

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, August 14, 2008 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 Interim Zoning Administrator Guy E Finout III, Charles Gregg, Clara Kraus Saari, Fire Chief John Dunlap, and Keith Brown of PEG.

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

The minutes of the July 10, 2008 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 August. It was moved by Dontz seconded by Dinsen to accept the Treasurers report as presented. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The minutes of the July 2, 2008 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.

Guy E Finout III, Interim Zoning Administrator stated there was no Appeals Board meeting in August. The Manistee Township revised zoning ordinance has been sent to Wade Trim, and a draft copy should be back by the September 4, 2008 Planning Commission meeting. The new Zoning & Enabling Act will become effective on September 1, 2008. The changes will impact Manistee Township in a variety of ways, including future appointments. Three receipts were written during the month of July.

Fire Chief John Dunlap state the Manistee Township Fire Department held four training sessions, and responded to nine fire/medical runs during the month of July. The men spent 117 man hours on runs, and 63 man hours in training. Dunlap stated he spent 45 hours on reports, grants, and internal projects. The trucks were tested for pumps and ladders today at Onekama Township. Truck #31 failed the pump test. It is a 1994 truck, the pump seal appears to be leaking, there is oil leaking on the engine, and it has been overheating. It will have to be refurbished at an approximate cost of \$100,000.00. or replaced in six years. For the time being Dunlap will attempt to have it repaired.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there has been a change to the liquor licensees during the past month, with the addition of Douglas Valley wine and hard cider tasting, and sale. The Little River Trading Post Fuel Station is open and does sell alcohol, but is not subject to the State of Michigan inspections.

Supervisor Anderson stated the Oaks Prison reported twenty-three (23) new officers came to the Oaks in the past quarter. The critical incidents were down to two in April, five in May, and two in June. The Oaks employees have been involved in blood drives, marrow testing, Relay for Life, and other civic projects.

Bjorkquist noted the Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on October 13, 2008, at 5:00 P.M. for oral presentations of grants, at the Manistee County Road Commission building. The grant application deadline is September 12, 2008, and the grants will be awarded on December 8, 2008.

The Bridge Street boat launch is progressing. Nordlunds and Associates have been required to furnish additional structural planning and information for the DEQ grant. Nordlunds are requesting a change in the original contract from \$3,800.00 to \$4,800.00. It was moved by Bjorkquist, seconded by Dontz to sign the new contract with Nordlunds for a total of \$4,800.00. All voting in favor. Motion carried. Bjorkquist is working on a resolution from the Manistee County Road Commission for an easement of the Bridge Street Launch area to facilitate another requirement of the DEQ grant process. The construction should begin by November 1, 2008, with completion this year.

The framing is in for the cement for the picnic tables on the playground area. The cement will be laid as soon as they can decide how to get it there without tearing up the area with the truck. The picnic tables have been order thru Barco and will be delivered to PCA, then loaded on Bjorkquist's trailer to be transported to the site.

It was the recommendation of Supervisor Anderson to appoint Guy Finout as the Zoning Administrator. Bjorkquist moved Dontz supported to accept the recommendation and appoint Guy Finout as Manistee Township Zoning Administrator. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Dontz reported the free standing sign for the parking lot should be in place within a month, according to Amor Sign Company.

There have been no complaints of the odor from the Manistee City sewer pump station at the corner of Park and Jerumbo Streets. Board members have made numerous trips to this location, and little if any odor has been detected.

Clerk Dinsen stated the Primary Election saw 615 voters, with an average turnout of 25%, with 28% of those votes by absent ballot. Twenty-one residents participated in the certification as election inspectors. Fourteen workers put in 123.75 hours on election day.

The Wilson and Ward CPA firm have been used as Manistee Township auditors in the past. The firm has split to two separate firms. It was moved by Dinsen, seconded by Smith to contract with Bob Ward, CPA to complete the audit for Manistee Township. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

It was noted the Bar Lake outlet recreation area on Lake Michigan has been getting very heavy use, with excellent ratings for the water quality.

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

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Bear Lake Township Hall, on Wednesday, August 27, 2008, at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, September 4, 2008 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 Wednesday, September 3, 2008, at 7:30 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street.

If there is a need the Manistee Township Zoning Appeals Board will meet on Tuesday, September 2, 2008, at 7:00 P.M..

In public comment Clara Kraus Saari asked if the township funds were invested or in liquid assets. Treasurer Smith explained the funds are in a sweep account, transferring as needed into a checking account. Smith is working on a revised investment policy for Manistee Township, which will be available in the near future.

There being no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Bjorkquist seconded by Dontz to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk