

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Wednesday, September 5, 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 were Zoning Administrator Rob Marble, Charles Gregg, Clara Kraus Saari, Fire Chief John Dunlap, County Commissioner Ed Haik, 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 August 9, 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 September. It was moved by Dontz seconded by Dinsen to accept the Treasurers report as presented. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The Manistee Township Planning Commission meeting will be September 6, 2007.

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

In public comment Keith Brown of the PEG Commission requested Manistee Township levy a \$0.20, per subscriber, per month fee on all Charter cable customers in Manistee Township. The funds generated would be used to purchase equipment for the PEG use. The board expressed reluctance to levy any additional fees on the customers, without input from them on the usage of Charter cable. It was suggested Brown contact other units, including, Arcadia, Onekama, and Bear Lake who have cable and receive franchise fees, to contribute a portion of their fees to PEG.

In further business with PEG, at the time the 2007-2008 Manistee Township budget was formulated the cable franchise agreements were in litigation. Manistee Township did not budget for a contract with PEG. It was moved by Dinsen, seconded by Dontz to contract with PEG to film our meetings for a fee of \$2,000.00 for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, and amend the budget to reflect this contract. Dinsen, Bjorkquist, Dontz, Smith, and Anderson voting in favor. Motion carried. This represents an increase of \$400.00 or 25% over the prior fiscal year.

Rob Marble, Zoning Administrator stated he had issued six land use permits during August. The Planning Commission is moving ahead on the zoning ordinance and is close to a public hearing. They are also working on two PUD's.

The Manistee Township Fire Department held four training sessions, and responded to thirteen fire/medical runs during the month of August. There were a total of 210 man hours. Truck 31 will need to go to Charlotte for repairs, and will be out of service. Then truck 33 will need to have the pump repacked. There will be ladder testing on September 13 or 14, and pump testing on September 27.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been no significant changes to any liquor licensees during the past month. He will need to order more carbonized forms, and was authorized to purchase them as he has in the past.

The Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on October 8, 2007, at 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee County Road Commission building. The deadline for grant applications is September 14, 2007 at 5:00 P.M., verbal presentations will be October 8, and the grant awards will be held on November 5, 2007.

The report was received today from Abonmarche/Avanti Engineering, LLC on the structural soundness of the Bridge Street Building. Engineer Angelo Vozza, PE states in his letter "Based on my observations, with the current use in mind, the building is structurally in good condition. With the exception of a few localized areas, the structure has withstood the tests of time." There were recommendations listed to repair the structure, in pointing the cement blocks, however they felt it was structurally sound to be used for the present purpose. There was a great deal of discussion on the future of the building. It was agreed by consensus to form a committee to decide what should be done with the building. Maintain it for the purpose it is used, or demolition of the building.

Dinsen had advertised for bids for shingling the roof, of the Bridge Street building. Two bids were received, opened, copies made and distributed. Scott Adamczak Construction gave a bid of \$12,855.00, and Bob's Roofing presented a bid of \$9,527.00. It was moved by Dinsen, seconded by Anderson to accept the bid of Bob's Roofing for \$9,527.00, agreeing with the conditions of the contract. Bjorkquist, Dinsen, Anderson voting yes. Dontz and Smith voting no. Motion carried. It was suggested the chimney be torn off the structure and the gas heating units be vented out the side of the building. Anderson will talk with Bob's on a time and material basis for this project, prior to the roofing.

Discussion followed on the seal coating going on in the township at this time. There were questions on my some roads were being seal coated, and others were not. What will be the future for those roads not seal coated at this time? Bjorkquist stated the US 31 north project is progressing, with a proposed opening of November.

The Hazardous Waste Day held on August 25, 2007 was a tremendous success. There were some people turned away at the end of the day. There are hopes this can become an annual event.

Snow plowing bids will be advertized for the October meeting of the Manistee Township Board.

The question of Revenue Sharing grants was discussed. Bjorkquist stated the DNR grant for the Bridge Street boat launch has preliminary approval. The question of applying for a LRBOI revenue sharing grant to expand the township playground, add cement slabs, picnic tables, and add barrier free mats to the beach bluff at the Bar Lake outlet was considered. The Manistee Township Fire Department will be applying for a grant to replace the older tanker truck. The FD grant would be the first priority for the township.

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

There is an Open House scheduled at Manistee Blacker Airport on September 22, 2007. The new terminal building should be complete at that time.

The Manistee County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association will meet at the Bear Lake Township Hall, on September 26, 2007, at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, October 4, 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 third Thursday, October 18, 2007, 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 9:02 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk