

January 2025 Public Works Report

January has brought us less than average snowfall this year which has given us more time to make much needed repairs to our fleet and equipment.

The Roads Crew has plowed a total of 9 days this month and sanded County H, Town roads, and lots as needed. Our part-time plow drivers Karen Thomas and Tyler Andreas have been a huge help this season filling in as needed for snow events.

Our mechanic has been extremely busy in the shop maintaining and repairing our fleet and equipment.

Roads

- Plowing: Roads Crew has plowed 9 days in January and spread approximately 40 yards of our 10% salt to sand mix.

Ice Road / Approach

- Knocked down ice ridge on Griggs and Obrien's approach in the 120 excavator.
- Flooded Bayfield and Island approaches in conjunction with Nelson Construction.
- Evan and Evan set up Christmas trees from Bayfield to the Island.

Parks

- Roads Crew has kept trail heads and parks parking areas open to the public as usual.
- The Fire Department has done some flooding at the skating rink, but this is weather dependent.
- Parks positions have been posted for the 2025 season, and we have already received some applications.

Equipment / Fleet

- 01 GMC 3500 steering and suspension parts replacement.
- 04 Chevy 2500 exhaust manifolds replaced, steering and suspension part replaced.
- 05 Sterling 5-yard Dump Truck fuel tank replaced. The inside of the original fuel tank was painted and began flaking off clogging the fuel system. We had removed the tank a year ago, cut it open and removed what paint we could but were unable to remove all of it.
- 120 excavator belt tensioner and idler pulley replaced.
- Replaced batteries in several pieces of equipment.
- Roll-Off truck, also known as Woodstock, repaired HVAC components.
- Replaced bulk diesel tank pump.

Facilities

- Flooding in the basement of the library due to a frozen sewer line. Ray and Evan were able to thaw it out and add insulation where needed to the basement.
- ESB maintenance to furnace and other systems is constant.
- Town Hall flooring repairs.
- Big Bay Town Park office is monitored regularly.

Respectfully submitted,
Pete Wiggins, Public Works Director.

February 2025 Public Works Report

February brought us a significant amount of snow totaling approximately 15 inches. It snowed 12 out of 28 days this month keeping us busy plowing, sanding and moving snow piles.

We have used approximately 90% of our 100 yards of salt sand mix this season and hope to have Ferries running in the next couple weeks so we are able to get another load of rock salt to mix another 50 yards of salt sand and get us through March and April.

The tree removal bid for trees around the Winter transportation building was awarded to Greg Nelson. The weather has prevented him from getting to this project and with temporary road limits going into effect on 3-10 it may be a couple of months before this work can be completed.

I have put together two purchase orders for pieces of equipment for the Roads Department. The first item is a curb sweeper attachment for our skid-steer. This implement will save us considerable time and man hours. Curb cleaning in the spring usually takes 4 crew members 2-3 half days to complete before traffic and parking shuts it down. This implement will allow 1 operator to complete this task in one day. The other item is a new Ferris lawn mower. Our old John Deere Z-Turn wore out and was auctioned off last fall

Roads

- Plowing: Roads Crew plowed 12 days in February and spread approximately 25 yards of our 10% salt to sand mix.

Ice Road / Approach

- Roads crew flooded the Byfield approach on 2-3-25.
- Sanding the Griggs approach access as needed.

Parks

- Roads Crew has kept trail heads and parks parking areas open to the public as usual.
- We will hopefully be hiring two applicants for Parks positions at the next regular town board meeting.

Equipment / Fleet

- Replaced fuel tank on our 5-yard dump truck. The inside of the original tank had been painted and began to flake off clogging the fuel system.
- Replaced fuel shut off solenoid in the Roads Department skid steer.
- General maintenance of our snow removal equipment such as greasing, blade changes, cleaning.

Facilities

- Improving our Shop spaces.
- The Winter Transportation Building had some issues with the in-floor heat. After Superior Plumbing performed several tests on the system, they determined it was one of the thermostats and replaced it. The system has had no issues.
- The La Pointe Community Clinic had an issue with their heating system. Superior plumbing cleaned a part that had some corrosion build up and it has been working like it should.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete Wiggins, Public Works Director.

(5)TB, TA, A, Clerk, Public



March Report

From Peter Wiggins <foreman@townoflapointewi.gov>
Date Thu 4/3/2025 3:18 PM
To Max Imholte <administrator@townoflapointewi.gov>
Cc Alex Smith <clerk@townoflapointewi.gov>

March 2025 Public Works Report

This month the Roads Crew spent a lot of time steaming culverts and clearing ditches and storm drains to keep water flowing under the roads and not over the roads.

We had very little snow this month, only having to plow two days with an additional two days scraping snowpack and slush of asphalt roads, and sanding ice covered gravel roads the first week of March. The end of the month brought us several inches of heavy wet snow which makes plowing gravel roads this time of year extremely difficult and time consuming, often doing more harm than good.

The Ashland County Highway Department began tree trimming, tree removal and ditch mowing on County H in March. They plan to clear the entire right of way, 33 feet from the centerline of the road, on Big Bay, Black Shanty and Middle Road over the next several weeks.

Roads

- Steamed approximately 20 frozen culverts.
- Used the Grader and 410 Backhoe to clear snow clogged ditches.
- Identified failing culverts to be replaced once temporary road restrictions are lifted.

Parks

- Working on hiring seasonal laborers.
- Purchased and picked up a new riding lawn mower.
- Repairing mower trailer lights and ramps.

