



MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4-27-22
TO: City Manager
FROM: Jean Barrett / Public Works / Port
SUBJECT: Department Report

STAFF REPORT

Port

- Things at the port are starting to ramp up, the snow has been deposited over the dock, and most of the ice has melted. We are having some forklift issues, we hope to have them fixed soon.
- The 1050 Hyster was working fine after a long winter buried under the snow and then it just quit operating. It would tilt back but would not lift, lower or tilt forward. Between our mechanic and the Hyster mechanic they were able to troubleshoot it and figure out there were two solenoids that had gone bad.
- The Hyster mechanic from Pape' material handling is going to be here on Thursday April 28 and is bringing the solenoids for the 1050. He will give both forklifts thorough check ups and make parts lists to get them up and running for the 2022 season. While the mechanic is here to look over the forklifts and make a punch he will also determine the shape of the Hyster 800 to make an offer for a trade-in on a new 1050.
- The next barge is due sometime early May.

Harbor

- The harbor is breaking up and should be ice free soon. The dredgers will be a little later than usual this year due to hold ups at other harbors. We are looking at starting on the sixteenth instead of the tenth of May as usual.
- The south ramp is ice free and many seal and bird hunters have been using it to launch to go subsistence hunting.
- The ice machine is down and the refrigeration company that usually services it hasn't made an appearance in Dillingham yet. Hopefully they will come soon as halibut season is just around the corner.
- I have heard rumblings of the possibility of money to build and install new floats in the harbor, inquiring minds want to know!

- Maintenance on the old harbor office is almost complete. I hope we can decide on a renter, a long term renter, that has interest in the fishing industry so we can better serve the fleet.

Public Works

- I need to give Kudos to our mechanic, Dan Tipsword, he has been doing a great job keeping our vehicles and equipment going.
- Emperor way has three problem spots and they have been a real pain this breakup season. Two of them have worked themselves out, they will still need attention this summer.

Spot one is lower than the uplands and the material on the road has been scraped away from the culvert, daylighting it at the upper end. A new, bigger culvert needs to be installed with a catch basin area on the high side to help keep the drainage moving.

Spot two is in a valley between two hills and the existing culvert is insufficient to keep up with all the run off from the flats that are 15-20 feet higher than where the road is. This area needs 2 large culverts installed and the road needs to be raised at least 4 feet to be at a minimum sufficient level for this area to drain correctly.

Spot 3 had a major eruption two weeks ago and had to be dug out and drained, we installed a temporary culvert in the most sever spot to take the water away from flowing over the road. This is the worst spot on the road and will need a lot of work prior to freeze up to ensure a smooth breakup next spring.

ALL 3 of these spots would benefit from a snow blower to get the snow away from the edge of the road where it does nothing but build up and cause these ice jams and freeze ups. This whole road has sunk below the surrounding tundra area and this is a problem. I am not sure which entity put this road in but it was done poorly with no thought towards the surrounding area and the difference in elevation. This is a classic problem we have to fight all the time as the City's public works department. Someone builds a road and all of a sudden it becomes our job to maintain it when it wasn't built correctly in the first place.

- I am still hopeful about getting some new equipment in the next FY budget. I have turned in numbers and needs to the Manager and talked to the finance Director. We NEED these machines to do the basic work that needs to be done during the winter months.
- I have made contact with a company called Zender Environmental about Freon recovery training so we can keep up on draining the many freezers and refrigerators that are piling up at the landfill. The good news is it sounds like they have an environmental grant that will help us with training, I will know more tomorrow.
- The 960 Cat has risen from the dead once again, no telling how long we will be able to use it but this a classic example of throwing good money after bad into a machine that should have been retired. AND unless we get new machinery we will continue to waste money in just this manner. The 960 isn't the only machine we continue to do this to.

- We had an engineer and an assessor in town from APEI to look at the landfill shop and give us direction on what we could, or should, do with the burned out building. I hope to hear soon so we can make something happen on this. Getting it done before fall would be the best scenario.
- We need to finish capping the "ash" cell which was used up prior to last summer when we started to use Cell #3. We need another foot of gravel on the whole area and then a foot of soil and grass seed to finish it off.
- We WILL be finishing up the water pump house that is needed for the incinerator. Prior to firing the incinerator off after this 16month shutdown I will bring a tech up from the manufacturer to give it a once over. This needs to be done on an annual basis. We have way to much invested in this machine to not have an annual maintenance schedule.
- We are down so many employees it is scary. I had 3 employees this morning and myself when we should have 10 show up for work. The state of the employee pool is pathetic and I refuse to put a warm body into a position if I have to babysit them.

I am sure there is more but I will leave it at this for the time being

Jean