



VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE

"A Great Place to Call Home"

200 N. Hill Street, Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Phone: (815) 765-3201 – Fax: (815)765-3571

<https://www.poplargoil.gov/>

Public Works Report, November 2024

- Fall clean up at Village Hall. Bushes were trimmed, weeding done, lilies and roses cut back for winter.
- Continued boom mowing areas throughout the Village. Boom mower and tractor were serviced and cleaned. It will be stored at the Edson Rd shop for winter and accessible if we need to use it over the winter.
- Finished storing seasonal equipment. Reorganized Park St shop for winter usage.
- Removed majority of garbage cans at Parks for season. Left one along walking path at Lions.
- Met with Kristi regarding updates at Lions Park concession stand. Electrical and plumbing needed to be upgrade and brought to code per Insurance company and food prep areas upgraded per health department. These things have been mentioned for a couple of years now. Being that no park equipment was carried out on this budget cycle, it was decided to get this rectified this year. The Lions Club and football program had a member that works in cabinetry and was willing to volunteer his time to install new ones as well as countertops. The Lions club covered this cost as well as the labor in removing the old tables and cabinets - which were put in originally by Lions members. Public Works will be handling plumbing, electrical (via a contractor), serving window repairs, and exterior door repairs. The serving windows currently open downward, causing damage to the siding and creating a safety hazard for whoever is opening them. We will flip them and add shocks and locks to hold them open. The electrical will cost the Village roughly \$1800 and will bring everything up to code, as well as upgrade to LED lighting for energy efficiency.
- Solicited multiple quotes to upgrade Lions Park bathroom locks.
- Staff dug out, framed, and poured 2 concrete pads in the park for a bench and bike rack that were donated.
- Repair work was done on our 2005 International plow truck. After installing all the plow equipment, there were areas that needed to be addressed to function properly. This truck will need to be addressed sooner rather than later, as it is beginning to cost the Village more than it is worth – it is a 20 year old plow truck. This truck is the last of our fleet that needs to be replaced. Currently, Monroe Truck is 14 to 18 months on a build. I believe we should start the process of placing an order, knowing that the financial end of this would be due FY27. 05 should last with some repairs and maintenance until then, but it may be close.
- Repaired water service in Olson Woods.

- Replaced batteries on 3 of the 4 flashing intersection beacons at Orth Rd and 76.
- Removed dead tree along Orth Rd. This tree has lost multiple limbs into Orth over the last year. While we had a man lift rented, we were able to safely cut it down before the main truck posed a threat.
- Installed Christmas Lights at Village Hall and hung decorations along State St light poles.
- While starting to hang lights on the pine tree nearest Village Hall, we noticed that the majority of the interior branches of tree we dead and not holding any weight. Upon further inspection, we noticed black tar spots along branches and trunk. After a bit of research, we believed this was black knot. This fungus can spread to other trees via spore dispersal in springtime. Rather than run the risk of infecting surrounding trees, we removed the tree. We will replace it with another pine tree in the spring.
- Took possession of new hoist for the 1 ton plow truck. We will install hoist and new dump body in December.
- Worked with Chris regarding leaking fire hydrant repair on Bullard Street. More detail on this in Chris' memorandum.
- The Edson Road shop exterior replacement was completed. The siding, roof, and gutters were replaced. One thing that will need to be done still is the seal along the garage doors. Public Works will complete that in the coming weeks.
- Staff went out and salted for the first time, as we had a snow squall pass through the Village. Trucks were emptied and washed after this event. A major advantage to the new shop is the ability to wash salt residue off plow trucks after snow events. Outside of indoor heated storage, this is the biggest factor in prolonging the life span of our trucks.
- Ion and I are currently working through some treatment plant updates and long term upgrade plans. As we have discussed throughout the year, the plants are aging and need improvements in different areas. Blowers, pumps, and screens have begun being addressed in this budget cycle. The biggest issue now is the SCADA system. We are evaluating different options, as well as putting together a plan of attack. We believe the first step in the SCADA upgrades will be the hardware updates – i.e. the mainframe computers and programming at the plant. From there, we can determine how we want to proceed to throughout the rest of the system. I am hoping to have a more concrete plan after the first of the year, and potential time line to begin working on this process as well.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me with any additional questions or concerns. I am always open to going into more detail on past, current, or future projects and work my department is doing.