

Public Works Monthly Report

For the Months of April & May 2025

5/15/2025

Streets

- Crack sealing of the streets started last month. We have made great progress on our list so far generally working on this 3 days a week. Will continue until this list has been completed or run out of material.
- Brush collection as necessary in between days of crack sealing. Usually, one full day a week.
- Sweeper wander hose has been repaired. This works well for sucking the debris from storm drains. We have cleared two plugged drains since getting this repaired last week. More storm drain cleaning is expected to happen in the upcoming months.
- Assisted buildings and ground with weed whacking in the cemetery. Also finishing up the dirt and seed work for the stump grinding areas.

Buildings & Grounds

- We are still evaluating equipment for areas designated for reduced mowing (4x/year). Recommended renting potential options before purchasing to ensure practicality and avoid underutilized assets.
- Mowing started and we were struggling to get anything else done with the staff we had. We are bringing some seasonal staff on early and hoping this will make a significant difference.
- We are working on replacing some of the raised beds at OMP community gardens as there has not been any maintenance done for several years.
- Cleaned up scrub trees next to river on the bike trail. This is a work in progress and will finish when time allows
- Focused on weed whipping the cemetery for Memorial Day. Streets brought their whole crew in for 5 hours when I asked for 2 guys for a couple hours.
- We have placed picnic tables in appropriate places throughout the city.
- Set up Farmers Market just north of Kwik trip on the city owned lot. They will be there on Wednesday afternoons.
- Stumps are all ground and cleaned up. Street crew was called upon to fill and seed.
- We dug out the canoe ports and hauled the debris to the dump. This must be done every spring after the water comes up and fills in under handicap ramps.
- The robotic mower seems to be doing a good job up until the dandelions have come up. We will mow this to make it look its best as there is a Race for Grace there this weekend.
- Maintenance performed on pvc soccer goals that have been broken for some time.
- Water has been turned on in the parks and shelters. This caused a few problems due to water lines that broke over the winter.

Public Works Monthly Report

For the Months of April & May 2025

5/15/2025

- Assistance being given to the Aquatic center as much as possible. We pressure washed the bathhouse and all the outdoor furniture. Jodi could definitely use more hands at this time of year as it is a lot of work.

Airport

- Both the Airport Master Plan and the 2026 Runway Crack Repair project continue to advance.
- Streets Team will be taking on the mowing at the airport.
- The maintenance list still includes brush removal, doorknob repairs, storage shed maintenance, and tractor servicing.

Cemetery

- Two full burials and four cremations completed.
- Several more cremation burials were scheduled for the upcoming months.
- Calls from monument companies have picked up, with multiple calls per week to mark out placements for headstones.
- A group led by a monument company member and local teacher spent some time cleaning Veterans' headstones.
- On 5/17 the 4-H group will be doing their annual cleaning of headstones.
- Upcoming tasks:
 - Weed eating the entire cemetery the week before Memorial Day: This requires the entire crew weed-eating every morning for about 4 days.
 - Memorial Day flag placement: This year a group of AP high school students will be assisting with flag placement on Veteran gravesites.

Forestry

- Stump grinding was completed this month.
- The Arbor Day event went well. It was a small but enthusiastic group. Brian Wahl (DNR) read a story, played a game with the kids and showed them how to plant a tree. The kids got to plant two Lilac trees in the boulevard at the Library and were able to take tree seedlings home. These were White Pines, River Birches and Hazelnuts provided for free from the DNR. This fulfills our public outreach requirement for Tree City Certification.
- The seedlings that were not taken at the library event were available at the Senior Expo at the Community Center the next day. By the end of the day, all the trees were gone. We distributed 75 tree seedlings to the community!
- New trees will be planted as time allows.

Public Works Monthly Report

For the Months of April & May 2025

5/15/2025

Director Notes:

- We continue to try to make mowing adjustments.
- Developing concerns over Aquatic Center Pool – tile and wall coatings breaking loose. Much more detailed planning needs to be done regarding maintenance.
- Frontier is still active in the city with fiberoptic installation. Concerns are being raised regarding ground settling. We are communicating with Frontier on a consistent basis to try to assure that repairs are made.
- Walk through of through for the 8th & Park St project was completed. Warranty repairs to concrete and yard seeding are being completed.
- B&Gs made a purchase of 3 new STIHL Gas Trimmers for ~\$600.00

Project Updates:

- ❖ American Flags on Court and Main – Non-Cash Donation
- ❖ Historical Preservation – Vernon Thompson Signs at entrances to the City.
 - DOT does not allow combining with the population sign.
 - This now moves through the new naming and branding policy
- ❖ Pine River and Otto Bellman trail signs – Cash Donation
 - Darlo Wentz commemorative sign
- ❖ Construction of donated Dugouts in North Park has begun
- ❖ Fire Alarm upgrades at City Hall
- ❖ Smoke-Free Parks Signage