

## August 2024 Public Works Report

### Roads

- Ashland Cty. Hwy. Dept. crew came over on 8/1 to assess a failing culvert inlet within the right-of-way just to the west of Anderson Lane. This culvert has been on the radar for years, but the monsoon rains in mid-June caused the inside shoulder to collapse. Repairs took place 8/22.
- Downtown sidewalks, main street, and the dock lanes were swept with the JD 444 loader broom and blown off with backpack blowers in the pre-first boat hours of 8/9. Apparently, some crabby locals were not impressed by the crew's desire to attempt to keep the downtown clear of misc. litter, debris, loose gravel, and broken glass. These tasks can't be completed at any other time of day. I will request that the TB considers the purchase of a street sweeper skid steer attachment for future curb cleaning so the crew can keep up on this, just no longer manually.
- Street signs and Fire # signs continue to be installed in earnest, and I think the crews are doing a great job. Many new signs require utility locates, so if you think you were skipped, it's because installers are being cautious and following safety protocols.
- The culvert on Sunny Slope Road just west of the Griggs Approach was replaced on 8/21 by the Town Crew after it was discovered that the inlet had completely collapsed and there was a void in the road and shoulder.

### Parks

- Big Bay Town Park has slowed down for the season on weekdays, but weekends continue to be full into mid-October.
- Ashland Cty. Health Dept. concluded their beach sampling for the season, (Joni's, Grant's Point, and Big Bay) and pre-Labor Day weekend there was an instance of 'duck itch' at the Town Park. Signs were posted and it has apparently cleared after some decent winds from the north and northeast.

### Misc.

- All Town backup generators were fully serviced by Total Energy Systems (Duluth) on 8/28 and should be good to go for the fall/winter seasons.
- Mathy Construction's asphalt plant is assembled at the airport's empty hangar lots, and the Hagen Road paving project begins 9/8.
- This will be my final report as I am moving on to mainland employment in September. Working for the Town of La Pointe full time since 2016 has been an experience like none other, and I am eternally grateful to all the past and present people who supported me along the journey. I wish for nothing but the best regarding La Pointe's future.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ben Schram