

The regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board was held on Thursday, April 8, 2004 at 7:30 P.M., at the Manistee Township Hall. Board members present were John W. Anderson, Dennis R. Bjorkquist, John M Dontz, Darlene Smith, and M. Rebecca Dinsen. Also, present were Zoning Administrator Rob Marble, Charles Gregg, Clara Kraus Saari, Clarence Smith, County Commissioner Shari Wild, Greg Gielczyk, Donna Williams, and Fire Chief John Dunlap.

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

The minutes of the March 17, 2004, Manistee Township Board meeting were presented. It was moved by Bjorkquist, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes as presented. 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 minutes of the April 1, 2004 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.

Clara Kraus Saari spoke on behalf of the Manistee Lions, asking for permission to hold a Lion White Cane Day on May 14, 2004 at Wesco. It was moved by Dinsen, seconded by Dontz to allow the Manistee Lions to hold a Lion White Cane Day on May 14, 2004 at the Wesco in Parkdale. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Rob Marble, Zoning Administrator stated the Planning Commission will be hold a work session on April 22, 2004 at 7:00 P.M.. Work is progressing slowly on revising the zoning ordinance. Attorney Richard Wilson is working on the Tomaszewski lawsuit. There may be a modification returned to the Appeals Board.

Chief John Dunlap of the Manistee Township Fire Department stated the department held five training sessions, and responded to eleven fire/medical runs during the month of March.

Liquor Inspector Bjorkquist stated there have been no changes at this point in the season.

Supervisor Anderson reported on the Oaks Prison Liaison Committee. The prison will be changing from a Level 5 to a Level 4, by June of 2004. This will allow double bunking in four of the units, and increase the population of the prison from 550 to 1056, with a possibility of 1200 inmates. The guard towers will be manned in daylight hours, when there are prisoners in the yard. The Oaks had critical incident rates of nine for January, seven for February, and eight for March.

Bjorkquist stated the Little River Revenue Sharing Board will meet on May 10, 2004, at 5:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall. Presentation of grants will take place at this meeting.

Donna Williams of Pomeroy Road asked what progress has been made on the possible road construction. MCRC Manager Peterson had told Anderson he planned on attending the township meeting. The project was discussed, and a letter will be written to Peterson, with a copy to Williams.

(County Commissioner Wild arrived at 7:45 P.M.)

Fire Chief Dunlap stated the City of Manistee wants the Manistee Township Fire Department to lubricate the threads, and in general maintain the hydrants in Manistee Township. There is a total of 87 hydrants. Our insurance carrier would like a hold harmless agreement, with the City prior to accepting the responsibility. It was suggested there be a method to end the agreement. Dunlap stated the hydrants on Dontz Road do not hold enough pressure to pump from. The Manistee Township Fire Department would drop a portable tank, and use the tank to refill the trucks. An agreement will be drawn up prior to the next meeting.

County Commissioner Wild stated the County has opted to not replace the County Planner at this time. There is a planner from the Traverse City area who will consult on a basis of \$75.00 per hour. In other news, there is a possibility of placing a millage proposal on the August ballot for Animal Control. The County is looking at updating its Master Plan.

The benches have arrived, for the Bar Lake outlet, and one for the Zimmerman Lane. Manistee Welding has manufactured security chains for the benches. They will be placed as soon as the snow fence is removed and the area leveled.

Jack Harvey of Kott Road has been removing brush and debris on Zimmerman Lane while his wife does her walking. They sincerely appreciate a level area, without traffic where she can walk using her walker.

It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Smith to appoint Jim Baker to the three-year term on the Manistee Township Planning Commission. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

It was noted the leaf and grass dumpster has been brought to the location near the fire hall. The Port-A-John is at the Bar Lake Outlet.

The Michigan Township Association will hold their District 5 meeting at Crystal Mountain on May 18, 2004. Board members are encouraged to attend.

It was moved by Dontz, seconded by Bjorkquist to renew the land lease of Jim Sievert for the property just north of the fire hall on Hill Road. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

The current bills for the month of April were presented. It was moved by Bjorkquist,

seconded by Dontz to pay the bills as they are received for the month of April. 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, April 28, 2004 at 7:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Planning Commission will be held on Thursday, May 6, 2004 at the Manistee Township Hall, 410 Holden Street. The Manistee Township Planning Commission will hold a Work session on April 22, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall.

The State of Michigan will conduct an Election School on April 21, 2004 from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Manistee Township Hall. This will be open to Clerks and their Deputies from Manistee County.

May 3, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. Manistee Township Hall will be the site of an educational seminar sponsored by Michigan State University Extension. Basic Robert Rules, handling public comment, and the Open Meeting Act are some of the topics that will be covered. All board members are urged to attend.

The deadline for filing partisan nominating petitions for the August 3, 2004 Primary Election is 4:00 P.M., Tuesday, May 11, 2004. The Manistee Township Clerk's office will be open May 11, 2004 from 9:00 A.M. to Noon and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

After filing Partisan Nominating Petitions by or on behalf of a candidate for township office, the candidate will not be permitted to withdraw, unless a written notice of withdrawal is served to the Manistee Township Clerk no later than 4:00 P.M. Friday, May 14, 2004. The Manistee Township Clerk's office will be open May 14, 2004 from 1:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Manistee Township Board will be held on the second Thursday, May 13, 2004, 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 Dontz seconded by Dinsen to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 P.M. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk