

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Wednesday, November 3, 2010 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 Guy E Finout III, Charles Gregg, Clara Kraus Saari, Keith Brown of PEG, Deputy Clerk Joy Hutchinson, Tom St Dennis, Dave Yarnell of the Manistee News Advocate, and MCRC Manager Jerry Peterson.

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

The minutes of the October 14, 2010 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 regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, November 4, 2010.

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

Guy E Finout III, Zoning Administrator stated there were three receipts issued during the month of October. One was for the demolition of a building, another for an accessory building, and the last for a copy of the ordinance. Fireglow Pellet plant has changed contractors, and is in the preliminary process of preparing the site for construction. There is a proposed land division of tribal land on the NW corner of Dontz Road and M 22, for the construction of a governmental center.

The Manistee Township Fire Department held four training sessions and responded to numerous fire/medical runs during the month of October. A full and complete copy of the monthly report will be available at the December 9, 2010 Manistee Township Board meeting.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated the only change to any liquor licensees during the month of October was the closure of Insta Launch for the winter.

Dennis Bjorkquist stated the Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on December 1, 2010, at 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee County Road Commission building, for Grant awards. The PILT funds have been distributed and received by Manistee Township.

Jerry Peterson, Manager of the Manistee County Road Commission presented a

proposal for the wedging and resurfacing of River Road from US 31 eastward to the former Coho Bend. The cost has been figured at the worst possible conditions, and should not go higher by spring. Dontz moved we sign the proposal as is. After discussion Dontz withdrew his original motion. Dontz then moved seconded by Bjorkquist to commit to River Road Project at a Manistee Township cost of \$256,217.50, and a match of \$109,807.50 from the Manistee County Road Commission, providing the road is surfaced to a width of 24 feet, which is two feet wider than the proposal, allowing for pedestrian and bike traffic. Further allowing, if the price of asphalt drops below \$65.00 a ton that this reduction will be applied to the cost of the additional asphalt required by going from 22 to 24 feet in width. Smith, Dontz, Dinsen, Bjorkquist, and Anderson voting in favor. Motion carried.

The Bridge Street project will be at a stand still until spring, although construction contracts have been signed, and the contractor will purchase the required steel at this years price.

Dinsen noted that some of the right of ways along Lake Michigan and Bar Lake have been cleared of brush, dead and downed trees, stumps ground out, and have improved greatly in appearance. Work will be completed within the month. Property owners living adjacent to the right of ways have reported being very please with the appearance of the new look of the right of ways.

A new configuration for the meeting room table was taped to the floor. This will required four units instead of three. Bjorkquist moved seconded by Dontz to purchase the new configuration at a cost of \$2,885.00 from the original price of \$2,165.00. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to accept the letter of resignation from M Rebecca Dinsen as Manistee Township Clerk. Dontz, Bjorkquist, and Smith voting in favor. Anderson opposed. Dinsen abstaining. Motion carried.

It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to appoint Deputy Clerk Joy Hutchinson as Manistee Township Clerk effective December 1, 2010, to complete the unexpired term of Dinsen. The term will be through the November 2012 General Election. Dontz, Bjorkquist, Smith, and Anderson voting in favor. Dinsen abstaining as required by law.

The Michigan Townships Association annual meeting will be held January 26 thru January 29 in Grand Rapids. Board members are urged to attend this educational opportunity. Early registration allows a reduction in fees.

Merit Network, Inc. has requested we sign a non exclusive franchise agreement to allow fiber optic cable to be placed though Manistee Township. Attorney Richard Wilson has reviewed the agreement, and stated he felt confident we should sign the agreement. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Dinsen to sign

the non exclusive franchise agreement with Merit Network, Inc., upon the recommendation of Attorney Richard Wilson. Dinsen, Smith, Anderson, Dontz voting in favor. Bjorkquist opposed. Motion carried.

Manistee Recreation Association has sent us a two-year contract, asking for a fee of \$11,613.00. This is a \$2,282.00 increase per year, from the present contract. It was moved by Bjorkquist seconded by Dontz to agree to a one year contract, with the Manistee Recreation Association at an annual contract fee of \$10,000.00. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The State of Michigan has been requiring collection of summer school taxes since 2003, and paying \$2.50 per parcel to the township to collect those taxes. In many Manistee County townships a portion of that fee is distributed to the Treasurer for the additional work load of summer tax collection. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Dinsen to disperse \$500.00 of the collection fee to Treasurer Connie Smith for the 2010 budget year. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

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

Dinsen stated the General Election was held on November 2, 2010. Manistee Township precinct workers did an exceptional job. There were 340 returned absent ballots, and 841 in precinct voters for a count of 1181. This was a township wide turnout of 47%. Manistee Township results were in to the court house by 9:30 in the evening, thanks to the exceptional workers.

Bjorkquist thanked Dinsen for the thirty-two years of service to the people of Manistee Township and to the Manistee Township Board. Clara Kraus Saari thanked Dinsen for her dedication to her job, and welcomed new Clerk Joy Hutchinson.

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Onekama Township Hall, on third Wednesday, January 19, 2011, at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will be held on Tuesday, December 7, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street, if there is a scheduled meeting.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2010 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 Thursday, December 9, 2010, 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 8:20 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk