

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, January 8, 2009 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 Guy E Finout III, Charles Gregg, Clara Kraus Saari, Fire Chief John Dunlap, County Commissioner Ed Haik, and Keith Brown of PEG.

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

The minutes of the December 8, 2008 regular meeting and the December 30, 2008 special meeting of the Manistee Township Board 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 approved minutes of the December 4, 2008 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 Ed Haik stated the county board made a number of appointments, including to the Road Commission, West Shore Hospital, and the Airport Authority, at their December meeting. The Road Commission reappointed Bill Eckhardt, and replaced Duane Anderson with John Miller from the Arcadia area. The Road Commissions has hired back the two employees laid off, and have signed an agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for assistance on road projects. The State of Michigan ATV/ORV Ordinance cannot be changed at a local level to exclude hover craft, or address safety issues. Haik feels it is doubtful the County Board will approve the ATV/ORV ordinance in its present form.

Guy E Finout III, Zoning Administrator stated the planning office has been very quiet. There will be an Appeal Board meeting on February 3, 2009. No receipts were issued during the month of December.

Fire Chief John Dunlap stated the Manistee Township Fire Department held five training sessions, and responded to five fire/medical runs during the month of December 2008. At the regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Fire Department held on Monday, January 5, 2009 election of officers was held. Paul Revolt was elected Assistant Chief, Mike Brown 2nd Lieutenant, and Chuck Barrons Secretary. The new fire truck is ordered, and will be available in 180 to

200 days. The truck will be a Kenworth or a Peterbilt, equipped per the specifications.

It was moved by Bjorkquist seconded by Dontz to confirm and approve Paul Revolt as Assistant Chief, Mike Brown as 2nd Lieutenant, and Chuck Barrons as Secretary of the Manistee Township Fire Department, as elected by the Manistee Township Firemen. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been no significant changes to any liquor licensees during the past month. The Douglas Valley operation will remain open on weekends with limited hours.

The Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on Monday, January 12, 2009, at 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee County Road Commission building. The purpose of this meeting is to determine the third most affected party to serve on the Revenue Sharing Board. The applicants for that position are the Manistee County Road Commission, and the City of Manistee.

Bjorkquist received a brief written progress report from the State of Michigan on the Bridge Street Boat Launch project. It is under review by the State at this time.

Clerk Dinsen stated the recount on the West Shore Hospital millage remained with a negative number, and the issue was not passed by voters in Manistee County.

The Manistee Township Board has not received any return telephone calls, correspondence, or a completed audit from Bob Ward CPA, who was approved by the board, and worked on the township audit. The State of Michigan requires fiscal reports to be filed. On the advice of our Attorney Richard Wilson, we should seek auditing from another source. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Smith to release Bob Ward CPA, because the audit has not been done, state forms have not been filed, and telephone calls have not been returned. Manistee Township will retain David Wilson, CPA firm to do the 2007/2008 audit, at a cost of \$2,700.00. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Bjorkquist commented on the excellent job Forbes is doing on keeping the fire hall and township hall plowed, and sanded.

Supervisor Anderson stated he had talked with Waste Reduction on the extension of the Garbage collection contract. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to extend the present contract for garbage collection with Waste Reduction Systems, with the 2009/2010 year at no increase, and the 2010/2011 year at a 2% increase. Discussion followed on the collection of all trash, from questionable areas, and then figure out if it is a weekend, seasonal, or a multiple residence driveway. A news article will be written. Dinsen, Bjorkquist, Smith, Dontz, and Anderson voting in favor. Motion carried. Clara Kraus Saari asked that trash barrels be placed at the Bar Lake Outlet, for the summer months.

Board of Review members are appointed in January of the odd number years. All Manistee Township Board of Review members have been asked to be reappointed. It was moved by Bjorkquist seconded by Dinsen to appoint Pat Miehke, Todd Mallison, and Conrad Adamski to the Manistee Township Board of Review. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The Manistee Recreation Association sent a request for funding of the sports program. The proposal was given to each board member for time of consideration. There were a number of questions on the list of users in the Manistee Township area.

The Manistee Township Board will need to hold a Public Hearing on the proposed 2009/2010 budget, in conjunct with the regular monthly meeting on February 4, 2009, at 7:30 P.M.. On that note Bjorkquist asked about having someone help Chuck Gregg with the grass cutting during the summer months. The account should reflect the possible increase in cost. Bjorkquist will talk with someone about this job.

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.

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Bear Lake Township Hall, on the third Wednesday, January 21, 2009, at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board will be held on the first Wednesday, February 4, 2009, 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 Dinsen to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC

Manistee Township Clerk