

## February 2024 Public Works Report

### Roads/Equipment/Airport

- The 1998 Ford Louisville (298) had both original steering gears replaced, along with a new windshield and full brake job. This took a few weeks (thanks Pete), but the truck is an important link in the Town fleet, and it is now driving better than ever.
- The week of 2/12 saw tree trimming continue along Main Street as the crew took down limbs that hit the mirrors of taller vehicles.
- Dead standing trees along main roads (we know there are many) will continue to be dropped as time allows. It is a good quiet time to accomplish this, as it is dangerous and makes a mess.
- 2/23 and 2/28 were worthy snow plowing days, and the entire crew was out early cleaning up the snowfall, which of course did not last.
- The first week of February worked out to be the best time to clear the BOA required perimeter of the airport's AWOS weather station. Thanks, Evan, for days spent clearing tag alders!
- The Town will be seeking a fire# sign installer, this seasonal job will be open to applicants mid-March.

### Parks

- The new/used playground at Joni's Beach had edging installed along two sides of it to help retain the sand.
- The regular seasonal Parks jobs will be posted in mid-March. I anticipate at least three open positions for 2024.
- BBTP had additional hazardous trees dropped, cleared, and stumps ground. The beavers in the lodge near the picnic shelter seemed to have stopped dropping trees in the nearby tent sites, for now.
- Despite very little snow, the now annual Snow Snake event held at Joni's Beach on 2/24 seemed to be a success.

### Misc./Admin

- The lack of snow and extreme fluctuation in temperature made February one of the most bizarre months I've experienced while working for the Town. Despite the minimal snow plowing days, the crew kept busy with much overdue maintenance and projects, including painting the roads shop, continuing to insulate the MRF ceiling, helping organize and clean accumulated items at MRF, repairing other Town vehicles as needed, and hauling vehicles brought to MRF.

- Odds and ends include –
  - 2/6 – citizen request – could the Town mow the ballfield?
  - 2/6 – citizen concern – will the MRF truck be able to haul island garbage through the Washburn detour this upcoming summer?  
(Answer – yes)
  - 2/7 – citizen complaint - the melted skating rink at the Rec Center is smelly, what will the Town do about it?

Respectfully submitted,  
Ben Schram  
Public Works Director