Equipment / Fleet

- Repaired exhaust on our 04 Chevy 2500
- Grader Hydraulic Front Wheel Drive trouble shooting. We eventually had to call in a John Deere Technician to assist in the diagnosis and repair. The front wheel drive is essential for plowing.
- Repaired the seized rollers on the roll-off garbage box truck and cooling fan clutch.
- 310 backhoe full service.
- Kubota Skid steer full service
- Roll-Off truck, also known as Woodstock, repaired HVAC components.

Respectfully submitted,
Pete Wiggins, Public Works Director.

RECEIVED

APR 14 2025

Initial: dg

Public Works Director's Report

April 2025

The Roads crew plowed for two days in the first week of April. We had a significant snowstorm on April 2nd which brought us around 4-6 inches of heavy wet snow which made clearing snow from gravel roads very difficult, but we had it cleaned up the best we could by the end of the day April 3rd.

We hired Julie Hedges for the Camp host position # 2 and posted a part time position for a Fire Number sign installer on April 8th. I have two Parks applicants I hope to hire at the next Town Board meeting to bring summertime staff to full capacity.

Road grading began on April 17th, the earliest I have ever started in my 7 years with the Town. So far, I have graded Miller Farm Rd, Sunny slope, Voyageur, Herring Street, School House Road, Benjamin Blvd, and 5 miles of North Shore Road.

We began street sweeping and curb cleaning with our new Skid-steer attachment. We still have some work to do throughout town around LeSueur Street, Rice Street and downtown sidewalks. We have also been street sweeping behind the Ashland County Highway as they continue to clear the County H right of way.

Matt our Mechanic has been practicing for his CDL road test when he can. We hope to have this completed within the couple of weeks in time for gravel hauling season.

Town Roads

- Shoulder repair from plow damage in the 410 Backhoe.
- Downed tree clean up on North Shore and South Shore Road.
- C A Nelson and Sons used their log truck to remove dead treetops along Mission Hill that we could not reach with our equipment.
- Continuing to mark Fire Number installations for underground utility locators.

Parks

- Downed tree clean up and tree removal at BBTP.
- BBTP campsite cleanup.
- Took down snow fence at Joni's Beach.
- Turned on the water at the Rec Center for Tennis Court pressure washing.

Equipment

- Replaced dead batteries in 298 (dump truck) and 120 our excavator. Both sets were 4 years old and need to be replaced.
- Repaired 2 chainsaws. Spark plugs, air filters, fuel filters and recoil ropes.
- Replaced front end suspension and steering components in the green Library van.
- Repaired Tv-145 Tractor broom hoses and brake components.
- Replaced brakes in 220 (dump truck) to comply with DOT inspection.

Submitted by,

Pete Wiggins, Public Works Director.

Public Works Director's Report

May, 2025

The busy season is upon us! May has been a tough month for us at the Public Works Department. Our one and only Parks employee quit on the 16th leaving Evan, Ray, Matt and myself with all the mowing and trash & bathroom duties in addition to our regular responsibilities. Luckily, we were able to hire Trevor Krueger on May 21st for Parks Position #1, he is doing a great job keeping on top of mowing and trash collection. I have posted for Parks Position's #2 and 3 several times but cannot get anyone to commit to work.

I have only graded North shore Road once this month. Lack of rain makes grading difficult due to the extreme hardness of the road surface and is also hard on the equipment blades and creates even more dust. We took delivery of our Magnesium Chloride dust control last month and will be applying it to the gravel roads in mid-to-late June.

The Public Works Department hired Scott Grabarek as a seasonal CDL driver on May 27th. He will be assisting in hauling and spreading gravel, applying dust control, culvert installation and hauling ditching spoils in the coming months.

Matt is continuing to practice for his upcoming Class A CDL road test when he has time between fixing all of our equipment and assisting with other projects.

Roads

- Graded School and North Shore
- Cleaned up several downed trees on North Shore and County H
- Swept County H, Main Street, Mondamin Trail, Penny Lane and South Shore Rd.
- Curb sweeping and cleanup with Skid steer and pickup broom through downtown and Rice Street
- Painted the two cross walks across from the Town dock

Dock

- Painted traffic lines and arrows

Parks

- Mowing takes place at least once a week at Joni's beach, the Rec Center / Ball field, Pocket Park, south of Café Seiche, and Russel Park next to Grandpa Tony's.
- Landscaping at Joni's Beach. We removed a considerable amount of dirt/sand in the Northwest corner of the parking lot allowing for better drainage towards the sluiceway between Joni's parking lot and St. John's parking lot.

Big Bay Town Park

- Big Bay gets busier every day. Julie Hedges has been doing a great job as camp host #2 navigating the reservation system, cleaning and mowing the 3 days a week she is

there. Camp Host #1 Rand Moore, and Fern, camp host assistant, are also doing a great job as always. There are a couple of days a week that there is no Camp Host at the BBTP, but the facilities are still open and monitored, and WIFI is still available.

