

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, January 12, 2006 at 7:30 P.M., 2006, 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, Greg Gielczyk, County Commissioners Ed Haik and Allan O'Shea, Fire Chief John Dunlap, Dennis Switalski, Attorney Richard Wilson, Kate Henschle, and approximately forty other persons.

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

There was a moment of silence in the passing of former Manistee Township resident, business owner, and fireman, Don Worm who passed away on January 12, 2006.

The minutes of the December 8, 2005, 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 January. It was moved by Bjorkquist seconded by Dinsen to accept the Treasurers report as presented. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The minutes of the January 5, 2006 Manistee Township Planning Commission meeting were presented to each board member, accepted, and placed on file.

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

County Commissioner Allan O'Shea spoke to the group on recycling in Manistee County. The County Commissioners are working to create a plan that would add a surcharge of \$2.50 per cubic yard of household waste that comes to the Manistee County Landfill formerly known as Harland's. This surcharge would generate the money to operate a recycling system, creating six head of household jobs. A revised budget was included in the packet. Manistee County presently recycles at a rate of 5%, with a state wide average of 20%. Manistee County would have to recycle at a rate of 15% to offset the amount needed to operate the facility. No board action was taken.

Juanita Guenthardt spoke for the proponent group attending the meeting in regard to wood burning outdoor boilers. She stated they felt the information was flawed on which the board based their decision, to implement the ordinance for the Health, Safety & Welfare of township residents. "There are wood burning outdoor units that have been in for a number of years and have had no problems." She urged the board to reopen the ordinance for more input, and consider other sources of smoke such as burning barrels, and ground fires. Chief Dunlap stated it is illegal to burn grass and leaves in the State of Michigan. Burning barrels are legal unless excluded by local ordinance. The issue was discussed at length for more than an hour. The proponents asked the Township Board to

immediately rescind of the Outdoor Wood Burning Ordinance. They were reminded by Zoning Administrator Rob Marble there would be no enforcement of the ordinance for this heating system, allowing all to come into compliance. Board members absorbed the comments and will attempt to set up a Public Meeting with DEQ expert Brian Brady. The meeting will be advertized and posted. Attorney Wilson advised any change to the present ordinance would require adoption by the board, and then a 31-day time frame after publication, to become effective.

County Commissioner Ed Haik noted the Commissioners held their organizational meeting. The Public Safety Committee is still working on the ATV Ordinance. Norman, Maple Grove, and Stronach are considering a test area. Until there is money for enforcement, the ATV ordinance will not be adopted. There is talk of a trail fee, or sticker to generate funds. The cooperative agreement with the Humane Society is working well for the County. The former dog pound will be sold. Asked what the county commissioners are doing to facilitate a contract with the Union and MCRC, Haik stated that will have to be worked out by them.

Rob Marble, Zoning Administrator stated the Planning Commission is working toward the end of the review of the Zoning Ordinance. Hopefully Public Hearings will be held in the next six months, prior to adoption of the revised Zoning Ordinance

The Manistee Township Fire Department held four training sessions, and responded to eight fire/medical runs during the month of January according to Fire Chief John Dunlap. The new fire truck should be delivered within three weeks. Dunlap emphasized the need to call prior to a controlled burn in the winter. This prevents running trucks and crew to the scene. Chuck Gerlach is no longer issuing burning permits. For the time being they will be issued by Chief John Dunlap.

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 for their organizational meeting on Feb 13, 2006, at 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee County Road Commission building. The deadline for Revenue Sharing Grant applications will be March 3, 2006.

Supervisor Anderson reported on the quarterly Oaks Prison meeting. The prison is at capacity with 917 prisoners, and 420 staff members. There were nine critical incidents in each month of October, November, and December.

There has been no action on the Bridge Street boat launch repair.

The Manistee Township Planning Commission had acted on the Zoning Change for the parcel at the end of Piney Road changing it to high density residential. It is in compliance with the Manistee Township Master Plan. The Manistee County Planning Commission agreed with the proposed Zoning Change, after revisiting their records. It was moved by Dontz to approve the Zoning Change to high density residential. The motion died for lack

of support.

Supervisor Anderson checked at the court house on the parcel on Revolt Road, Steve Crosby has wanted to purchase, when it reverts to the township. According to the deed it was sold in 2005 to a private individual. Marble will contact Crosby, with this information.

The Public Hearing on the proposed budget will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members are encouraged to have proposals ready, so the budget can be formulated from the proposals.

Bjorkquist asked for support of the MTA resolution to make Road Commission Boards consist of five members, and change their terms from six years to four years. Presently the County Commissioners have the authority to make the Road Commissions into five person boards, and they may be elected by the public, or appointed by the County Commissioners. Bjorkquist will send a letter of support for the resolution, to MTA.

Dinsen had a copy of the maintenance concerns for the Manistee County Road Commission meeting on Wednesday, January 18. Other road concerns were the traffic control signs to be placed on the newly constructed portion of River Road.

Theresa Cabot asked for a street light at the corner of Claybank Road and M-55. The request will be filed with others for street lights. No board action was taken.

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

Attorney Patrick Dougherty representing the Kruse Zoning request asked why the Zoning change died for lack of support. None of the board members responded.

Clara Kraus Saari suggested all the people at the meeting make a habit of attending the board meetings, and then they would know what is going on in the township.

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Bear Lake Township Hall, on Wednesday, January 18, 2006, at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, February 2, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street. There will be an ordinance work session on January 19, 2006 at 7:00 P.M.

The Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will meet on Tuesday, February 7, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board will be held on the first Wednesday, Feb 1, 2006, at 7:30 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street. There will be a Public Hearing on the proposed expenditures and revenues for

the 2006-2007 calender year, Feb 1, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. to formulate the budget. The Manistee Township Board will meet with the Manistee County Road Commission on January 18, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. at the MCRC building.

There being no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Dontz seconded by Bjorkquist to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk