VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE

"A Great Place to Call Home"

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September 2020 Public Works Report

General:

We have received our salt bids back from the State and received excellent results. Our bid this year was $46.71 per ton, compared to $97.75 per ton we were paying last year. This will be a significant savings to our budget.

Myself, Chris, and Ken were to meet various builders in Westergren to go over TCO issues and the builders did not show up. We have documented the issues and are trying to schedule another meeting time to go over the issues with the builders.

Staff completed ROW inspections on various new build properties and submitted any changes needed to our office.

I am still trying to get a good price on bulk trees for our parkways. As of now, we are looking to spend between $250 and $350 per tree, if our staff were to install them. However, if we install them ourselves, there will not be any warranty on the tree. If we want a nursery to install them, the price almost doubles, but the tree is warrantied for a year.

Our commercial electrical bidding was completed and a one-year contract was signed with Rock River Energy. This was for all Village owned properties that are part of our water and wastewater systems.

IBID is up and running now and our 2007 International has been placed up for auction. It is a two-week auction and I will report the results at the October board meeting. If it does not sell, it will be automatically re-listed. Before being listed, staffed stripped decals and removed any fittings/lights that would work with our other two older plow trucks.

Comfort Solutions performed annual PM's on furnaces/heaters at all Village owned properties. The heater in the grit room at the south plant and the heater at well 3 need to be replaced. Comfort Solutions is replacing the heater at well 3 and Ion is getting quotes on replacing the unit in the grit room. I will have a separate memo with a recommendation for replacement of the heater in the grit room ready for our October board meeting.

At Owens request, I have obtained quotes from three different plumbing companies to replace the toilets, sinks, urinals, and drinking fountain at Village Hall with new, touch free fixtures. This would be paid for the CURES ACT.

Streets/Storm Sewer:

Staff began prepping trucks for plow season by servicing them and performing PM's. Cylinders that were leaking last season, or have developed leaks since, have been sent out for repair at Sublette Mechanical. Staff replaced any noticeably faulty hydraulic hoses as well to prevent down time during a snow event. Other minor repairs were done on our trucks and our white 2005 International is currently at Decker Trucks to get the PTO and drive shaft repaired or replaced. Staff also did PM's and serviced our street sweeper and skid loader.

We had a strong storm blow through in August which caused significant tree damage and required cleanup. Various cleanup related to this event continued into September.

Staff changed batteries in two flashing beacons on Orth Rd.

The remainder of the fence posts were removed from the ROW in Olson Woods, as well as scab trees growing behind the curb, as staff preps to snow plow the neighborhood for the first time this winter.

Staff excavated around the inlets and outlets in the Prairie Green drainage swale. We also continued to work in the retention pond off of W. Edson Road as time and weather allowed.

Street Sweeping took place throughout the month.

Potholes were patched on multiple occasions.

Parks/Buildings:

I continue to work with our design professionals on our new public works facility. Plans are looking great. We still have not heard back yet on the DECO grant we are using to do the site improvements. This may delay bidding slightly.

Mowing is in full swing on all Village owned parks and properties. The final roadside ditch mowing for 2020 has been done. Weather pending, staff will mow off all retention ponds one more time before winter.

Our portion of the old EPI building was broken into. Staff had to board up doors and other points off access until the building is demolished as part of our new shop plans.

Broadleaf and non-selective pesticides were applied throughout Village Parks and properties.

Dach Fence has our fence for the dog park on order. Fencing orders are delayed at the moment due to COVID. Many homeowners are doing projects around their house this year and fencing seems to be topping the list. Staff spent significant time again this month re-shaping the area and trying to grade out low and high spots. We also hauled in fill dirt from Olson Woods, Landmark Crossing, and the Boone County Highway Department. All of the fill dirt was given to us at no cost. I've met with a representative from Conserv FS on site and they have recommended that we either get the seed and fertilizer in by October 12th, or we wait to seed it until early spring. Staff will start spreading black dirt from Joe Cooling's the first week of October and get the seed/fertilizer down right away if the weather allows it. I still anticipate the grand opening of the dog park to be in early spring after the grass has been established.

Freedom Builders has started to erect our replacement salt shed. The blocks have been set and they anticipate installing the canopy the week of October 5th-9th. After the building is complete, I will have an electrician come out and install lighting and outlets. We will also need to have our salt hauled back to our site from the Boone County Highway facility.

Water/Sewer distribution:

The pump for our mini lift station on Bullard Street went bad. We had a backup to install and have ordered another pump to have on hand for a backup.

Fire hydrant flushing was completed in our south system this month. We will move on to the west and north system in October.

Staff moved sludge at the SWWTP to assist test in their pressing process.

I hired Frinks to clean and televise the sewer lateral at 306 S. State St. The owner has had the lined cleaned multiple times and televised but his video was not very clean and did not provide footage indicators. I will submit the video to McMahon's office for their sewer team to review.

Locates were done as required by law and are coming in daily. We also marked and called in our locates.

Meters were read and all un-reads were gathered manually.

Other work performed by staff included, door notices, water turn ons, water turn offs meter installs/replacements, MXU replacements/installs, bbox adjustments/repairs, final reads, consumption/water quality/pressure complaint appointments.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me at MHilden@villageofpoplargrove.com or 815-742-0418

Mitch Hilden
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