

August 2019 Public Works Report

Roads/Equipment

- The brand new 2020 Westernstar plow truck is finally at the Town shop and should serve the island well for many years.
- Nick and I attended UW's PASER/WISLR class in Hayward to properly learn about road ratings done every two years.
- The crew did the best they could with summertime upkeep responsibilities, such as road shoulder mowing, etc. We will have a more efficient maintenance plan in place by next summer.
- The Town has leased a 2019 John Deere 444K wheel loader. Most of its responsibilities will be what the 1975 John Deere 544 was used for, but this beauty has forks and a sweeper broom along with a bucket. It will also serve the island well in many ways.
- Big Arn's and Brian's road have consumed most of the crew's time the last few weeks of August. Considerable amounts of cutting, stumping, and hauling have taken place and will continue. The Ashland County crew will be arriving on 9/3 to ditch and place culverts. It will be a good project to done with, and the residents are going to finally get a nice road before the snow season.

Parks

- BBTP will end its busy season on Labor Day weekend and change pace. September is the ideal time at the Park for many.
- The Rec Center remodel will continue, with the rest of the interior slated for demolition in early October. I will be working with C+S Design to develop final plans for new restrooms.
- All wooden picnic tables at Joni's Beach were replaced with heavy duty vinyl coated metal framed tables. They should last for many years.
- The Rec Center Playground project was delayed once again but should be completed before the ground freezes.

Misc. Admin.

- I will be working on both the Parks and Roads budgets during the end of August and early September as much as time allows, as I am needed on the Big Arn's and Brian's Road project.
- With Nick's resignation on 8/26 it was decided at the Town Board meeting on 8/27 that I will be Interim PWD again and Pete Wiggins will step up to Road Foreman (yet to be approved) in addition to his other responsibilities. I think this restructuring of the Roads Dept. is absolutely the best move for the Town. Pete and I will be planning together and are going to co-manage the plethora of fall projects to finish along with maintenance to see through before the winter season.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ben Schram
Interim Public Works Director