VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE

"A Great Place to Call Home"

200 Hill Street, P.O. Box 1, Poplar Grove, IL 61065
Phone: (815) 765-3201 – Fax: (815)765-3571
www.villageofpoplargrove.com

December 2020 Public Works Report

General:

All CURES ACT remodel work has been completed at Village Hall. Public Works moved furniture back into the office for administrative staff.

We have started the budget process for FY21-22. Outside of budgeting typical expenses and line items, I will be working with our Village Engineer on evaluating roads/infrastructure and narrowing down what we can get done with this year's MFT funds. We also have outstanding projects from FY20-21 that were put on hold, due to COVID, that need to get completed.

The builders in Westergren have yet to fix outstanding ROW issues to receive their final CO's on multiple properties. At this point in the year, it will be spring before many of them can be addressed.

Staff delivered food and goods to North Boone High School as party of a holiday drive. The food was paid for through donations by vendors and put together by our office staff.

Streets/Storm Sewer:

Staff responded to numerous snow/ice events this month. We also enforced our snow emergency parking ordinance for the first time as well. 4 vehicles were ticketed/towed and 2 additional vehicles were ticketed, but had their cars moved before a tow truck could respond. We are really hoping that word gets out that we are enforcing this ordinance and that there is universal compliance throughout the neighborhoods so we can plow safely and efficiently. We really do not want to tow or ticket anyone's vehicles.

A chipper was rented for a week and staff cut down three ROW trees in West Grove. Two squares of sidewalk were removed due to heaving from tree roots and will need to be replaced in the spring. We also trimmed back ROW trees on Quail Trap Rd and removed trees that were growing in Village Hall retention pond.

Staff hauled back some more of our salt from the County Highway Department. This is a slow process as we have to sift through each load as we have found chunks of concrete, metal, chains, and wood from our collapsed salt shed in the salt. We have also taken 50 of our 525 tons allotted through the State bidding process. We will need to take at least 80 percent of the 525 tons before May.

Work was done to almost all of our plow equipment/trucks this month. Our white 05 International required the most substantial work. Scott's RV fabricated a new floor in the box and installed a new auger chain. As of now, everything is back up and functioning.

Staff walked the drainage way from Summit/173 to West Main St and removed obstructions to help the flow of water.

I previously reported that VISU jetted a couple storm sewers while they were in town doing the sanitary clean and televise. One of the storm sewers they jetted is located at Abby and Whiting Rd. One end of the culvert was completely buried and staff excavated that ditch along Whiting to get the water to flow where it is supposed to go.

NTRAK's work at Main and Washington is at a standstill. Welch Brothers delivered and installed the vault lid we have been waiting on, but Comed still has yet to hook the power up at the pole. The pumps and railings also still need to be installed in the vault.

Street Sweeping took place throughout the month with special attention to the neighborhoods with construction going on and on State St with all the silt from the grain elevator.

Potholes were patched on multiple occasions.

Multiple signs and sign posts were replaced throughout the month. West Edson from State St to Pin Oak had all the stop signs replaced and brought up to code. We will continue to update signage as needed or when an area sees resurfacing and/or reconstruction.

Parks/Buildings:

Bufalo Contracting inspected the roofs of all Village owned properties in the northern part of town due to a storm that had high winds and hail. There is damage to Village Hall, the NWWTP main building, and Well 3. The dog groomer rental property and the pavilion at Memorial Park did not sustain any damage. The same storm also blew down one of our light poles at Village Hall and it had to be replaced by McGilvra Electric. All of the damage has been turned in to our insurance company and an adjuster has been out.

I continue to work with our design professionals on our new public works facility. We are currently working on site improvement plans and waiting to get notification that the County has received our grant money.
This building is a long time coming and we want to make sure that it is done correctly the first time. Input is being taken from public works staff as well.

Staff changed out batteries in the Village Hall emergency lights.

Fencing for the dog park is still sitting at Dach Fence's shop. Unfortunately, we did not get a good frost to harden the ground before the snow fell and it was too soft for them to drive out there without damaging the newly seeded park. We are still hoping to get the posts in before spring.

Water/Sewer distribution:

One of the concrete tanks at the NWWTP has a large crack in the wall that started leaking. The crack had been previously fixed by Spectrum. Sid's Sealants has since purchased Spectrum and came out to seal the leak back up. The tank will eventually have to be drained all the way and patched from the inside as well.

A furnace in the press room at the NWWTP needed to be replaced and Comfort Solutions was hired to do the work.

All NORP forms were completed and returned to the IEPA.

Staff serviced and prepped our manure spreader to spread sludge from the treatment plants. We are currently waiting on a local farmer to give us to the go ahead to apply it to his field.

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
Director of Public Works