

Foreman Report  
July 2015

Roads

- All of the shoulders of the roads had at least one pass with the new disc cutter to cut the grass back before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. This cutting was continued through July. All of the dirt roads were graded and ready for the 4<sup>th</sup> as well.
- The culvert on South Shore Rd. by Nick Brown's will need to be replaced. We cut the asphalt out and repacked the road with gravel. This should last until the fall, when traffic slows, we will close the road (approx. one day) and replace the culvert. I am trying to schedule the paving company during this same time who will also complete Penny Ln. and other misc. projects around the island.
- We dug up and fixed a portion of Snow Place Ln. that had clay pumping through the gravel. This was done last year in different spots and those areas are holding up well to the heavy truck traffic. As I've said in other reports, this road was not built for heavy truck traffic and I'm sure we will be fixing other sections of the road in the future. We also finished fixing the south side ditch of Snow Place Ln. where Xcel Energy trenched a new line through last fall, this time and materials will be invoiced to their claims department.
- The low lying branches on the pine trees at the Catholic Church Cemetery were cut and removed. This now allows for a clearer sight path if you are traveling south on Herring St. turning on to Big Bay Rd.

Parks

- The constant maintenance of grass cutting, trash collecting, and bathroom cleaning has consumed all of the parks employees time. Weekend tourist traffic on the island has been extremely high, with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July being the busiest, our public restrooms are not suited for the amount of people we are seeing. I've requested from the Chamber of Commerce that they consider helping the town with renting portable restrooms that would be distributed around town on the busy weekends or for the whole summer next year. Lisa, Max, and I will discuss the best options to proceed.
- BBTP has been extremely busy this month. From January 1, 2015 to July 30, 2015 a total of more than \$79,000 was processed on credit cards. Keep in mind this is before any fees are deducted. August is almost completely booked at the campground then slows dramatically as we transition into fall. Some concerns of poor water quality at the pit toilet well and the hand pump well have been mentioned to me from the public. I would agree that both have horrible tasting water but pass county health testing. I plan to meet with some plumbing companies in August to get some price estimates of eliminating the two wells and piping in new lines from the new high flow well at the shower facility. I will keep you updated to the cost as we approach the 2016 budget planning time.
- Phase two of the Ojibwe signs will be completed in August. Robin Russel from MIFL is donating and having made two very nice signs that will explain why the Ojibwe language and its people are so important to Madeline Island. They will be displayed at BBTP and down town at the island map/information board. Thank you Robin!

- I had a portable bathroom placed at Greenwood Cemetery this will remain there year round, and will provide visitors some relief if they the need to use it arises.
- The attendance at the Rec Center daily kids program is higher than ever before. They have been busy swimming, playing and making crafts. A big Thank You to Adventure Vacations for their donation of over \$700 in merchandise. This will help keep the kids entertained for a few years to come.

#### Equipment

- We have our 1-ton pick-up scheduled for a new plow to be put on August 14. This will be a much needed improvement to the snow plowing fleet, as we begin to phase out our 1990 and 1996 pick-ups.
- I've begun to price out a new 2-ton for the road crew, which is what is needed to haul our 8' v-box sander. With a plow, dump bed, tool box, etc. the estimated price is around \$65,000. I'm currently looking to include this in the 2016 budget. I am talking with Ashland County to see if they would be interested in covering one third the price to later be credited when we use it on the county road, I'll keep you informed as to their decision.
- The 2010 police car had two new coils, spark plugs, upper intake gasket installed, and an oil change. This was fixed in house with a savings of well over \$1000 than from going to a shop on the mainland.
- The MRF pick-up had its tires rotated and the front end fixed with new idler and pitman arm. The MRF guys have reported it is driving better than ever before.
- The new MRF glass crusher arrived and has finished being modified to fit the MRF's needs. Installation is planned for September, if the old one keeps working until then.

#### Admin/Misc.

- On August 5<sup>th</sup> twenty-five volunteers from St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi, MN are going to pick up trash along various roads and trails as a community service project. Thank you to all of them for helping to keep our Island clean!

Respectfully submitted,

Kristian Larsen  
LaPointe Town Foreman