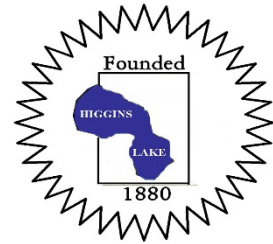


Memorandum



To: **Gerrish Township Board/Community**
cc: file
From: **Supervisor Hill**
Date: **10/30/2024**
Re: **Supervisor October Board Report**

For the month of October 2024, I submit the following report:

This month, I have seen several citizens in my office, received telephone calls and received other lobbying efforts from the Gerrish Lyon Utility Authority supporters seeking me to do "anything and everything" to continue to pursue the sewer system and support GLUA. This of course has been driven by the election results in Lyon Township and the much-discussed anticipation of a newly elected Lyon Township Board pulling or altering their support of the GLUA corporation incepted a few years ago by the boards of both Townships.

On the above note, we received a letter of intent from Dave Hall, GLUA Member at Large (this position is a board member spot jointly agreed upon by Lyon and Gerrish) of his intention to be done with service at the end of March 2025 due to personal reasons. Last month, we included his letter in formally acknowledged correspondence as the end date was March of 2025 and requiring no board action. Near the end of the month, we received a revised letter from Hall that did not give a date but alluded to leaving when a replacement could be available for appointment. We additionally received an email from Chair Jim Barnwell of GLUA recommending James (Jim) Kaufman as Dave Hall's replacement. We then became aware of a Special meeting on 10/24/24 held by Lyon Township. The meeting addressed approving Kaufman to replace the At-Large position. Our understanding was that the Lyon Board agreed to appoint same until the end of Hall's term March 31, 2025.

As an update to the accounts receivable with Gerrish Township, there is a remaining balance of \$6245.95 that is owed by the Gerrish Lyon Utility Authority. We have been notified that this balance has been submitted by GLUA to the Higgins Lake Foundation to be paid by them on behalf of GLUA against their previously granted funds. We are looking forward to their payment to completely resolve any contention by anyone that funds were not accounted for.

I and your board continue to pursue a clean water test from the CMDHD after the drilling of our new well at the Township. We are still experiencing a "positive, yet not quantified" detected coliform test in our water samples. The well has been shock chlorinated twice with more testing to come now directly from the well pump and one other spot outside the building to eliminate the new well completely as a source of the detection. Once this is cleared, the task will become even harder to find the "where," inside the building pipes it may be originating from despite the complete draining of the pipes, hot water, etc. Again, aging infrastructure does not help the process. To date, the well, pump, two tanks and a tankless hot water heater system have been installed as the system failure cascades. We have taken the proactive steps of posting our water area to notify not to drink the water. We have cancelled hall rentals outside of business hours in a proactive measure to mitigate most of the possible public exposure. The employees have been bringing in water and also using the GTFD Culligan water system. As of this date, we are splitting the costs of the bottles delivered and used for employee use until we achieve a passing result. Once the passing result comes, we will need to look at the heavy metals test for a baseline for the future of our water.

Our website is now up as we continue to work with the Shumaker Group in populating our new site with the archived records so that things are accurately depicted dating back a few years as from 2022 and 2023, not all information was posted during those years accordingly.

I chaired the October work session and October regular Township meeting as required to conduct the Township's business in a public meeting setting.

We received our formal copy of our 2023-2024 Audit for approval this month. I am happy to report that it does report our overall finances in favorable fashion, and we will be working on any notable items internally recommended by the

management discussion letter.

I continue to meet with Clerk Squires to prepare the work session and regular meeting agenda this past month to ensure we have accurate, timely information for board members prior to the meeting and I posted these to the website for public consumption.

We have finished the summer season at the Township with our seasonal employees completing their work for the 2024 season. I thank them all for their assistance in our busiest time of need. The Gerrish Township Marina finished another season successfully with special thanks to the manager Russ Hartner and his staff.

I met with the Parks and Recreation Chair Susan Semack twice this month to discuss the timelines and processes necessary for the next 5-year Recreation plan to benefit Gerrish Township for the future.

I met with Chief Muszynski at his request to discuss his current staffing situation and the impending retirement of Sgt John Wybraniec. One Officer remains on a long-term disability process for a cancer issue, and one is on worker compensation from an injury suffered in a patrol car accident on Labor day weekend. Thus, the Department will be down 3 Full-time Officers in the near future after December 18, 2024.

This month, I was invited and attended a small group presentation at the Higgins Lake Foundation regarding the Health of Higgins Lake. The presentation was well presented by Dr Luttenton. I was appreciative of the opportunity.

In preparation of looking into the budget next year for 2025-2026, I met with the Marina Manager Russ Hartner to discuss the Marina budget and seek his input into its construction and his vision for needs in the immediate future and beyond. As we are nearing pay off of our Marina purchase debt, I have been exploring and planning with the Manager of a creation of a committee to discuss the future of the Marina and usage of buildings and grounds once we outright own the space and have the ability to entertain ideas that were not possible due to an encumbrment of the debt.

Also, I had the opportunity to talk with the various candidates that are

running/seeking to be elected to the board and engage with them about their board service and visions for our Township as I would like to hit the ground running so to speak. Since I have been here for 6 months now, I believe I do have somewhat of a handle on what I would envision as important topics and ideas moving forward to propose to the board for discussion and consensus in an organized, transparent fashion in all things the Township board determines.

I participated in the Gerrish Township Public Accuracy test for the coming General Election, and I also chaired the Gerrish Township Election Commission meeting to approve the Election worker list and schedule. Thank you to our Clerk's office for their preparation.

I "zoomed into the online," Roscommon County Commissioners meeting regarding the Lake Level Control Structure to keep up on the status of the permit activity for my own knowledge and understanding of the complete issue moving forward.

I attended a Roscommon County Rural Tourism Assessment meeting at the request of the Chamber of Commerce to participate in the "Phase Four" wrap up of a partnership with the Michigan State University Extension Tourism analysis. This is my first meeting and found that apparently this work began two years ago, and action planning will now move forward on the results of the study. I will continue to follow this and embrace meetings that concern this study and its actions.

In closing, as last month, I want to remind all in understanding how I manage my day at work. I am at work at 7:00 a.m. in the morning and will be here until 3:00 p.m. Monday-Friday on most days barring other professional appointments to keep me or my family healthy. Also, not all my meetings on behalf of my office or Township business are in the building. I also frequently visit sites in the Township when necessary to understand some stated problems that people call in on. My schedule is posted on my door. I am happy to meet personally with folks, but I do appreciate a scheduled appointment so I can give my undivided attention to your concerns. Please call me at 989-821-9313 ext. 229.

Respectfully given,

Supervisor Brian A. Hill

Supervisor Brian A. Hill

Cc/file
