

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, May 14, 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, Keith Brown of PEG, Manistee County Drain Commissioner Mark Di Benedetto, Larry Protasiewicz of the Spicer Group, Klaus & Lisa Kutschke, Jerry Gregorski, Dennis Tomaszewski, Carol Greve, Corrine Hahn, Lorna Perski, Bill Ganass, Edward and Jean Hybza and other residents.

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

The minutes of the April 9, 2009 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 April. 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 April 2, 2009 Manistee Township Planning Commission meeting were presented to each board member, accepted, and placed on file. The proposed minutes of the April 7, 2009 Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board meeting were presented to each board member.

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

Manistee County Drain Commissioner Mark Di Benedetto, introduced Larry Protasiewicz of the Spicer Group who explained about the problems with the drain of Rush Creek a.k.a. Blood Creek/Coffee Creek. The drain is located on private land west of Lakeshore Road, north of Birchwood Road. Presently the drain is not part of the county drain system. According to Protasiewicz, the rain of the June 13, 2008 storm caused erosion to the south bank of Rush Creek, along the Edward Hybza property at 4008 Lakeshore Road. In discussion with Hybza and the County Drain Commissioner at that time it was agreed the culvert under a private road would be repositioned to aim the run off water directly toward Lake Michigan and possibly prevent the further erosion of the Hybza property. This was accomplished by the direction of then Drain Commissioner Ken Berentsen, and a private contractor. The spring of 2009 saw the partial collapse of that culvert. The private road is impassable by vehicle, however the culvert is still allowing water to drain out of the swamp to Lake Michigan. DiBenedetto wants the township to sign documents creating Rush Creek as a county drain, thereby allowing him to begin the procedure of creating a special assessment district to replace the culvert, and repair this private road. The procedure of becoming a

county drain can be accomplished in a number of ways, including the township signing a resolution, ten (10) residents signing a petition to become a county drain, or the county commissioners can vote to make the area a county drain.

Protasiewicz further explained the procedure of resident notification, Public Hearings, appointment of a three person review board, and appeal process of a special assessment district. Klaus Kutschke, Jerry Gregorski, Dennis Tomaszewski, Carol Greve, Corrine Hahn, Lorna Perski, Bill Ganass, Edward and Jean Hybza and other residents asked questions, commented on the liability of the contractor and past Drain Commissioner, and in general questioned the responsibility of the cost of the procedure. Presently there are four homes on the private road that crosses this culvert. One resident has built a private personal drive, two are seasonal homes, one has been given permission to use the private personal drive for a matter of days. The township received correspondence on this project from our attorney on May 13. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Smith to table the matter for further input. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

All the concerned residents of Lakeshore Road, and Birchwood Road then left the meeting.

Guy E Finout III, Zoning Administrator stated there was no May Appeal meeting, There were five permits issued in April for new construction, with one being a new home. He will create a complaint form for people complaining about zoning violations.

Fire Chief John Dunlap, stated the Manistee Township Fire Department held five training sessions, and responded to eleven (11) fire/medical runs during the month of April. There was a total of 237 man hours from the department. The new fire truck is in production at this time. The Fire Department officers are working on a new policy manual for the fire department as recommended by Risk Management, our insurance carrier.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been significant changes to the liquor licensees during the past month. Insta Launch, Heathlands, and Douglas Valley are all open at this time.

In unfinished business the grant for the Bridge Street Boat Launch is still be reviewed at the State level.

Dinsen reported the May 5, 2009 Manistee Area Schools/West Shore Community College Election had a very low turnout with only 2% of the registered voters voting. There were 33 voters in all.

Our Eleventh Annual Trash Day, Saturday, May 9, 2009 was a cold rainy day, with a 30% reduction in township participants. There were 86 residents who signed in, with 120 yards of trash, and 40 yards of metal collected. The Manistee Township Fire Department members, Boy Scout Troop 167, and board members

Anderson, Dinsen, and Smith volunteered to help, making the day successful. Thank you to all who helped with the day.

It was recommended by Supervisor John W Anderson, to appoint Linda Finout as an alternate on the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to appoint Linda Finout as an Alternate on the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on Monday, June 8, 2009, at 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee County Road Commission building. This will be the meeting of awarding the grants.

There is a conflict with the current June meeting date. It was moved by Bjorkquist, seconded by Dontz to change the June Manistee Township Board meeting to Monday, June 1, 2009 at 7:30 P.M.. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

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

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Bear Lake United Methodist Church, for the annual dinner meeting on Wednesday, May 27, 2009, at 6:00 P.M. All board members are invited to attend, with Anderson, Smith and Dinsen attending the dinner meeting.

The Michigan Townships Association District meeting will be held at Cadillac, on June 1, 2009 Board members are encouraged to attend.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 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, June 4, 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 second Monday, June 1, 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 Dontz to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted
M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk