

July 2020 Public Works Report

Roads/Dock

- Ashland County crew came over to repair/replace signs that fell over or broke off from the force of plowed snow. They will be back soon to mill down the bumps on Middle Road where culverts have heaved once again.
- We will be adding improved and reflective signage to South Shore Road on Browne's corner. This has been on the list for years, as there have been too many near misses. This includes trimming some of the encroaching vegetation which is hindering visibility. I will keep replacing non-reflective signage as the budget allows.
- The new northern dock lane was officially open to traffic by the holiday weekend, and carefully painted by Evan and myself, with Gary's oversight. People were enjoying sunsets against the railing almost immediately. We will be monitoring the graveled potholes and patching as needed.
- The crew ditched, spread gravel, and re-graded the entire length of Equaysayway as needed. We used a rental mini-excavator for both this and the Old Fort/Capser ditching project for the following reasons –
 1. Employee and resident safety – Xcel has numerous low power lines all over both roads.
 2. Efficient use of fuel, time/labor, and equipment cost – cheaper than the Town's 120 excavator, exponentially quicker than the 410. The right tool for the job – no need to haul the 120, only to track up the already shallow gravel base which we are attempting to improve.
- Two additional culverts on South Shore Road that had begun to collapse at the outlets due to failed bottoms were replaced with plastic pipes.
- Before the rental boom mower returns to Lulich, Evan will cut the backslopes of the worst overgrown County H areas.

Parks

- A memorial bench was added to the outlet overlook, which prompted some minor clearing and the extension of the existing split rail fence. It's a great place to sit with a very nice view.
- The Parks staff is keeping up and doing an excellent job with the trash and bathroom maintenance. It is no small task this time of year and I commend them all. With the lack of activities and downtown crowds over the 4th, the scale of trash and subsequent clean-up was significantly less for a holiday weekend.
- The crew and I met with Arnie on-site to discuss the scale and timeline of Joni's Beach erosion control and the shoreline stabilization. Permits are being processed and we will be doing some major repairs after Labor Day. The pavilion and play structure will remain where they are currently located.

Misc./Covid-19

- It has been a very busy month. During peak season during this unprecedented time, along with people traveling nationally to/from La Pointe, I hope that common sense will prevail.

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Schram
Public Works Director