact information for his office to Treasurer Jankwietz. The contact information will be provided to the residents with their December tax bill mailings to allow the residents to direct any questions/concerns regarding their assessments for the Cromer/McGuinness Drain directly to Drain Commissioner Smith.

Supervisor Bjorkquist stated the next meeting for the Revenue Sharing Board will be October 10, 2016 at 5 p.m. to hear presentations.

Under Unfinished Business, Supervisor Bjorkquist updated the Board and the public that Olson Road has been wedged and seal coated, with intentions of it being fog sealed yet this year. The Milarch Road project began July 26, 2016 and is expected to be paved yet this year.

The Sewer Ordinance has been drafted, is being proofed for errors, and, along with a resolution, will be addressed at the October township board meeting.

There were no items under New Business to be addressed; however, Treasurer Jankwietz asked about the Hazardous Waste Cleanup attendance. Supervisor

Bjorkquist stated the Conservation District indicated it was very well attended; the 325 participating vehicles provided 14,000 pounds of Household Hazardous Waste and 1,500 pounds of Clean Sweep.

The current bills for September totaling \$40,714.11 were provided. A motion to approve the bills September as presented and received was made by Trustee Dontz; Treasurer Jankwietz seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

Manistee County MTA Meeting will be **Wednesday, September 28, 2016 at 7:00 PM at Arcadia Township Hall, 4436 Lake St, Arcadia, MI.**

Manistee Zoning Board of Appeals will meet **Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Manistee Township Hall.**

Manistee Twp Planning Commission will meet **Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 7:00PM at the Manistee Township Hall.**

Bar Lake Improvement Board will meet **Monday, October 17, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden St.**

Next regular meeting of the Manistee Township Board will be held on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 7:00 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 Treasurer Jankwietz to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Taylor
Manistee Township Clerk