



VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE

"A Great Place to Call Home"

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Public Works Report, January 2023

- Staff went out numerous days for salt events, and finally got an opportunity for an actual snow event towards the end of the month. We received 8.3 inches during this event, and staff was on top of it. They went out Saturday afternoon through about 9pm to keep main roads and neighborhood throughways drivable. Sunday morning, they started back up at 4am and had all roads completely cleared a little before 9am. This went very smoothly for it being three employees first time out. We had little to no complaints, and no issues arose after the fact.
- The few complaints I did receive were regarding cul-de-sacs. Unfortunately, cul-de-sacs are difficult as far as snow placement. There is little to no open spaces to put the snow, and often times these houses will see a bit of a build up near driveways. Our contractor does an excellent job in my opinion trying to avoid this, but in larger snow events this will happen in spots.
- Earlier in the month, we had a water main break on Hill St, right outside of the Hall. After digging down to the main with our equipment, we could not fully expose the pipe due to the size of our excavator. NTrak had to be called in to complete the excavation and repair. This is a topic that I am going to further discuss in an agenda item, as I would like to start keeping more of these type of jobs in house. I have a crew that comes from underground work and is fully capable of doing many of the jobs we currently outsource. However, due to the size of our excavator, most of our utilities are too deep for us to safely excavate and repair.
- Staff repaired sections of our 1-ton box that were starting to rust out.
- Trenched drainage swale on the east side of Ridgestone Trail. This project finalized redoing the entire main drainage of the Prairie Green neighborhood. We will be back in the spring to straw mat and seed the area.
- Began work on the drainage swale on the far east side of Lions Park that leads into the detention pond by Village Hall. Staff ditched from the walking path, south to the detention pond. Opening up this swale up should alleviate some of the minor standing water issues we have previously had in the south east corner of the park.
- Staff cleared multiple brush piles at our south treatment plant.
- Took all lighting and Christmas decorations down at the Hall and on State St.
- Cleared various storm inlets throughout the Village. We are working on compiling a Village wide list of storm drains and inlets that are in need of repair, and intend to begin the repair process in late spring.

- Compiled a list of water valve boxes that were either above grade, damaged, or buried. These repairs will be another ongoing project through the spring/summer/fall this year.
- Chris opened bids for the new Public Works Shop, and at this point in time you are all aware of how those came back. Work is slated to begin in late April or May on this project.
- He and I have also been working on compiling a Capital plan for roads for the next budget, and believe we have this narrowed down for the boards review. He will have more details in his report.

As always, please let me know if there are any questions, concerns, or projects that come to mind from a board perspective. Thank you.