

August 2020 Public Works Report

Roads

- The Chippewa Trail turnaround project was completed. Thanks to the property owners for the easement.
- A rotted and shallow culvert near the southwest end of North Shore Rd. was replaced with plastic pipe and laid with as much cover as possible.
- Pete has been taking advantage of weather conditions and grading gravel roads as much as he can, and I think he's doing an excellent job with the material available. We have many more ditching areas planned into next year and beyond.
- We will be out mowing the shoulders with the TV145 disc cutter one more time before Labor Day.

Parks

- Another Memorial bench was installed on Capser Trail, not too far from the Big Bay Road trailhead. It's a nice spot to sit under the pines.
- Over the course of the summer, Meg and Ciara have done a great job cleaning up, managing the flowers, staining the weathered lumber and siding, and other details at both Joni's and the Whitefish bathrooms. They are both heavily used facilities and I think they look better than ever.
- BBTP will be slowing down in the next few weeks, and it was a very busy summer despite a pandemic. Reminder that camping rates for 2021 have increased \$5.
- Thanks to Olivier Vrambout, Shyne Automation Inc., and all the other volunteers and helpers for their generous donations of time, money, and labor to make the new Island Skatepark ramp a reality.

MRF

- After a year and a half of discussion, contracting for operational analysis, and an island-based work group, the Town Board voted unanimously to once again have the M.I. MRF be placed under the umbrella of Public Works. This includes further research into all aspects of operations, which were laid out clearly in an article in the last Gazette. Site clean-up and improvements have begun in earnest and will continue aggressively as time and weather allow into the fall season. We will be removing stockpiled material and transporting recyclables as much as possible. I will be meeting with the DNR rep on-site in September. During the upcoming months I will be looking into new payment options, making significant adjustments to the 2021 fee schedule, and collectively the crew and I will thoroughly examine, repair, and reform the layout of the main processing building for maximum efficiency. I can always be reached at foreman@townoflapointewi.gov to answer questions or dispel rumors about this transition, which has been taking place for a long time.

Misc./Admin

- I will be working on and reviewing the Roads, Parks, MRF, Cemetery, and Airport budgets next month. 2020 has been an inexplicable year thus far in so many aspects. You can truly only 'do what you can do' at times, but efficient and responsible allocation of your tax dollars is of utmost importance to me when prioritizing the needs of this municipality.

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Schram, Public Works Director