

## December 2021 Public Works Report

### Roads/Equipment

- The first real plowing and sanding of island roads took place on 12/5-12/6, where everything was properly broken in for the season.
- The 2005 Sterling 5-yard plow and sanding truck (102) began to struggle when accelerating. Upon further investigation and surgery, the crew discovered that the interior of the truck's diesel tank had been painted, yes painted, at some point in its career and was flaking off so badly that it clogged the fuel line and filter constantly. After more surgery and a great effort by Pete and Evan, 102 is back on the road.
- The JD 772 grader wing was mounted after a long wait on a hydraulic hose.
- The end of the month brought some real snow to plow, and I think the crew and I have been keeping up very well at getting the dock, airport, MRF, and all roads and parking lots cleared in a timely manner.

### Parks

- When the crew and I put up the holiday tree at the gazebo, we told ourselves that only a 50-mph wind could take it down. Unfortunately, that's exactly what happened during a substantial windstorm on 12/15-12/16. The large, decorated tree was not salvageable. A new, modest tree was put up by Ray and Evan, and the holiday season was saved. Then another good wind blew over the 2<sup>nd</sup> tree, which was then buried in snow. We may explore other options for next year.
- Big Bay Town Park is on track for another busy season as expected, with 705 camping reservations for 2022 as of the end of 2021. 2022 weekends during the peak summer months are nearly full.

### Misc./Admin

- On 12/15 a new shed for Greenwood Cemetery arrived. It will be great to have some dry storage out there, for both the crew and the sextons.
- I have been helping Barb as much as I can this month with information requested by the Town's new auditing firm. While working on those tasks there was some time to update existing databases, improve office organization, and implement some planning for 2022.
- Looking back on this year, I must say that it was good to be a part of a great team of diverse co-workers with various skill sets and experience. We communicated, listened to each other, and most importantly worked well together.

Happy New Year,  
Respectfully submitted,  
Ben Schram, Public Works Director