

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, October 18, 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 was Zoning Administrator Rob Marble, Charles Gregg, Asst. Fire Chief Paul Revolt, County Commissioner Ed Haik, Keith Brown of PEG, and John White.

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

The minutes of the September 5, 2007 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 Dontz seconded by Dinsen to accept the Treasurers report as presented. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The approved minutes of the September 6, 2007 Manistee Township Planning Commission meeting were not received.

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

County Commissioner Ed Haik stated the ATV ordinance appears to be a dead issue at this time. The county has set their budget for the next fiscal year. The County Board of Commissioners appointed Jim Russell and Bill Eckhardt as County Road Commissioners. There is an informational meeting tonight for moving the railroad system from the north end of Manistee Lake to the south end of Manistee Lake. This is in the public hearing stage, and more informational will be forthcoming in the spring of 2008. There were questions asked of Haik about the Manistee County Road Commission lay offs, and if they were back to work. That and all other decisions are the complete discretion of the Manager Jerry Peterson, and the MCRC Board. The County Commissioners only appoint Road Commissioners and then receive annual reports from the Road Commission.

Assistant Chief, Paul Revolt stated the Manistee Township Fire Department held four training sessions, and responded to nine fire/medical runs during the month of September 2007, for a total of 173 man hours.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been no significant changes to any liquor licensees during the past month. Bjorkquist anticipates the month of November will bring closure of a number of establishments, due to the winter weather.

Supervisor Anderson attended the Oaks Prison Liaison quarterly meeting. The State has placed the prison system in a hiring freeze. There were two critical incidents in July,

five incidents in August, and nine in September. There are 920 inmates housed at the Oaks at this time.

The Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on November 5, 2007, at 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee County Road Commission building. Grant will be awarded at that time. Due to a reduction in funding from the Revenue Sharing, the PILT funds will be reduced across the board at the rate of 11.82%. The compact requires funding for public safety, which cannot be reduced.

Rob Marble, Zoning Administrator stated September was a busy month with three permits issued for homes, one for demolition, two accessory buildings, a porch, and two signs.

It was noted the roof is done on the old hall, and the area is all cleaned. The chimney was not removed, as it would have required changing the furnaces. John White commented on the electrical wiring in the building.

The seal coating of Manistee Township is complete. There were complaints by John White of the excessive stone left on the side of the roadways that did not stick to the surface.

The Manistee Township Planning Commission bylaws were sent to Attorney Richard Wilson for approval, and they will then return to the Manistee Township Board for adoption.

Jordan Bilak of the DEQ spoke with Dinsen on the grant for the Bridge Street boat launch. The DEQ wording on the resolution is being changed, and the process will call for reimbursement with the township making the expenditure and the grant reimbursing for costs incurred. He hopes to have the new resolution wording to us prior to the November 8 meeting.

Bids were solicited for snow plowing of the township drives and parking lots. Bids were received from Gary Owens and Forbes Excavating.

Owens Forbes

4 Wheel Drive Truck \$ 50.00/hour \$30.00/hour  
Front End Loader \$100.00/hour \$55.00/hour  
Sander \$ 30.00/hour \$35.00/hour

It was moved by Bjorkquist, seconded by Dontz to accept the bid of Forbes Excavating for the snow plowing. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Consumers Energy had asked the township to allow for installation of two street lights at Manistee Blacker Airport. Two lights were taken out during the construction of the new building, drive and parking lot. These lights would be at the NW & NE corners of the

parking lot. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Dinsen to allow for the installation of the street lights at no cost to the township. Dontz, Smith, Dinsen, and Anderson in favor. Bjorkquist opposed. Bjorkquist will talk with Bill Kelly on the cost to the township.

Dinsen reminded Manistee Township residents living in the Onekama School District that absent ballots are available for the November 6, 2007 Onekama School Bond Election. Applications for absent ballots may be obtained from Clerk Dinsen.

Attorney Richard Wilson forwarded a letter to Manistee Township board regarding proposed legislation to add a tipping fee to all solid waste, to aid the state budget crunch. The legislation is scheduled to be acted on this week. Board members are encouraged to contact their legislator.

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.

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Bear Lake Township Hall, on October 24, 2007, at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, November 1, 2007 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 second Tuesday, November 6, 2007, at 7:30 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

In public comment John White stated he was unhappy with the current waste hauler, who is not picking up the garbage at his business, and picked up only two small bags at his home. Dinsen will contact the waste hauler.

The second public comment was relevant to the signs posted in the road right-of-way along Parkdale Avenue. White stated this is a dangerous situation, and asked the township to follow the sign ordinance and have the signs placed out of the road right-of-way for safety. Zoning Administrator Marble stated he would check on the signs.

There being no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Dontz seconded by Bjorkquist to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC  
Manistee Township Clerk