

June 2020 Public Works Report

Roads

- At the 6/9 meeting, a decision was unanimously approved by the Town Board after Road Crew recommendation to cancel the Dust Abatement/Calcium Chloride application this year, and instead use these budgeted funds to help with the dock approach repairs. In my opinion, we must fix the dock by all means before next winter, no exceptions.
- The TV145 tractor with disc cutter attachment will be seen this month on the Town Roads mowing the shoulders. I hope the County will mow on H this month, otherwise we will hopefully do one pass.
- The Kubota tractor with boom mower rented from Lulich Implement will be on the island by the end of the month and cutting of the backslopes and intersections will begin in earnest. Pete is looking forward to shredding some tag alders, and increased visibility, especially around intersections, will be beneficial to all.
- The entire crew spent a few mornings painting downtown curbs, crosswalks, and the dock. It was overdue and turned out well. The new lanes on the dock will get painted before the July 4th weekend, and other side roads and stencils will be touched up throughout the next month.

Parks

- A new memorial bench was installed at the lagoon outlet overlook at Big Bay Town Park. We will be extending the split rail fence up to the north property line and cutting back the overgrown brush to open up the nice view. This is especially nice for those who would like to see Lake Superior but cannot take the stairs.
- I began the monthly water quality beach testing for this season, and all samples from Big Bay, Joni's Beach, and Grant's Point thus far came back well under the EPA recommended levels for E. coli.
- Please be mindful of others and keep dogs that need a swim on a leash when on a crowded public beach.
- Evan and I will be installing the overdue monkey bars at the Rec Center playground and continue work on the planned ADA pathway from the parking area leading to the pavilion.

Misc.

- I am looking forward to working with Tim Gagner from Wendel as the new ESB construction begins. It's great to see it finally happening.
- Evan and I spent a morning doing the annual La Pointe Harbor breakwall inspection. This yearly event consists of cutting back vegetation, inspecting the lights for potential issues, and checking the integrity of the safety ladders and the tower ladders. It's a nice view as well.
- It is predicted to be very hot this summer. Stay safe, stay hydrated, watch for kids, bikers, mopeds, workers, pedestrians, animals, etc., and slow down please.

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Schram
Public Works Director