



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** 9-29-21  
**TO:** City Manager  
**FROM:** Jean Barrett Port / Public Works Director  
**SUBJECT:** Department Report

---

### STAFF REPORT

---

September is a month that is a little bit of finishing up summer and a whole lot of preparing for winter. We have been working on the water systems, the landfill, cleaning the shop area and prepping the graders, loader and trackless for the inevitable onset of snow. The organized chaos that was the city dock and harbor has slowed to a snail's pace.

#### **LANDFILL**

The landfill is getting in better shape each week, the end result will hopefully be a crew that has the correct tools at their disposal to do the job they're there for.

- We are working on the water system for the incinerator so we can cool the ash that it produces. This will entail us tapping into the water line that used to feed the burned out shop. Then routing it into a small building that will be moved onto the landfill to be used as the pump house for the landfill. We hope to have this up and running by mid-October.
- The landfill shop destroyed by fire last winter has been cleaned out and finally inspected by a surveyor. The results were not in our favor, the skeletal structure had been heavily compromised during the fire. A large amount of warping and some cracking had occurred. This new knowledge indicates we will inevitably have to replace the structure.
- We have finally turned in the pickup that had been rented for the landfill, we spent \$16,113.14 to be exact on the rental price for the vehicle. I have inquired with D&J about buying the vehicle from them with no response we moved the green Astro van out to the landfill to be used in the interim, we are on the lookout for another used or rentable truck to use or purchase, I will make sure the money is put into the budget for FY23 to buy a new truck for the landfill.
- We have been able to make some adjustments within the landfill budget and purchase a Case skid steer to replace the Bobcat lost in the fire of 2021. We were fortunate to

stumble on this machine, it is a used one with only 300 hours on it, practically new as skid steers go, and it will be here on the last barge of the season.

## **SHOP**

The mechanics working at the shop has doubled in size with the hiring of Kenny Ramsey last week. Kenny brings some much needed work experience and credentials as he has worked as a certified Caterpillar mechanic for the last 5 years in Tennessee.

- The two mechanics along with the equipment operators have been working on the winter equipment.
  - Mounting blades and wings on the graders,
  - Changing over the sweeper on the trackless in favor of the snow blower,
  - Mounting the plow on the F350 flatbed and prepping the sander to be mounted.
- With the help of connections that Kenny had in Tennessee we have tracked down a refurbished governor for the landfill 960 loader. We are trying to work miracles and do it for pennies on the dollar. With any luck we will have a usable loader for the landfill this winter.
- Along with prepping for winter there is a lot of oil changes, filter replacement and tires to swap out prior to old man winter visiting.

## **STREETS**

The streets crew along with the foreman are invaluable at the Public Works department, they help out where and when needed. Current projects the street Department are involved in are as follow's;

- Helping out the mechanics to get the equipment winterized.
- Digging in the waterline at the landfill for the pump house.
- Brush clearing and limb trimming on city roads and bike paths.
- Grading roads when needed.
- Draining water from waste oil tanks.
- Yard cleanup / prepping for winter.

## **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

The B&G department took a hit with a case of Covid-19 in our one B&G employee's family, that meant almost 3 weeks of quarantine. Being shorthandedness in that department already, it put a real crimp in accomplishing needed tasks.

- For the most part boilers are prepped and ready for winter. We have had to call in re-enforcements to troubleshoot a couple of our "trouble" boilers
- We are still waiting for doors we have on order for several of our buildings, including the shop, Police Department and the harbor office.

## WATER/WASTEWATER

The WWW department has been busy taking care of fall / winter prep around town

- Water shutoffs at several seasonal business
- We had 3 requests for water service all in downtown and one waste water service. One of the hookups was very easy as the business was adjacent to an abandoned property that had both water and wastewater lines running to it and the customer was able to dig down to access the lines and hook right into them.
- One of the other two water requests had water already running on to their property and all the digging and hookup is up to them. We are waiting for them to make the hook up so we can turn the water on at the curb stop.
- The remaining request looked at first to be the easiest but has turned out to be trickiest. Due to underground obstacles, a high power line, a fiber optic cable and drain lines all in the small area, we are going to have to get creative to make this one work. Stay tuned next month for hopefully the conclusion of this request.
- **A Truck was found!!!** I was able to find a truck for the Water / Wastewater department and get it on the final barge of the season, our price was \$28,545.00 plus shipping, a good price. This is easily a ten year truck before we look to replace it. This truck will be here on the last barge of the season in October.

## PORT DEPARTMENT

Things at the Port have, as you would have guessed slowed to a crawl. We had a good season with (knock on wood) minimal downtime. The harbor is almost void of boats and final close up for the season is pending.

- Another record season has come and gone on the fishing grounds of the Nushagak. We were able to serve the two onshore processors and move, what I am sure is, a record amount of fish shipped. I was unable to get final numbers of freight and fish in and out of our tiny port at the time of this report and will have them for the next month's report.
- I still am working with Pape' to come to Dillingham to give us a tune up on the Hyster forklifts, and also to give us punch list of things that will need to be done prior to next season on the dock.
- The harbor is all but deserted, we plan on pulling all the floats this week.
- There is infrastructure money out there to be had. Hopefully we can make a concerted effort to make sure there will be a check with our name on it that will pay for our harbor wish list.
- I have over the past two summer been removing the concrete sections from the "old" North ramp, it was not in use and it was a hazard due to the mud sluffing away from the bottom. My plan is to add some of the sections to the top of the South ramp to eliminate the washboards and soft soil after a heavy rain or a busy tide and also to put some down on the access road to Kanakanak beach to help with the erosion of the road every time there is a Easterly wind, we have had to rebuild the bottom of the road many times over the past several years.

All of this will still leave us with 15 to 20 sections of concrete ramp. I have had discussions with the trooper at the Wood Tikchik state park about the launch ramp on the Northshore of Aleknagik lake and the fact that in the fall when the water drops due to lack of rain and no more snow runoff people have to drop their boat trailers off the end of the existing ramp to float their skiffs. My proposal is to donate some of the concrete slabs to the State park (10 to 12 of them) to extend their ramps far enough into the lake to make launching possible without damaging a trailer, I have polled most of the Port of Dillingham advisory committee on this subject to see what reactions came back, all 5 polled were in favor of the in-kind contribution to the State. The decision is now on the plate of the City council.

Jean