

SUPERVISORS REPORT FEBRUARY 14, 2017

The following is a summary of my activities for the previous month.

To begin, at the January 10th. Board meeting, a resolution was passed that would result in a salary increase for the supervisor beginning in April 2017. Realizing that I will have been in office for only 5 months, I will recommend that the residents who attend the March township annual meeting vote to not approve an increase for the supervisor in 2017.

I've had three meetings with the manager and engineers at the Roscommon County Road Commission getting up to speed with the 2017 road budget. During my campaign for supervisor, I stressed that more emphasis needed to be placed on improving township roads. There is another meeting later this week.

Residents have called my office regarding the trimming of trees by the road commission on West Higgins Lake Drive. Work crews are trimming back the canopy that has covered the road for many years. I was told that the trimming is necessary to help remove water from the road surface during the winter months.

I've contacted Charter Communications asking them to let me know what their plans are for making available high speed internet service to all Gerrish Township residents. This is vital part of our community life. I am also encouraging our neighboring township supervisors' to do the same. I've authored two letters, one to State Senator Booher and State Representative Rendon relating to high speed internet access in Gerrish Township. I've also had an initial communication with Jerry Becker, Clare County Emergency Manager Director who is interested as well.

I've met with our neighbors in Lyon Township to try to identify ways in which cooperation would benefit us all.

I am pleased to announce that on January 24, I was a member of the latest class to complete the basic CERT training that is offered by the Gerrish Police department. The highlight for me was after the final exam / review of the basic class materials, our class participated in a disaster simulation that took place the Roscommon Middle School. The simulation included smoke filled rooms, both adult and children participated as injured victims, and live communications with our command center. For those of you who are not familiar with this program I

would encourage you to contact Chief Hill for details. More residents are needed to join the team.

For those residents who might be interested in what's happening at the county level, the county commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday morning in Roscommon at 10:00 am.

The Gerrish Township board had two budget meetings on January 26th and 30th putting together the 2017 Township budget.

In preparation for the upcoming opening of the Gerrish Township Park and Marina, the employees met with me on Friday morning January 27th to begin planning for the 2017 season.

Plans are also being finalized for the 2017 Higgins Lake Winterfest that will take place on February 17,18, and 19. Look for times and location of events soon.

We received a message thanking everyone for the letter of support from the Gerrish Township Board that helped to obtain a DNR grant for the feasibility study for the Iron Bell Trail.

I met with a lighting contractor at the Gerrish Township Park and Marina on March 8 to get his recommendations for switching to LED lighting. We will be meeting with the same contractor tomorrow, March 15, to discuss LED lighting for the Police Department, Fire Department, and township hall.