

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, July 8, 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 were Zoning Administrator Guy E Finout III, Charles Gregg, Clara Kraus Saari, Deputy Clerk Joy Hutchinson, Fire Chief John Dunlap, Theron Ferguson of PEG, and Darwin Booher candidate for the 35th District Senate seat.

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

The minutes of the June 10, 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 July. 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 June 3, 2010 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.

Darwin Booher candidate for the 35th District Senate seat, introduced himself. He has spent his life as a banker, farming after bank hours, serving as a Township supervisor for 34 years, graduating 13 children from Evert Schools, and now serving as a Representative in the House. He spoke on the lack of accountability in Lansing, the up coming budget shortfall, and the cuts in Revenue Sharing. He wanted us to be aware of his candidacy and listened to our concerns.

Guy E Finout III, Zoning Administrator stated there are no pending appeals. The Planning office issued five receipts during the month of June. The abandoned trailer situation at M55 & US 31 has reached the point of a civil infraction notice being issued. The owner has until July 26 to answer the court in this matter. Attorney Richard Wilson has offered information on a cooperative agreement with the Sheriff Department to handle these complaints in the future. Copies of the proposed procedure will be provided to board members for study.

Fire Chief John Dunlap, stated the Manistee Township Fire Department held five training sessions, and responded to sixteen fire/medical runs during the month of June. The non transporting rescue unit has responded to 12 medical incidents since it began service on June 14. The people being served have been pleased

with the response of Manistee Township. All the fire trucks have passed inspection by MDOT.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been no significant changes to any liquor licensees during the past month.

Clara Kraus Saari reported on the Oaks Prison Liaison Committee meeting, held July 8. Critical incidents at the Oaks consisted of April - 5, May - 3, and June - 3. This is very low compared to state averages. Presently the inmates are on a 2,600 calorie diet, down from 2,900 calories. There are 1,043 inmates at this time, at the Oaks, which was built in 1992. Each inmate will count as ½ person in the 2010 Census.

Bjorkquist stated the Little River Revenue Sharing Board is waiting on the appraisal for the tribal gaming property so they can distribute PILT funds. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on October 11, 2010 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee County Commission room in the Court House building.

The Bridge Street Boat launch is in the review stage, with the state wanting to be in attendance at the bid summary meeting. Nordlunds will make these arrangements, and a meeting will be held. Representative Booher stated he is Vice Chair of the DNRE Committee, and he would like information on the process we have been going thru. Bjorkquist will provide him with the time line on the progress of securing this grant.

County Prosecutor Ford Stone sent a letter to Supervisor Anderson regarding our Liquor Inspector not being a certified ordinance enforcement officer. There are a number of questions on this process. The letter from Stone was received on Tuesday, July 6. Information on this questions will be forthcoming at the August 12 meeting.

Dinsen noted the August 3 Primary is days away. There are more than 200 absent ballots out at this time for the Primary Election. There are local issues on the primary ballot with proposals for the Medical Care Facility and the Manistee County Council on Aging. The county wide Public Accuracy tests will be held at Manistee Township Hall on July 21. There will also be a required Election Inspector School on July 21 at 6:30 P.M., at the Manistee Township Hall.

Supervisor Anderson stated the brush rig for Manistee Township Fire Department was damaged at the scene of a forest fire. Two bids were solicited for repair of the truck and replacement of the damaged door. Linke Body Shop came in at \$2,334.60, and Benchley's estimate came in at \$1,880.98. It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Smith to accept the low bid of Benchley's of \$1,880.98 for repair of the brush rig. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

West Shore Medical Center Auxiliary, and Homeward Bound Animal Shelter will

be holding tag days in Manistee Township during the month of August. There were no objections from board members.

Smith asked if something could be done to divert the water from the front door area. In the winter it becomes an ice hazard. Maintenance man Chuck Gregg stated there was a ball blocking the flow thru the eaves trough earlier this year. The project will be given further thought and investigation.

Bjorkquist asked that a letter be sent to the Manistee County Road Commission proposing posting the 25 MPH speed limit sign on Condon Road, due to the number of children in the area, and a daycare,

Bjorkquist stated how nice the M 55 and US 31 corner garden looks, and thanked Smith and the people who are doing the grass cutting, weeding, and watering the area.

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

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Onekama Township Hall, on July 28, 2010, at 7:00 P.M.

The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2010, from 7:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 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, August 5, 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, August 12, 2010, at 7:30 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

There being no further public comment or 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