

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, January 11, 2007 at 7:30 P.M., at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were John W. Anderson, Dennis R. Bjorkquist, John M Dontz, Connie L Smith, and M. Rebecca Dinsen. Also present were Zoning Administrator Rob Marble, Charles Gregg, Clara Kraus Saari, John Mencarelli, Fire Chief John Dunlap, County Commissioner Ed Haik, Keith Brown of PEG, Bob & Jim Schudlich.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor John W. Anderson with the pledge to the United States flag.

The minutes of the December 14, 2006 Manistee Township Board meeting were provided. It was moved by Bjorkquist, seconded by Dontz to approve the minutes as provided. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer Smith gave the Financial report for the month of December. It was moved by Dontz seconded by Dinsen to accept the Treasurers report as presented. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The minutes of the January 4, 2007 Manistee Township Planning Commission meeting were presented to each board member. The minutes were not approved, and will be discussed at the February meeting of the Manistee Township Board.

Correspondence was received from various sources and given to each board member to read and initial.

County Commissioner Ed Haik stated the Commissioners are listening to the problems at the Manistee County Library. There appears to be two different perceptions of what is happening, and it may be an internal problem with a clash of personalities. There is a strong possibility the County will go to a five person elected Road Commission Board. There would be two road commissioners elected this year, and those who are serving would complete their term, and then be up for election.

Rob Marble, Zoning Administrator stated December was a quiet month for the zoning office, with only two permits issued for signs.

The Manistee Township Fire Department held four training sessions, and responded to eleven fire/medical runs during the month of December. There was a total of 163 man hours, with the Chief having 50 hours in meetings, and maintenance.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been no significant changes to any liquor licensees during the past month.

The Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on February 12, 2007, at 5:00

P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall. This will be the organizational meeting, where officers are elected and the dates of the meetings will be established.

Clara Kraus Saari attended the Oaks Prison quarterly meeting. The Oaks houses 915 inmates, with 250 of those in segregation. There are nine new employees. However, staff is still short fourteen employees. Overall the State Prison system is short on beds. Manistee native Dave Wandrych was named the employee of the year. Critical incidents were down to two in October, four in November, and four in December. This is a state wide low level, for critical incidents.

In unfinished business the MRA has not yet provided the list of Manistee Township residents who use the MRA.

The repair of the Bridge Street boat launch was discussed, It was moved by Dinsen, seconded by Dontz to allow Bjorkquist to solicit bids for the repair of the Bridge Street boat launch. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The playground area was discussed, with the thought of providing concrete slabs, and buying picnic tables for the slabs. Prices will be sought on the tables, and this will be considered in the budget process.

It was recommended by Supervisor Anderson to reappoint Conrad Adamski, Todd Mallison, and Pat Miehlike to the Manistee Township Board of Review. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Dinsen to accept the recommendation of Anderson and appoint Conrad Adamski, Todd Mallison, and Pat Miehlike to the Manistee Township Board of Review. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The current bills for the month of January were presented. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to pay the bills as they are received for the month of January. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Keith Brown of the PEG Commission had prepared a proposed budget figure for Manistee Township's contribution to the PEG Commission. With the change in the cable law, Manistee Township may ask Charter Communication to give 2% of the franchise fee directly to PEG to provide financial support for the PEG Commission. This would be a rate increase to the subscribers of Charter, to provide more funds to PEG. The Manistee Township Board will discuss it further at the February meeting. Clara Kraus Saari & John Mencarelli spoke in favor of the increase.

Supervisor Anderson stated the Manistee Township Board of Review will meet on March 12, 2007 from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. and 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., and on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 from 9:00 A.M. to noon and 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

County Commissioner Ed Haik called and talked with Allan O'Shea. O'Shea would like to be on the March agenda of the Manistee Township Board to discuss

the Solid Waste Amendment to fund recycling.

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Bear Lake Township Hall, on January 31, 2007, at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, February 1, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

The next regular meeting of the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2007 at 7:00 P.M., if there is an Appeal.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board will be held on the second Thursday, February 8, 2007, at 7:30 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

There being no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Bjorkquist seconded by Dontz to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk