



VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE

"A Great Place to Call Home"

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Public Works Report, November 2022

- This month has been a lot of continuing winter prep. As with every season, as equipment gets set up and we begin running the equipment issues pop up. Hoses and lines need to be replaced, dialing in of spreader systems, etc. On top of that, this season's prep also involves getting our new staff acclimated to the trucks and routes they will have. This has gone as well as I could expect, and all 3 new staff members had the opportunity to go out and salt on a few occasions.
- Our 2005 International gave us a few major issues during set up. The turbo failed and an oil cooler line corroded. Unfortunately, these are the type of problems that arise with an 18-year-old truck. These both ended up being major repairs requiring diagnostics with International software and Lakeside had to do the work. This was another case where we simply didn't have the space or equipment to properly do the repairs in house.
- Staff serviced all the equipment we routinely use during the winter months – Loader, skid steer, tractor. Also serviced all daily use pickup trucks.
- Cold patched all roads throughout the Village that needed it, this will be the final cold patch for the season unless anything large requires it over the winter.
- Swept all Village curb lines since majority of leaves have fallen off of trees for the year.
- Replaced or repaired numerous stops signs throughout the Village.
- Staff prepped for the Village Tree Lighting. Rented a lift to string the Christmas lights on the tree as well as hang the pole decorations on State St.
- While we had the lift, we also changed out light bulbs on a few different lights on Village owned property.
- Village Tree lighting was successful with a good turnout.
- Both Ian and Jake passed written CDL exams, and we are now in the state required waiting period to take their driving exam. Both should be able to schedule and take exam before the end of the year. Once they are able to pass their driving exams, all four Public Works staff will hold CDLs.
- Reclaimed and added shoulder stone to areas on Woodstock Rd, Orth Rd, Whiting Rd, and Quail Trap.
- Ditched and graded an 800-foot stretch of Quail Trap right of way.
- Added and enlarged material bays at shop. Now have places to maintain large stock of roadstone, 3 in base stone, and pea gravel. Utilized block from old salt shed to create the bays.

- Chris Dopkins and I are continuing to work through all the details on the new Public Works shop. Went over specs regarding the site work as well as water and sewer work. Received and review prints for all three phases of the project. Project went out to bid at the beginning of December, with bid openings being scheduled for 1/5/2023 and 1/6/2023. In between now and then we will continue to review contractor questions.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. We are now approaching the busiest time of the year for the Public Works staff, and this winter is looking like it may be an especially heavy one. Winter operations will take up the majority of the next three to four months, with some other projects scattered throughout. There will surely be other things that come up, but the main focus is now plowing and truck maintenance.

As far as myself, I have begun preparations for 2023 road project, continuing to work on the new DPW shop, and will soon be working on the upcoming budget with Carina. I have also started to compile a list of general projects for the DPW staff for next year. If there is anything that the board has thoughts on, please let me know via email and I can look into adding them to our work board.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.