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Kisa Barb
Public

August 2016
Foreman Report

Roads

- We had some delays in grading our dirt roads due to equipment breakage, but I'm happy to report the grader is fixed and all the gravel roads were graded before the busy Labor Day weekend.
- With some nice trouble shooting by Adam the TV 145 was able to get back to work cutting the ditches with the boom mower. It was a constant battle this year keeping that tractor and mower operational. We will continue to cut brush on the back slopes of the ditches into September if the equipment keeps running well. Going into Labor Day the ditches that have been completed look outstanding; good job William!
- The street lights downtown that are maintained by Xcel Energy have all been converted to high efficiency LED lights. The cool white light looks great at night, and will provide years of maintenance free light.
- We started hauling misc. rip rap rock from the North Shore pit that will be used on the upcoming culvert replacement projects. We should have enough on hand to complete this year's projects, but we'll have to purchase more next year. The hope is we will use the MRF roll-off truck after it hauls our demcon and scrap steel, we then can pick up gravel and other aggregate with the open boxes and haul back to the island.
- I've contacted Miles Falck, a wildlife biologist with the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, and we are planning a time for his crew to do some control work of purple loosestrife in the right-of-ways. This plant is a fast growing, invasive species, that will take over a property quickly. Although it has a nice purple flower, it will completely choke out any and all other native plants.

Parks

- Another extremely busy month at BBTP. Rand will be done on September 5th for the year, Bill will take over on the weekends through September 18th, after which, Ben or Dick will cover the weekends if needed.
- Ben has joined Trip Advisor online for our parks, he will be monitoring the reviews and commenting as needed.
- The skate park had a ton of brush cut back from its perimeter, opening it up and providing "new light". We will be looking to incorporate new ramps and features in the coming years. I will be requesting money put into a designated fund so we can improve on this much needed amenity to the town.
- The back stop at the Rec. Center ballfield was fixed up before Star Bar weekend, preventing the ends of the wires on the fence from poking or grabbing people.
- Keptner's hours have been reduced to three days (Friday-Sunday), this will more than likely go until Apple Fest.
- All in all we had a very successful summer in the parks dept. A new park, a new supervisor, outstanding upkeep of buildings and grounds, and a bright future in front of us!

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Equipment

- The 772 motor grader had a failing alternator and it was decided to replace the belts at the same time. Two days of operation later, a different pulley's bearing failed leaving the grader stranded on North Shore. Nortrax was able to get the parts needed shipped over night and Lisa happened to be going to Ashland the next day and was able to pick them up. On Monday Adam was able to fix the broken pulley and grading operations continued the next day.
- Hydraulic issues with TV 145 had us scratching our heads. Lulich Implement gave Adam some ideas to try and it worked! This allowed the boom mower to get back into operation and brush cutting to commence.
- The MRF roll-off made some trash hauling runs this month. A few problems included a blown air bag and two new tires on the push axle. This truck should be back into operation after Labor Day, ready to haul all the trash from the last big weekend.

Upcoming Projects/Admin.

- As we approach fall we will have a number of projects that we will try to and complete before the snow flies. They include but are not limited to, the following: Fence at the solar panel controls, pressure wash and stain the building at BBTP, trail improvements, Camp site improvements, fixing road culverts, RROW bush cutting, Airport brush cutting, pruning and other garden work.
- The Library wiring is 98% complete. I expect this to be done by mid-September.
- I completed the Parks and Roads Capital Equipment Plan out to the year 2030. Nothing is set in stone, but the fact of the matter is we have some large expenses with equipment needs that we will have to address in the coming years.
- The Capital Improvement Plan for our public buildings is still in the works and should be completed in the near future.
- I conducted our yearly reviews of my departments year round employees.
- The daunting task of compiling a three year budget has begun. This will continue into September.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristian Larsen
LaPointe Town Foreman