

Foreman Report  
February 2016

**Roads**

- Similar to January, February was unseasonably warm resulting in no ice road. We did flood by Griggs Approach a few times which has allowed the windsleds to be parked there in case the need for them arises and/or an ice rescue is needed. Looking at the extended forecast into March it looks like all the ice will be gone soon.
- All of the snow piles around town were either pushed back or blown away with the snow blower, and the storm drains were also freed of ice and snow. We were able to complete this before the anticipated rain and melt that happen this month. To date all of the storm drains are working as they were designed.
- The rain presented some challenges turning all of our dirt roads into a complete sheet of ice. The crew did an outstanding job of spreading salt/sand in the worst areas, helping to keep all the motorist safe.
- During the thaw, all of the paved roads were scraped clean of the snow and ice exposing the blacktop. This all is a sure sign of spring!

**Equipment**

- We have been doing a great job of performing our pre trip inspections. A break leak on 54 was discovered and a leaky high pressure oil line on the 772 was found and fixed both before catastrophic failure occurred.
- Plow truck 98 had a leaking radiator and was replaced
- The TV 145 Blower had a small amount of damage when being used downtown to blow the snow pile back. This was remedied with a little metal fabrication and welding. A new cut edge will also be put on.
- The Fire truck "Dale" was outfitted with Electronic Fuel Injection. This will be a great improvement to the performance, reliability, and should extend its life with our Fire Dept. for 5-10 more years. This project was suggested and completed by Adam. We had some unexpected delays with completing this project, but I'm happy to report that the truck is done and back in the Fire Dept. ready for service.
- The order for our new 2016 5500 Dodge Ram was placed. The expected pick up date will be mid to late April. This truck will be a much needed improvement to our fleet and will be the main patrol truck for the Road Crew.
- In the coming two months I plan to put the 450 G Dozer and the 1996 pickup truck up for sale doing a silent auction, locally first. If needed, we may put it on consignment with Lulich Implement. We have begun to search for a replacement of the 1996 pickup. We plan to buy a used ¾ ton truck that we will outfit with a new plow the estimated cost will be around \$15K-\$18K. I recommend to the board that the money from both of these equipment sales to be put into the highway equipment designated fund to help pay for this pickup truck and possibly other equipment.

## Parks

- Posting, interviewing, and hiring of the 2016 BBTP Camp Hosts occurred.
- A new PC was ordered and installed for BBTP. This will help bring us up to date and should allow the camp hosts to conduct more efficient and smoother business transactions at BBTP.
- New baby changing stations have been ordered for our public restrooms. For now two will be at Joni's Beach, two at the Rec Center, and two at BBTP. We hope to have them installed in the coming month.
- No one has applied for the invasive species positions. This may be an omen because the grant funding for such work is drying up. We will continue to post for the positions and work with MIWP, and I will keep you up to date as things develop.

## Admin/Misc.

- The contract for the new solar array project was awarded to Northwind Renewable Energy. I met with the project supervisor and discussed the tentative plan and layout of the project. We will be meeting again after the snow melts to measure and stake out the land. The actual work for putting it all together should only take them two weeks. They plan to be here in April with 'all hands on deck' to complete the project before the due date of May 26, 2016. This is both an amazing opportunity and project for Madeline Island.
- A more specific job description was written for Adam's position which is titled Town Mechanic/Maintenance Technician. This will be presented on the March 8<sup>th</sup> town board meeting, and specifically lays out the responsibilities and expectations this position has for both equipment and buildings.
- All three town boilers had their 3 year inspection by a state approved inspection agency. No issues were reported.
- Lisa and I were able to do a building inspection on the WTB and Fire Hall. The issues we found will be laid out in the Capital Improvement Plan and prioritized to be fixed. Nothing too major to report other than the roofs that are going to be replaced this spring.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristian Larsen  
LaPointe Town Foreman