

September 2020 Public Works Report

Roads

- The bump from the heaving culvert at the intersection of South Shore Road and Middle Road was finally cut out and the culvert was replaced with plastic pipe. I sincerely hope that this location along with all the other culvert replacements on the South end can still be paved over this fall.
- Excavating and repaving the dock approach is a very high priority and contracts with Northwoods Paving are in place. The weather will be the final determining factor.
- The brush and tag alders left by the boom mower on both Town and County roads in August has been dealt with as much as possible for now. Efforts will continue to chip it and remove it as time allows. Visibility has improved as the road right of ways have widened a little more.

Parks

- The solar array at the school parking lot was adjusted to the fall/winter position.
- Downtown flags and banners were removed for the season, as they tend to take a beating or get damaged in the fall weather.
- We will be pulling the downtown trash receptacles and closing porta potties in early October. Joni's Beach and Whitefish Street public restrooms will remain open until the weather turns.
- Despite the cancellation of fall weekend events, the gazebo was decorated with MIFL's help to create a welcoming fall color display.
- My previous prediction concerning daily traffic and camping turned out to be incorrect, and Big Bay Town Park was very, very busy this month, especially on weekends. We will be winterizing the facilities on Monday, October 19th.

MRF

- Joe and Marty continue to do an amazing job with processing and clean-up of the main building. Our goal is to have the ceiling repaired and vapor barrier installed before it gets too cold in order to improve the working environment on the processing floor.
- Warren Johnson from Northwest Regional Planning Commission will be visiting the MRF in early October and guiding us with appropriate disposal of certain materials as we move forward. I hope to have a proper 'clean sweep' take place in 2021.

Misc./Admin

- The 2011 Ford Explorer, 2007 Ford Escape, and 2004 Ford E-350 Ambulance did not sell in the latest auction and are available again with reduced minimum bids, due to Town Hall on 10/27.
- The crew working on the ESB has put in many long days and the building is looking fantastic. Many thanks to everyone involved as this project progresses.
- I spent considerable time this month in the office working on Department budgets, Capital Improvement planning, and Capital Equipment planning, all of which will be discussed in upcoming October meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ben Schram
Public Works Director