

January 2022 Public Works Report

Roads

- Over the period of 1/11 through 1/13, Pete artfully sculpted the shoreline shove ice at the Griggs approach and the O'Brien approach with the Town's JD 120 excavator.
- Over the course of mid-January, Town and Windsleds Inc. crew worked together to flood the approaches in Bayfield, and on the Island. Heavy winds on 1/26 caused everything to shift and the ice shoved again along the island, delaying a safe road.
- There were over a dozen worthy snow plowing days during the month. Some were just lake effect fluff, but needed to be plowed off regardless, and some were worthy of winging back the banks with the grader. Pete, Joe, Marty, and Evan Sr. deserve a big thanks for holding down the road maintenance tasks for most of the month as Evan Jr., Ray, and myself were gone for extended periods of time.
- A multi-department snow removal test mission ensued 1/26 – 1/28. With the Roads JD444 wheel loader, the MRF's Roll-off truck with a 40 yd. open box, and the Airport's TV145 tractor with snowblower, we were able to relocate roughly 2,000 compacted cubic yards of snow from Main Street, sidewalks, and the ESB. This was a NEW calculated attempt to see what could be done when the banks encroach and narrow Main Street, hindering parking options and effectively burying sidewalks. Forming snow windrows to be blown into an open box and then dumped elsewhere widened the street, as opposed to winging and pushing back the banks again and again with the grader. This also eliminated the risks of blowing snow onto personal property.

Parks

- A big thank you to those who organized and participated in the Harry Nelson Memorial Rec Center tailgate fundraiser, as well as additional donors to the project. Every amount helps, and the project continues to move forward. Thanks!
- Big Bay Town Park has seen a handful of determined winter campers so far this season. The reservations continue for the summer months and the Park is on track, as expected to bring in substantial revenue. I am looking forward to achieving our new playground area goals this summer with the use of designated funds, mainly from visitor donations.

Misc./Shop/Admin.

- Various maintenance tasks, repairs, and/or upgrades continue on equipment and vehicles as time allows.
- Tim Gagner from Wendel will be visiting the ESB with Ray and myself before the 1-year warranty expires. There are some issues that we are still working towards resolving.
- I will be spending time in Feb. examining the Town's options regarding expected Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding and look into what we can realistically apply for while these funds are available to Towns, which was not always the case.

Be safe on the ice,
Respectfully submitted,
Ben Schram, Public Works Director