

Foreman's Report June 9 thru July 6, 2012

The heavy rains have drastically altered Ashland County's time table for our paving of the street cuts, as they are dealing with a large flood crisis in the southern part of the County. Emmer has tentatively scheduled the County crew to come over to do this paving the week of the 18th-22nd, and they will also be doing the repair work at the intersection Herring Street and Big Bay Road and on Big Bay Road across from Norvado's building.

Dick and Merrill are to be commended with their handling of the July 4th crowds and the unending tasks of dealing with garbage and dirty bathrooms. Thank goodness the rain has slowed down a bit to relax the never ending mowing cycle, just hope we don't now go into the drought the southern part of the State is suffering.

The calcium chloride is applied for now, using one less load than we have in the previous three or four years, and hopefully we will get by with that. Due to the rains, it took a while longer than anticipated to get it applied to the neediest places.

The roadside mowing was stalled due to the inline skate marathon, and now a large door window shattered in the tractor has temporarily delayed the mowing further, but the window is now repaired and should be out mowing again as soon as a little sweeping is done.

Big Bay Town Park

First I have to say that if this reservation system is going to stay implemented, we will need to hire staff and have a campground host, as the situations arising are never ending that require a physical presence. The establishment of an office out there due to the need to stay on top of the reservations has in essence opened a quasi Chamber of Commerce office, as when Dick is there, a never ending line of campers form to ask one question or another. Evan has been of great assistance, and if he weren't out there so much there would probably be many more irate people looking for help. But the reservations just keep piling up, along with all the questions, date changes and cancellations.

The noise reports concerning the Goodermote group were unfortunate, but besides just yelling at them in the June 15th letter, they should have been thanked as well for their concerns for the park and their continued help with all the little upkeep and maintenance issues they help us with each year.

I have filled out the County permit applications for the new structures at the park, and request the dollars necessary and TB approval for Greg's signature on all applications, and any other future applications that may arise for plumbing and UDC permits.

As I pointed out in the last report the bids for construction of two privies, the picnic shelter and the comfort station are to be opened at CBE's office in Ashland on July 9th. CBE will prepare a table with a list of the bidder's, bids and other pertinent data for the July 10th meeting. I do not think CBE and I will be ready to recommend the hiring of a contractor at the 10th meeting, but it may possibly be the case.

I have requested and received three lumber quotes for the boardwalk materials necessary for the construction of the beach boardwalk, and am waiting a fourth quote, and will have a recommendation for a material supplier at the meeting on the 10th. The intent to purchase these materials ran as a Class I notice per State statutes in the June 25th Daily Press. I am also requesting we hire two employees to assist with this construction, as we just do not have enough employees to keep a project like that going plus do the regular

things the Town crew does. I wish to post for two Park Assistant positions and hopefully hire at the same meeting we hire a contractor at.

I have been told we will receive the \$2000 we applied for from the La Pointe Center, which is good news. The Otto Bremer Foundation makes their decision on July 26 regarding our application and we will hear from the DNR any day now regarding the two grants we recently applied for.

I am going to be on vacation from July 12-22, but will have my phone and a laptop to work through any issues dealing with the bid opening, so we can hire a contractor as to allow us and them to work on permits and material ordering so they can start construction on September 1st or soon thereafter. Since the second July meeting has been moved back a week, I would ask for a special meeting on July 27th to hire a contractor (if not already done) and hire boardwalk and campground help.

Respectfully Submitted

Keith Sowl
Town Foreman
Town of La Pointe