

# Public Works Monthly Report

*For the Months of Jan 2025 – Feb 2025*

*2/20/2025*

## **Streets**

- Christmas tree pickup has finished.
- Lots of road patchwork has been done in the past month prior to snowfall during nice weather.
- Trimming low hanging limbs, that we could reach with the pole saw. Clearing the edges of the road up, keeping limbs from hitting our plow trucks and sweeper. Waiting for the electric department to have some free time to trim anything higher we can't reach.
- Dike inlets and outlets have been trimmed from overgrown brush, especially on the outlet side clearing debris and small trees that should not be growing in those.
- Working towards the end of our Maintenance/Repair/ Improvement list on the equipment.
- A few days of brush collection after the heavy winds.
- Bike trail sign was run over once again for the second time this winter on the right side of Bohmann drive across from ace. We were lucky to get a few nice days to thaw the ground to replace the sign post.
- Street project list is being created. Including miscellaneous projects we didn't get to before the cold set in. Pavement Crack sealing and Line painting lists have been completed for the upcoming season.
- Flagger safety course was taken by all of the Streets crew. Everyone now has a Flagger Training Certification.
- The last snow event has been completed and cleaned up. Snow piles should be hauled away and cleaned up by 2/19. Some Sand was used in areas where the sun didn't hit as well to melt the snow after the storm. For example, the downtown area where there were parked cars multiple days after the storm delaying the cleanup of the curb area.
- We continue to work on plowing SOPs – i.e. Orange St.
- We continue to work on surplus equipment sales.
- We continue to work towards truck decal updates.
- We have posted job openings for seasonal summer help.

## **Buildings & Grounds**

- The new Lead started work with the department on Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. – Joe Carstensen
- Much of the month was spent cutting trees. The Utility Department was able to send two staff members with the bucket truck to partner with us in the work. (More details in "Forestry" category)
- Snow Removal-The new lead started shortly before the snow events hit so he was able to pick up some of the plowing Tess and Jasen were doing. We are still adjusting to new

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routes. Plowing in cooperation with the Street team has made plowing downtown lots much more efficient.

- There was an Election held on 2/18. B&G team assisted with set up and tear down. Due to some streamlining in the Clerk's Office there is now less equipment, tables and supplies that are required so this process is less burdensome.
- Trainings/Courses-Tess attended an Online Course by UW Madison's Horticulture and Turf Grass research departments. The first part of the course was on Turf Grass pests and diseases. The takeaway from this was that most diseases of turf do not require treatment and are rarely significant in healthy turf. The second course was on Sedges and covered species and cultivars and their uses in landscapes. Many can be used for "no mow lawns."
- We have posted job openings for seasonal summer help.
- Plans for the coming month:
  - Tess is signed up for another course, covering emerging pests and diseases and no mow May.
  - We are working on picnic table repair sanding and painting.
  - As soon as the ground allows, we will be removing t-posts from rotary lights.
  - We have a few smaller trees to cut but are almost finished.
  - We will be replacing a door on the storage shed at the airport once the weather is a little warmer.
- This was a quiet month due to the holidays.
- Snow removal – we had one snow event that required Buildings & Grounds assistance with plowing. Tess adjusted her route to pick up the route that would be covered by the vacant position. Jasen Glasbrenner assisted by plowing City Hall and the Airport. Tess started earlier than previous years to coordinate with the Street Team so that snow from some of the City Parking lots could be moved to the larger piles made by Street Dept instead of piled in lots. It seemed to work well, and the earlier start time allowed all lots to be completed before they were being heavily used.
- Picnic Tables - Pat and Doug painted several rounds of tables and placed them back out into the parks once they cured.
- The Green Buildings and Grounds Truck sold for \$8,285.

## **Airport**

- Equipment – We just have the wrong type of mowing and snow removal equipment at the airport. We will be working towards identifying replacement equipment.
- Onsite meeting with the BOA and the selected airport planning group. Westwood & TKDA – Engineers and Planners

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- Joe has plowed the airport twice with a pickup truck.
- We have many maintenance projects that need to be conducted. Brush removal, door knob repairs, storage shed repairs, tractor deferred maintenance, tractor attachment maintenance.

## **Cemetery**

- No burials this month.
- Three cremation burials have already been scheduled for Spring.
- We sold three lots and are finalizing sales of three more.
- We are still working on GIS records – Record keeping updates remain a priority.

## **Forestry**

- Cut 14 boulevard and park trees this month. We only have 6 trees remaining on the list and most of these will not require Utility involvement.
- Letters will go out to homeowners who are eligible for replacement boulevard trees listing tree choices.
- Tess is working with Rachel Wilson at the Library to plan an Arbor Day event. She has secured free tree seedlings through the DNR that will be available to event attendees.
- The new woodchipper is on order.

## **Other Notes:**

- Frontier continues to add fiberoptic infrastructure to the City.
- Ambulance Garage – Emergency Vehicle Routes
  - Mike Jessen – Director of Richland County Ambulance Service / Emergency Management
  - I met with Chief Jones and Mike Jessen on site.
  - Questions were raised about the feasibility of:
    1. Emergency vehicles entering signage along Main St north and south of 7<sup>th</sup> street. Also on Jefferson St north and south of 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
    2. Feasibility of flashing lights on above signage that would be activated only when emergency vehicles are approaching.
    3. Discuss parking on Main Street specifically between 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets.

Thank you!