- The Town crew dropped 6 large dead Poplar trees on the RV side of the BBTP, and several small trees that would soon be a problem.
- Ray fixed several electrical issues with breakers and light fixtures

Facilities/Miscellaneous

- Ray got all the wells up and running. Got DNR water samples for quality testing and has repaired several toilets and urinals in the public bathrooms.
- Ray set up all the flags and banners downtown
- Reinstalled memorial benches that we move for plowing

Airport

- Swept the tie-down and taxi way with the TV-145 tractor and broom
- Repaired plow damage with topsoil and seed
- Mowed around runway, tie-down area and hangers

Equipment

- Repairing the dump box on our 5-yard truck
- Replacing brushes on the TV-145 tractor broom
- Routine maintenance on both Summer Rec vans including new tires for both
- Routine maintenance to both of our riding lawn mowers
- Repairing our skid-steer. It has several oil leaks in the hydraulic system which are difficult to pinpoint
- Repaired trailer light wiring on our 30-foot equipment trailer

Respectfully submitted by,

Peter Wiggins

Public Works Director

Public Works Director Report

June 2025

The Crew was crazy busy this month. Keeping up with mowing, trash and bathroom duties, facility repairs, road repairs and the occasional downed tree has had everyone going nonstop.

Ray and Trevor have been swamped with Parks rentals, facility repairs and maintenance, trash and bathroom duties and mowing. They are the entirety of our Parks Crew this year and have been working overtime to keep up with all their responsibilities. Matt, Evan and I help where and when we can.

We were lucky to hire Scott Grabarek on June 9th. He was hired as a part time commercial driver but has also been assisting with road right of way mowing, culvert replacements and road repair labor.

Matt wrapped up the dump box repair on our 5yard dump truck this month. This truck was purchased from a used truck dealer in Duluth years ago and had been equipped with a salt brine tank and salt spreader. Over the years the salt did number on the steel box and needed substantial repairs.

Throughout the month Scott hauled close to 200 yards of gravel to North Shore Road where I was then able to spread and grade it into the existing gravel and mix it in as best I can.

The Inline Skate Race took place on Saturday the 14th. The crew helped with the preparation by putting cones and barricades in place and sweeping the race route.

The Tennis Court resurfacing project was completed by the end of the month. Tennis West did a great job with the repairs and adding Pickle Ball court lines. A big thanks go out to Ken Myhre and all those who donated to this project.

Our camp hosts continue to do a great job assisting guests at the Big Bay Town Park. Big thanks to Julie, Rand and Fern.

Roads

- Graded North Shore 5 times
- Graded Benjamin Blvd twice
- Graded School House Rd once
- Graded Equasayway Brian's Rd, Big Arn's Road, Old Fort / Capser Rd and Raymond Rd.
- Spread approx. 200 yards of gravel on North Shore Rd.
- Downed tree cleanup on North Shore and Mondamin Trail
- Replaced a 2-foot diameter culvert on Old Fort Road and replaced the asphalt.
- Removed and replaced a small stretch of failed asphalt on Mondamin trail.
- Ditched a small stretch of Mondamin Trail

- Mowed ditches With the Airport tractor on Hagen, Mondamin, Penny Ln, South Shore Rd. We Still have one pass to do on South Shore and Hagen Rd in addition to secondary roads off South Shore.

County H

- Swept corners and intersections clear of gravel with the Towns loader and broom attachment twice
- Swept for the Inline Skate Race in the Airport Tractor and broom attachment
- Cleaned up a few downed trees, still need to clean up a couple more.
- Mowed all of County H ditches with the Airport tractor and mower attachment. We did our best to go around the large patches of Milk Weed.

Parks

- Cleaned up a large part of an Ash tree that broke in half during a windstorm
- Cleaned up a large Willow tree that fell across Wheeler Walkway, trimmed back the hedges and Willow trees.
- The Rec Center, Joni's Beach, Pocket Park next to Café Seiche, and Russel Park are usually mowed once a week if the weather allows.
- Trash collection is a daily occurrence.

Big Bay Town Park

- Fixing showers and bathroom facilities happen quite often
- Fixing minor electrical issues
- Cleaning bathroom facilities
- Mowing common areas and campsites when they are not occupied.

Equipment

- Finished repairs to our 5yard dump truck box
- Repaired leaky hoses on our Skid Steer
- Repaired steering linkage in 98 GMC 2500
- Repaired wiring and replaced batteries in the Parks Golf Cart
- Repaired the Seat adjustment in the Loader
- Repaired leaky brake lines in 98 GMC 2500
- Replaced brushes on the Airport tractor
- Repaired trailer brake wiring and trailer brake controller in the 5yard dump truck

Airport

- Mowed the runway, tie down and taxiway and around hangers three times.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Peter Wiggins

Public Works Director

Public Works Director Report

July 2025

This July was one of the busiest I can ever remember. Businesses reported record breaking sales which means a record-breaking number of visitors to the Island.

I have received several complaints that the level of maintenance at some of the parks is not up to some people's standards, so I hope in writing this that residents and visitors may be a little more sympathetic towards the Town Crew being that we are so short staffed.

The Big Bay Town Park has been operating at max capacity for occupancy, which brings its own set of challenges. With our Parks staff being only Trevor and Ray, they are doing everything they can to keep the grounds mowed, facilities stocked and operating the best they can in addition to hauling the incredible amounts of trash being generated not only at the Town Park, but at Jonis Beach, White Fish Restrooms, Rec Center, Russel park, and Pocket Park next to Café Seiche. We also must mow and weed whip around the Airport, Airport Hangers and lounge, the Emergency Services Building, Winter Transportation Building, Library, Clinic, Town hall, and the town shop.

I am happy to report that Matt Herriott passed his CDL test on the 15th with flying colors. He has been applying dust control, watering gravel roads and hauling gravel to North Shore. Matt is a stellar employee and can now add this to the long list of skills that he brings to the Town.

Dust control was applied to North Shore Road, Benjamin Boulevard, School House Rd and Chippewa trail on July 1st, and a second application was made to School House Road on the 29th. Dust control was applied to Voyageur Ln, Herring St, Baraga, Sunny Slope, Miller Farm Raymond Road, Big Arns Rd and Brians road on the 29th.

On the topic of dust control, I have received several complaints the dust and how we try to mitigate it, so I will provide some history on how it was done when I started working here 8 years ago, and how it is done now.

In the past, the Town contracted with a trucking company that had a 4,200-gallon tanker trailer designed for hauling and spreading calcium chloride water mix. The nearest place to get this calcium chloride product was south of Chicago, and cost around \$35,000, plus

ferry costs, for six 4200-gallon loads that would cover approximately 16 of the 21 miles of gravel roads on the island.

When this company went out of business in 2018, we were lucky enough to find another company out of Milwaukee with the same tanker trailer to apply the same mix from south of Chicago for around \$37,000, again only covering about 2/3 of North Shore and School Hs Rd, in addition to Miller farm Rd and Snow Place Rd nothing else.

In 2019, we could not find anyone in our area to apply calcium chloride. We used ice melt, which is just rock salt, and the Ashland County Highway department was able to spare one of their tanker trucks to help us apply water while we spread the ice melt out of our dump truck equipped with a sand spreader. This system was untenable, and we began to explore other options.

In 2020 the dust abatement funding was cut from the budget during covid.

In 2021 we were unable to find anyone to supply calcium chloride and began looking for different options for dust control. We acquired a tank, thanks to Brian Nelson, from a decommissioned fire truck he had, and retro fitted it to a worn-out roll-off box that was headed to the scrap yard. We tried using a product on North Shore Road from VP Racing that is applied to dirt tracks in the racing world, but it was ultimately ineffective and extremely expensive.

That is when we discovered Chemical Industries, a Canadian company that manufactures magnesium chloride flake which is designed for dust control and ice melting. This product came in at \$31,000 delivered, for 40,000 lbs. which was big savings for the taxpayers, and we can apply it to all 21 miles of road as opposed to 16.

This product is designed to be used as follows; wet the road to point of nearly puddling and spread the magnesium chloride on the wet road surface. The drawback to this product is that it needs to be rehydrated regularly to keep working. Up until two years ago we were able to do this regularly when we had two hook lift trucks that were able to handle the retro fitted tanker. We now only have one truck which also serves the MRF for hauling roll-off garbage boxes, construction demolition and scrap metal containers. This truck is only available to the roads department when it is not being used for the MRF, and when the Road Crew isn't working on other projects.

We have looked at other products such as beet juice, which is an all-natural noncorrosive product, but at a cost of \$71,000 plus freight for 40,000 gallons which are needed to cover all the gravel roads.

Some people have suggested that we use fire trucks to spread water on the roads. I ran this idea by the fire department in 2021, but it was agreed that taking these trucks out of service from the Fire Department was not going to work, which led to us fabricating the water tank system we are using today.

So, in closing, we are doing the best we can with the funding, equipment and staff that we have.

Roads

- Completed shoulder mowing on Town roads
- Spread 16 tons of dust control on 90% of our gravel roads.
- Replaces a signpost on the corner of Old Fort Road that was struck by a vehicle
- Graded North Shore 4 times
- Graded Benjamin Blvd
- Spread 60 yards of gravel on stretches of North Shore
- Graded and spread 30 yards of gravel on Chippewa Trail
- Graded Old Fort, Miller Farm, Sunny Slope, Voyageur, Big Arns Rd, Raymond Rd and Snow Place Rd
- Filled a small wash out on Sunny Slope on the inlet of a culvert.
- Trimmed trees and cleared street signs on North Shore and School House RD

Parks

- Cleaned up two ash trees that broke in half at Joni's Beach. These trees are dying and will need to be removed this fall
- Plumbing issue at the Rec Center. Lost power to the well for one day due to a corroded wire. I will omit the details of the mess that created.....
- BBTP plumbing repairs are constant. Shower heads not working, damage to sinks and urinals, and leaky toilets are nonstop.
- Hauling trash happens at least once, sometimes twice a day at the Town Park. We will be looking at 2- or 3-yard dumpsters for the 2026 season to cut down on labor and equipment time.
- Trevor mows Joni's, Pocket Park, Russel Park and the Rec Center once a week
- Repaired broken playground equipment at the Rec Center

Facilities

- Northland Fire and Safety inspected and or replaced all Town fire extinguishers at the Town Shop, Big Bay Town Park, ESB, Clinic, Library, Town Hall, Airport, Winter Transportation Bldg, Rec Center and MRF
- Looked into a new water filtration system for Town Hall

Dock/Harbor

- Cleaned off the outer break water for the fireworks display, and checked break water lights

County H

- Cleaned up three downed trees
- Swept corners and intersections several times, but this seems to be a losing battle.
- Filled two settling black top patches the Ashland Cty Hwy Dept repaired last year with cold mix asphalt

Equipment

- Repaired 2001 1-ton GMC u-joints and center support bearing
- General maintenance to both riding lawn mowers
- General maintenance to 3 chain saws
- Replace 4 dry rotted tires on the 5-yard dump truck
- Repaired road compactor throttle linkage
- Repaired tip trailer wiring
- Oil changes and general maintenance to 04 Chevy 2500, 2016 Ram 5500, 98 GMC
- Replaced Radiator in 04 Chevy 2500
- Replace vehicle fire extinguisher mounts with DOT compliant mounts
- Repaired wiring in the 5-yard dump truck
- Trouble shoot intermittent loss of hydraulic front wheel drive in the grader

Airport

- Replaced broken rear window in the airport tractor. The rear mounted mower picked up a rock and sent into the back window
- General maintenance to the airport tractor mower before each time it is used
- Oil change on the airport tractor
- Mowed and weed whipped around runway, tie-down area, and hangers 4 times

Respectfully submitted by, Pete Wiggins, Public Works Director

Public Works Report

August 2025

The 100 days of August are behind us. The Town Crew, BBTP Camp Hosts and MRF were busy as ever this month keeping up with trash & recycling collection and hauling, campers and day trippers at the park, road maintenance and repairs, dust control and road watering, airport mowing, Fire # installations, equipment maintenance, facilities maintenance and cleaning, and keeping the parks looking as good as we can.

I met with Emmer Shields who is contracting through Paladin Management Consultants for the Wisconsin DOT to inspect the “bridge” at the Island Marina. Technically that structure is categorized as a culvert and is not eligible for funding as a bridge because it is under 21 feet long. The Wisconsin DOT is looking to start a funding program for these types of culverts. Emmer deemed it to be in good shape, which is good news for us.

The fire suppression and alarm system at the Emergency Services building were inspected and tested this month. All systems are in good working order.

Roads

- Graded stretches of North Shore Rd. 4 times
- Graded Benjamin Blvd. 2 times
- Graded School Hs. Rd 1 time
- Graded Big Arn’s Road 1 time
- Replaces a culvert on Mondamin Trail and replaced blacktop
- Ditched and reshaped the shoulders on a small stretch of Mondamin trail
- Overlaid cold mix asphalt on a small stretch of Mondamin Trail
- Cleaned up several downed trees on North Shore and School Hs Road
- Spread the last 4 tons of dust control on School Hs Road and part of North Shore Rd.
- Watered North shore Rd, Benjamin Blvd. and School Hs Road 3 times
- Trimmed trees around street signs on Main Street and intersections Nebraska Row and Whitefish Street

County H

- Swept corners and intersections 2 times

- Cleaned up a few downed trees
- Mowed around guard rails

Parks

- Repaired the heaved blacktop over a culvert at the entrance to the skate park
- Added a small handicap parking pad at the entrance at the Dog Park
- Trash collection and bathroom cleaning are a daily occurrence at The Rec Center, Big Bay Town Park, Joni's Beach, and the White Fish Bathrooms
- Trevor is doing the best he can to stay on top of mowing and trimming the Clinic, Library, Town Hall, Joni's Beach, Pocket Park, Russel Park, Wheeler Walkway, MIFL Freight Building, Emergency Services Building, Winter Transportation Building, Town Shop, Airport hangers, Big Bay Town Park and along the right of way on Rice Street.
- Trimmed trees around the Skate Park and parking area along the Tennis courts
- Cleaned up several downed trees at the Big Bay Town Park

Facilities

Ray has been doing an outstanding job keeping up with maintenance of our facilities in addition to hauling trash and cleaning bathrooms on weekends if or when Trevor or I are not available.

- Repaired water heater at Joni's Beach
- Repaired faucets at BBTP
- Replace air filters at ESB
- Repaired Rec Center toilets and urinals
- Replaced several outlets on the RV side of the Town Park
- Maintenance on the Town Park holding tank alarms
- Replace Town Hall water filters
- Helped with alarm testing at ESB
- Repaired change machine at the town Park
- Repairs made to the boardwalk at the Town Park
- Repaired broken playground equipment at the Rec Center
- Replaced rusted-out grill at Joni's Beach
- Repairs made to the bridge at the Town Park

Airport

- Completed mowing along the runway in the airport tractor and rental skid steer with brush hog attachment.

- Began mowing and brush clearing around the AWOS station
- Repairs to the airport tractor mower. This implement has several wear parts that need to be replaced periodically

Equipment

- 98 GMC: Replaced fuel pressure regulator, fuel filter, spark plugs, repaired wiring.
- 2016 RAM 2500: Oil change, replaces brakes on all axles
- 2005 5yard dump truck: Wiring repair for brake lights and running
- 2004 Chevy 2500: Oil Change and radiator replacement
- MRF Roll-off truck: added coolant mixing valve for air conditioning, replaced backup alarm
- Installed DOT compliant fire extinguisher brackets on pickup trucks
- Repaired mower trailer wiring
- Replaced hour meter on Feris lawn mower, oil change and blade change

Fire #'s

- Called in utility locates for 49 properties and installed 47 Fire Numbers. We are missing some numbers, and an order will be placed as soon as we have enough of a list to make the order cost effective.

Respectfully submitted by,

Pete Wiggins

Public Works Director for the Town Of La Pointe

Public Works Report

September 2025

September has come and gone ushering the change of the seasons. While the busiest months are behind us, The Public Works Dept. has not slowed down at all. I have spent considerable time updating our local road information into the Wisconsin DOT WISLR system for road conditions and maintenance treatments. WISLR stands for the Wisconsin Information system for Local Roads. Every two years we update our information in the system to help WisDOT improve decision making for local roads and to meet state statute requirements.

Evan Erickson and I have also spent a lot of time preparing the 2026 MRF and Public Works Department budgets for Town Board review. We have made several capital requests for equipment and facilities upgrades this year as some of our equipment is getting quite old and repair parts are becoming harder to find or can't be found at all.

Parks maintenance is constant. Plumbing and electrical issues at the Big Bay Town Park are almost a daily occurrence. Ray has been working very hard to make timely repairs and upgrade facilities in addition to tree removal, trash collection and regular maintenance and repairs to the Big Bay Town Park, Joni's Beach, Library, Town Hall, La Pointe Community Clinic and our shops.

Trevor has been maintaining our green spaces as best he can. He takes care of all the parks mowing, trimming and cleaning during the week. Ray and Trevor also swap weekend days for trash collection and bathroom cleaning, I fill in where and when I can.

Matt has been staying on top of our equipment repairs and maintenance, most notably, our motor grader and excavator and the MRF's Roll-off truck.

Fire number installations are moving along. Steve Wakem has been doing a great job working with myself and our Zoning Administrator on this project.

Our Camp Hosts Julie Hedges, Rand and Fern did an amazing job this season assisting Campers and visitors to the Big Bay Town Park. This has been one of if not the busiest years for the Town Park, we owe them many thanks for their work this year.

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OCT 9 2025

Initial: dg

The Ashland County highway department has done a ton of crack sealing and repainted all the traffic lines on County H. Traffic line painting is done every two years. Town roads also had line painting done while the striping truck and crew were on the island. The crew was here for 1 day, so they made sure to get all the yellow center lines done but could not get all the white shoulder lines done due to time constraints.

Xcel Energy's underwater power line project is underway. There will be several phases of this project so expect lots of utility work and trucking along White Fish Street and Sunny Slope.

Roads

- Graded sections of North Shore 3 times
- Graded Benjamin Boulevard 1 time
- Graded School House Road 1 Time
- Graded Equasayway 1 time
- Graded Raymond 1 time
- Reshaped shoulders and cleaned out .95 miles of North Shore Road ditches
- Cleaned up 5 downed trees on North Shore Road
- Cleaned up 2 downed trees on South Shore Road
- Mowed the shoulders on North Shore Rd, School Hs Rd, Chippewa Trl, Krohn Dahlin Rd, South Shore Rd, Big Arn's/Brians Rd, Mondamin Trl, Penny Ln, Equasayway, Old Fort, Raymond Road White Fish and Sunny Slope for the second time this year.
- Hauled our last 300 yards of gravel from Nelsons pit to the Town stockpiles

Equipment

- Tri-axle trailer brakes repaired
- 04 Chevy 3500 door handle replacement, rear brake replacement, rear wheel hub bearing replacement
- 772 grader Hydraulic Front Wheel Drive diagnose and repair
- Replaced rear drive tire on Roll-Off truck
- Repair drive belt and mower deck belt on Ferris riding lawn mower

Airport

- Diagnosis and repair battery charging issue in TV 145 tractor
- Tv 145 Mower maintenance
- Mowing and stump removal along runway

County H

- Swept intersections and corners in preparation for traffic line painting
- Cleaned up 2 trees in the right-of-way

Facilities

- Culligan Water installed a commercial grade water filtration system at Town Hall
- Replaced water filters at the Emergency Services Building
- Tree trimming in front of Town Hall
- Repaired crawl space window coverings at the library
- Insulated the sump-pump drain line at the library
- Repairs to plumbing at the Rec center, Big Bay Town Park, Joni's Beach
- Replaced several electrical outlets and breakers at the Town Park

Parks

- Mowing/weed whipping all parks once a week
- Daily trash collection
- Cleaning and restocking bathrooms every other day
- Repaired fence lines at the Rec Center and Town Park
- Tree removal at Town Park

Respectfully submitted by,

Pete Wiggins

Public Works Director

Public Works Report

October 2025

Good News!! The Town purchased and brand-new grader from McCoy Construction and Forestry!!! Bad news.... It has a cracked engine block...Unfortunately this problem was not caught by the dealer before we purchased the machine, but it is covered under a 7-year 1500-hour warranty program. The dealership is working on getting a replacement engine to their facility in the first week of November and the replacement should take about a week. In the meantime, we don't have a grader. McCoy Construction and Forestry are working on getting a loaner to us but the window for grading roads is rapidly closing. I will do what I can with our other pieces of equipment to maintain the gravel road surfaces until we get a loaner or our machine repaired.

The reason for the purchase of this new machine was due to our old machine getting to the end of its life. It was purchased new in 1998 and after 27 years of heavy use year-round, we were in desperate need of a replacement. Many parts for the old machine have been discontinued due to its age and that would have left us in a bad situation if we had a break down especially in the winter months. The grader is the most used piece of equipment Public Works has and is essential for maintaining and plowing our road systems. We average about 660 hours on this machine per year.

When I began looking at options for a new machine a year ago, we were quoted \$413,000 after a \$30,000 trade for our old one. Just so happens that John Deere is coming out with a new model in 2026, so they discounted the 2025 machine \$30,000 and honored the \$30,000 trade in value for our old machine. This was a once in a lifetime deal for us and I am glad the Town Board saw it the same way. The new machine comes with a 7-year 1500-hour warranty program and a 5-year 1500-hour maintenance program where John Deere performs services at specific hour intervals at no additional cost. We will be looking at trading this machine in for a new one in 7 to 10 years as these machines retain much of their value and so we don't run into the same issue of parts availability.

This month we wrapped up our ditching project on North Shore Road. We ditched 2.2 miles from the North Shore / Big Bay Road intersection to Fire # 1642 North Shore Rd. and replaced two cross culverts in this section of road that had severe deterioration. This particular stretch of road sees a lot of spring runoff and has flooded this section many times. We try to do large ditching projects in early fall every year when traffic is at its lowest

to have minimal impact on commuters. It was brought to my attention that some people were very unhappy about the road closures despite driving past several road closed ahead signs, and I would like to ask if in the future all complaints be directed at me and not my employees. My office is always open, and my contact info will be provided at the end of this report. I encourage everyone that reads this report to get on the Towns text alert system. We send out a text before every planned road closure. Please contact Town Hall with questions on how to be added to this list.

Trevor Kruger has been hired as a full-time Public Works employee. He will be working at MRF, and with the roads crew. He has been training in the Public Works equipment and how MRF operates.

Big Bay Town Park office is closed for the season. Many thanks to our Camp Hosts, Julie Hedges, Rand and Fern, for their long hours and chaotic days at the BBTP. Ray has winterized the 3 bathrooms out there and will be closing and winterizing the White Fish Street, Rec Center, and Joni's Beach bathrooms within the next.

Steve Wakem is done for the year installing fire numbers around the Island. He did some really great work creating an efficient system for utility locates and sign installations, we owe him many thanks for all his hard work!!!

Roads

- Graded North Shore 3 times.
- Graded Benjamin Blvd. 1 time.
- Graded Old Fort/Capser Rd. 1 time.
- Graded School House Rd. 1 time.
- 6 yards of gravel added to Raymond Road.
- Replaced two cross culverts on North Shore Rd.
- Added cold mix asphalt to the Mondamin Trail culvert patch.
- Finished ditching a stretch of North Shore Road.
- Mixed 150 yards of 5% salt to sand.
- Cleaned up several downed trees on North Shore and South Shore Road.
- Right of way clearing along Main Street.

Equipment

- Full service on the 2019 Western Star dump truck: Oil change, fuel filter replacement, hydraulic filter replacement, transmission filter and fluid replacement.
- Full service on the 2005 Sterling dump truck: Oil change, fuel filters replaced, hydraulic filter replaced, transmission fluid and filter replacement, replaced accessory drive belt.
- MRF Roll-off truck: Replaced air brake chamber, repaired hydraulic leak, replaced headlight assembly.
- Full service to the 2021 Chevy 2500.
- Full service to the 1998 Chevy 2500.
- Full service to the 2004 Chevy 2500.
- Replaced transfer case seal in the 2004 Chevy 2500.
- Full service to the 2016 Dodge 5500.
- Plow on 2005 Sterling dump truck.
- Replaced the electronic throttle pedal in the 1998 Ford L9000. We were able to rob this part from the retired roll-off truck.
- Full service on the New Holland Skid steer.

Facilities

- Replaced exhaust fan in BBTP bathroom.
- Replaced well pump and well pump electrical service that feeds both the Winter Transportation Building and the Emergency Services Building.
- Removed overgrown brush around The Clinic and Library propane tanks.
- Cleaned up grounds around the Winter Transportation Building.

Parks

- Repaired picnic benches.
- Repaired toilets and urinals at the BBTP.
- Repairs to two bridges at the BBTP.
- Removed trash cans for the winter at Pocket Park, BBTP and LeSeur St and Bell St.
- Winterized BBTP hand pump well.
- Tree removal at BBTP.
- Final cleaning of bathrooms at BBTP.
- Winterized bathrooms at BBTP.

Fire Numbers

- Installed 18 fire number signs on Main Street. We still have many more that need to be installed all over the Island, but we are currently waiting for a large order to be shipped to us. Trevor will be handling the remainder of these installations moving forward.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Pete Wiggins, Public Works Director.

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November 2025

Public Works Report

Winter is here!! And luckily, we got our new grader back just in time for the big storm on 11-26. In last month's report I detailed the factory defect the brand-new John Deere 772 GP had, a crack in the engine block, and McCoy Construction and Forestry were quick to act replacing the engine. This repair was covered under the 7-year warranty so there was no additional cost to the Town. While the new machine was being repaired, they gave us our old grader back as a loaner. I was hesitant to use it too much in case of a breakdown, but I was able to grade and spread gravel on several roads while we had it.

We had our first plowable snowfall on 11-9, a significant storm bringing 12-15 inches of wet heavy snow and winds around 40 mph. There were tons of downed trees all over the island resulting in a power outage on the North end and a power pole was snapped in half east of the Big Bay Town Park due to the gale force winds. This storm began with a significant amount of rain causing extremely icy conditions. We did our best to sand but with such low salt content in our sand mix, high winds and traffic, the salt sand tends to be blown off the ice rather quickly.

We had another small snow event the night of 11-29 leaving 2-4" in some places and the crew had the roads plowed and sanded by 9am Sunday morning.

Roads

- Graded Miller Farm Rd.
- Graded sections of North Shore Rd.
- Graded School House Rd.
- Graded Old Fort Rd.
- Graded and spread 2 loads of gravel on Chippewa Trail.
- Spread 1 load of gravel on Krohn Dahlin.
- Graded and spread 3 loads of gravel on the MRF exit road.
- Downed tree clean up at the Clinic/Library.
- Cleaned up 10 downed trees between North Shore, Benjamin and School Hs Rd.
- Cleaned up 6 downed trees on South Shore road network.
- Tree trimming North Shore Rd right of way.
- Plowed and sanded 3 times.

Dock/Harbor

- Lowered steel ramp in at the old harbor in Bayfield.
- Delivered 6 yards of salt sand to Bayfield for MIFL.
- Moved ramp sections at the MIFL shop in Bayfield.

Equipment

- Repaired the wood deck of our Tri-Axle trailer.
- Repaired gas filler neck on the 2004 GMC 3500.
- Replaced bearings, conveyor and spinner on the slide in Monroe sanding unit for the 2016 Ram 5500.
- Outfitted 2019 Western Star dump truck with removal and sander equipment.
- Outfitted 2005 Ford Sterling dump truck with snow removal equipment.
- Replaced blades on 3 Boss snowplows and performed periodic maintenance.
- Repaired and modified the snowplow for the 444K Loader.
- Repaired over cab strobe lights on 2005 Ford Sterling dump truck.
- Out fitted pickup trucks with snowplows.
- Mounted snowblower on the New Holland Airport tractor.

Parks

- Plowed and sanded parking lots 3 times.
- Removed several trees at the BBTP.
- Trimmed trees around the bleachers at the Rec Center.
- Winterized the Rec Center.
- Repaired small bridge at the BBTP.
- Put up snow fence at Joni's Beach.
- Leaf blow all campsites at the BBTP.
- Leaf blow Pocket Park.
- Leaf Blow Jonis Beach.

Facilities

- Replaces water filters at Town Hall.
- Replaces water filters at the ESB.
- Cleaned up BBTP office and pulled garbage cans.

County H

- Plowed and sanded 3 times.

- Cleaned up several downed trees

Respectfully submitted by, Pete Wiggins, Public Works Director.

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December 2025

Public Works Report

Happy holidays from the Public Works Department!! With 2025 in the books, we are looking forward to completing a few largescale projects in the new year. To name a few, we have a couple of large culvert replacements coming up in 2026 on North Shore Rd, more ditching on North Shore, and I am seeking funding to repave Mondamin Trail, but that is never a guarantee.

The micro grid at the Emergency Services Building is underway. Jolma Electric has installed footings and supports and are working on the framework for the panels. This is a multi-stage project and will extend well into 2026.

The Town has received a \$1.5 million dollar grant to engineer and build an ADA compliant stair/ramp system and bridge for access to the beach and board walk. This project is still in the planning phase and most likely will not break ground until 2027. This will be a very large project and will disrupt access to the beach, so The Public works Department will be looking at ways to provide temporary access to beach while the project is underway.

The Roads Crew has been flooding the skating rink with the use of Fire Department tankers at the Rec Center while conditions are right for making ice, but much like last year, the weather is being uncooperative. I would love to get Friday night broomball going again!!

The Public Works new hire, Trevor Krueger, has gained his temporary CDL learners permit and is studying to get his full-fledged Commercial Driver's License in the coming months. He is also getting trained on our heavy equipment for snow removal.

We have had quite a few snow events this month and one ice storm. As of right now we have used approximately half of our 150 yards of salt sand.

We have put up barricades at both entrances to the Greenwood Cemetery. This road is extremely narrow, and headstones are right off the edge of the road and can be easily damaged. This driveway will be closed until spring.

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Initial: dg

Roads

- Plowed 8 times.
- Spread approx. 40 yards of salt sand on parking lots, the dock, Town roads and County H.
- Cleaned up 15 plus downed trees on Town roads.
- Several days of clearing tree limbs from Town Road right of way.
- Moved snow piles at town lots and intersections 3 times.
- Installed reflective markers on Sunny Slope Rd. along the very deep ditch leading to the parking lot. This area underwent some serious construction during the power line boring project and overhead power line installation and will need to be reshaped in the spring/summer.

County H

- Cleaned up several downed trees.
- We salt sand corners and intersections every time we plow and as conditions require it.

Dock/Harbor

- Removed ice from outer wells 3 times.
- Assisted in installing bubblers.
- Removed snow piles several times.
- Resolved passenger shelter heating issue.
- We salt sand the dock regularly and as conditions require it.

Facilities

- General maintenance at BBTP office and bathrooms.
- General maintenance at the ESB.
- General maintenance at Town Hall.
- Repaired the fence around the propane tanks at the Clinic.
- Dug a new trench for the fiberoptic cable that was damaged between the ESB and the winter transportation building. We dint hit it.....
- Replaced several GFI outlets in our shop.

Equipment

We perform general maintenance and inspections to our snow removal equipment before and after each snow event such as greasing, fluid level checks, tire pressure checks etc.

The Public Works Department has taken on the responsibility of maintaining and servicing the two ambulances for the La Ponite EMS. Matt has a very thorough job making sure these pieces of apparatus are in tip top shape. We will be inspecting these vehicles least twice a year and as needed in between.

- Repaired 4 strobe light modules on our 2005 Ford Sterling dump truck. This was an electrical nightmare that needed to be retrofitted due to no availability of parts.
- Replaced all brake components on the Police department's pickup truck and serviced the engine.
- Repaired 1 chain saw with a no start issue, and one with a leaking bar oil reservoir.
- Trouble shot wiring and replaced blower motor for heat in our 2004 Chevy 2500.

Respectfully submitted by,

Pete Wiggins, Public Works Director.

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