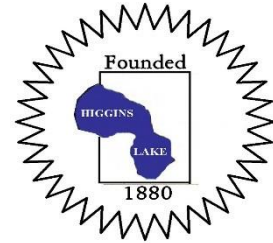


Memorandum



To: **Gerrish Township Board/Community**
cc: file
From: **Supervisor Hill**
Date: **05/31/2025**
Re: **Supervisor May 2025 Board Report**

For the month of May 2025, I am submitting the following report:

As an update to the *Gerrish Lyon Utility Authority*, legal processes continue to be followed to fulfill the dissolution of the corporation via the advice of our legal counsel. This month I authored a letter to Chair Barnwell for *GLUA* Board consumption reiterating the needs of *Gerrish Township* regarding our last resolution to continue the dissolution process in a bullet style and request answers back by 6-1-25 so as not to delay the processes. I did receive a response back from the organization detailing their status to each requested item. All communication has been copied and forwarded to our Township Attorney to further his work

Per our usual, when we are advised of any other necessary actions, the Township Board will follow up accordingly.

The *Gerrish Township Board* held an organizational Special meeting regarding the roll out of the operational functions of the *Health of Higgins Lake Initiative*. Defining the steering committee as the public committee that will have recommendations to the Township Board when necessary. The Steering Committee will be open meetings compliant. There are various sub-committees, and all were defined as operational, research type committees. Trustee Ostling who heads up this initiative informed the meeting audience of his work and the structure he envisions. Again, it is intended to bring the community back together towards productive meaningful discussions and some mitigating action suggestions.

The *Gerrish Township Policy Manual* has been updated from the May regular meeting where six policy additions/amendments were adopted.

I chaired the May work session, May regular Township meeting, and one special meeting to conduct the Township's business in a public forum.

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.

This month saw the installation of a proper water softener, filtration system, back flow prevention valves as well as miscellaneous re-piping of copper tubing lines from the *GTFD/EMS* bays into the systems before moving the water into the rest of the building. The last task of items in the infrastructure that were neglected is to have 3 new water exterior spigots installed to install due to broken conditions of handles etc. This will be done in June 2025.

I spent some time this month looking for records of our septic clean outs at the Township Hall and the *Gerrish Township Park* on Carlos Drive. Both sites needed a cleanout based on records from the past.

I met with the *CMDHD* Health inspector Mark Jarski to review our septic and water at the *Gerrish Township Park* on Carlos Drive. The water was turned on, flushed and the Type II water well test was done with acceptable results and same has been placed on a proper seasonal testing regimen with the *CMDHD*. This had not been done before per everyone's records.

The Township Hall septic was pumped and inspected this month. I await the results of same with photographs etc.

I met with *ESCON*, our mechanical service supplier for the *Compost Gate* for the bi-annual preventative maintenance and had the "Access it" program to manage same on two other desktops to allow for a three deep approach for those who can operate the computer software for the gate.

Seasonal employees have been processed through their back to work paperwork to meet the community expectation year after year. We have a new seasonal employee attending the *Gerrish Township Park* this year as we hired Jill Baker, a long-time resident of the *Sovereign Park* area, to manage same this summer. She is very pleasant and known to many people in the area and we are happy to

have her aboard with the Township team.

Treasurer Anderson, Clerk Squires and I are working closely with the Gerrish Township manager to assure a good workflow for the finances this year with plans to streamline the year to transition processes regarding all paperwork associated with the marina.

Treasurer Anderson and I continue to meet and identify and discuss the long-term planning financially to address our aging infrastructure and to provide funds for them that will be needed to make budgeting much clearer for the next 3-5 years. Discussion of creating reserve funds from the fund balance and our work will continue as we address each budget center in the budget. More to follow and share openly with the board and the public as there are many components to this endeavor.

I chaired a E-911 Authority Board meeting to conduct the business of same in a public forum. I was elected Chairperson of the E-911 Authority Board a few months ago.

On the invitation, I attended the Higgins Lake Riparian Safety Committee meeting to discuss issues surrounding Higgins Lake. This group has been meeting for many years, and I have attended each year.

I continue to meet with Trustee Ostling as he is liaison to the Cemetery needs. He has done an immense amount of work that will be discussed at the June 5, 2025, work session regarding planning of future cremation lots, walkway placements, management process of workflow from purchase of lots, funeral planning and the multitude of thoughts regarding planning. He has also created a future conceptual map of what the end result could look like and will work with the board in blending other thoughts into same. Also, he, Clerk Squires and our Administrative Specialist Mary Ann Figley have worked on a review of lot and other service prices with the surrounding areas to make a proposal for a fee adjustment to the board.

This month, I attended the "Coffee with a Cop" hosted by the 200 Market Café, ACT-NOW and the Gerrish Township Police Department. The event was once again very well attended, and I always enjoy meeting people I do not know as well as spending time with the everyday heroes in our community.

I attended an EGLE on-line webinar on Septic Systems and the Septic Replacement Loan Program (SLRP). I have placed the contact information for the website accordingly.

I also attended a meeting with Lincoln Financial, Dale Boehm III of the Boehm Agency and Clerk Squires to hear a presentation to address our Retirement Program here at the Township which has become cumbersome and less answerable to the Township. A presentation to the whole board will be made at a future meeting as we need to address this issue soon.

On the public relations front, Clerk Squires and I met with a representative of the "Text my Gov" application to learn what they could do and what tools for communication for the ease of the public may be available. More to follow as the full board and public will see a brief 15-minute presentation on how it works within the website and how communication is achieved between cell phones, websites and citizens.

I chaired the Health of Higgins Lake roll out meeting to define the roles, structure and responsibilities of the various committees as we look as a community to clarify, quantify and come to a collective view as to a path forward to a cleaner, healthier Higgins Lake. I look forward to the community working together in a methodical cooperative manner moving forward.

I met with Buck's Tree Service regarding some of our dead tree limbs and some dead trees that are of concern on our Township complex site as well as at the Police Department. I found that most of our work identified by our maintenance person Tony Ide was of the Red Oak variety and due to DNR regulation cannot be trimmed until Fall or winter prevent the Oak wilt disease. More to follow on this issue in the Fall. He will be able to look at the Police Department work for quote and will do our other limbs that are not of the Red Oak variety. This makes our job very small at this time.

During the month, I have also worked on building a RFP for the preparation, crack seal, sealcoating and re-striping of the Asphalt parking lot areas of the Municipal Parking Lot and North Drive, Fire/EMS Parking Lots and approaches, Police Department Parking Lot and Compost Approaches. This is done every three years, and this year is the identified year for this work. The invitation to

bid and notice to bidder paperwork associated with the RFP will be reviewed by the board to set dates to advertise etc. at a future public meeting.

I also answered several emails from citizens and answered questions on behalf of the Township this month via telephone and personal appearances in the Township this month.

As always, 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 on 989-821-9313 ext. 229.

Respectfully given,

Brian A. Hill, Supervisor

Cc/file
