

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, October 13, 2005 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, Keith Brown of PEG, Dr. Klaus Kutsche, John Kruse, Joanne Fortier, Janice Witkowski, Rosemary Thompson, Brian Postuma, Julie Scott, Terry Dalke, Glen Haglund, Roy & Marlene Walters, Gerry Gregorski, Ted & Denise Ling, Betty Zupin, Sal Reckow, Lani & Bruce Brandt, and other township residents.

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

The minutes of the September 7, 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 October. 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 Manistee Township Planning Commission Public Hearings held July 27, 2005 and Sept. 15, 2005, and the regular monthly meeting held October 5, 2005 were presented to each board member, accepted, and placed on file. The minutes of the September 13, 2005 and October 4, 2005 Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board meetings 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.

In public comment Dr. Klaus Kutschke stated he and others are concerned with the latest decision of Manistee Township Planning Commission. The Planning Commission voted to change the designation of property located at the east end of Piney Road from wetlands to high density residential. Presently the owners of the property can build on the land with the approval of their permits. High density would allow up to 34 units on the property with a lot size not less than 100 X 150. Zoning Administrator Rob Marble and Planning Board member John Dontz explained the proposal is only a change in Zoning to follow the Master Plan of Manistee Township and Manistee County. The proposed development would still require DEQ approval, all permits, including water and septic permits. This change is then reviewed by the Manistee County Planning Commission, the township legal advice, and comes back to the township board. There were questions on water wells, septic tanks, road capacity, and the flood plain. Residents were allowed time to ask questions and make comments.

Rob Marble, Zoning Administrator stated that his office load has remained consistent, with no outstanding projects at this time.

The Manistee Township Fire Department held four training sessions, and responded to eighteen fire/medical runs during the month of September.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been no significant changes to any liquor licensees during the past month. With the warm weather, all establishments remain open.

Supervisor Anderson and Clara Saari had attended the Oaks Liaison quarterly meeting. The Oaks has a new deputy warden. There are 872 prisoners, with a capacity of 900. There were more than 30 critical incidents for the months of July, August and September.

The Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on November 7, 2005, at 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall. This is a change to the first Monday.

The new brush rig truck for the Manistee Township Fire Department has been purchased and titled. It is at the outfitter for modification and will be ready for the fire department in November. The Little River Revenue Sharing funds were used for a portion of the purchase.

The carpet has been replaced in the meeting room of the hall. The concrete steps to the upper level have been completed.

Bjorkquist has talked with Robin Reed of the MTA for a Township Recreation Plan. He plans on having a draft put together for the November meeting.

Work on the River Road project is progressing. The trees have been cut, stumped, the road built up, ditched, and graveled, from the end of the present black top to the corner going east toward Milarch Road.

Dinsen reported on the Manistee County Summit held on September 26. The Point of Sale Well & Septic Ordinance was discussed. Recycling, grants, lead base paint, and other topics were discussed at the summit. This was an exceptional opportunity for all those who chose to attend.

The recycling bins and the lack of proper usage was discussed. The placement of articles of non recyclable materials is littering. The continued placement or removal of the paper dumpster will be reviewed at the November meeting.

Manistee Township has advertized for snow plowing bids for Manistee Township buildings. The following bid was received from Forbes Sanitation and Digging for the 2005 - 2006 winter season.

Four wheel drive plow truck \$30.00 per hour
Loader \$55.00 per hour
Sander \$35.00 per hour

This is a \$5.00 increase per category from 2004-2005 bid. It was moved by Bjorkquist,

seconded by Dinsen to accept the bid of Forbes for snow plowing. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Eric and Pat Lampinen donated a basketball hoop for the township use. Chuck Gregg installed the hoop at the tennis courts, and removed the old lights. The tennis courts are getting use, with the people being pleased with the resurfacing.

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

Roy Walters spoke in public comment on the water level of Bar Lake. A group of Bar Lake residents have talked with everyone from the Corp of Engineers, the DEQ, the Manistee County Road Commission, and the County Drain Commissioner on establishing a water level for Bar Lake. Walters would like the level to remain at the spring level, by installing a spillway. The township does not have the authority to permit or install a spillway. Walters will keep us informed.

In other public comment Betty Zupin read a statement on her concern for the Manistee Township Board, and what she feels is the lack of responsiveness to the people of the township, and lack of credibility of the township board.

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Bear Lake Township Hall, on October 26, 2005 at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, November 3, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street. The Planning Commission will hold a work session on October 20, 2005, at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall.

The Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will meet on November 1, 2005 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 second Thursday, November 10, 2005, 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 9:40 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk