

April 2024 Public Works Report

Roads/Equipment

- The month began with a significant windstorm on 4/3, which resulted in ferry service cancellations but no serious downed trees or power outages.
- Seasonal weight restrictions were lifted by Ashland County Hwy. Dept. on 4/8, which is about a month earlier than usual.
- The sander was removed from the 2-ton truck and the 2019 Western Star (220), the grader wing was removed, and all snowplows were taken off trucks during the second week of the month. Significant savings in fuel and material will help as we get into the busy summer season; this spring, we used only a fraction of the salt sand (the pile will remain covered at the shop), did not wear off cut edges or grader blades, didn't need to use tire chains at all, and ZERO culverts were steamed.
- More heavy winds and rain days on 4/16-17 brought down some trees in ditches and shoulders and broke the flagpole at the Town Hall. A replacement is planned next month.
- Two of the six culverts on Hagen Road were replaced on 4/22-23. Our intention is to do at least two more before Memorial Day weekend. We will know more details about the repaving project timeline next month.

Parks

- BBTP had multiple spring maintenance projects completed the week of 4/15, including improved signage, bench repair on the stairway, site clean-up, hazardous tree removal, grading the old loop and parking lot, and preparations for opening the bathrooms by May 1st.
- The Rec Center bathrooms were opened for the season on 4/12. The Rec Center playground had two broken picnic tables removed, and two outdoor plastic-dipped picnic tables added.
- The two seasonal Parks jobs remain open until filled, as the crew from last year is not returning this summer. I will continue to advertise online.

Drive safe.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Schram, Public Works Director

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