Public Works Report April 2018

Think Spring!!!

Is Winter Gone Yet?: Finally! Spring might just be getting here! This winter was one of the coldest, gloomiest and longest lasting in recent memory. It has been a roller coaster of bitter cold, lots of snow followed by a warm up then lots of snow again then rain and more lingering cold. This has caused our roads and ditches to remain water saturated longer than normal making road repairs difficult. In addition the huge rains last Monday created hundreds of washouts on our roads. Our crew has been busy replacing washed away gravel, filling potholes, ditching and cleaning culverts for the past week.

Fitness Center Weight Room: Our crew refurbished several very old (25+ years) weight benches that were showing signs of age with surface rust and worn original upholstery that had been recovered at least once before and was not really worth fixing again. Our crew removed four pieces of equipment to the garage and did any necessary repairs and a complete rust removal and triple coat Rustoleum paint job on them. Amy ordered very nice deluxe bench pads which the crew installed this week. That equipment now looks and operates better than new. Once again our crew breathes new life into aging infrastructure for far less than replacement cost.

12" Transmission Main: Between snow and rain storms and as time allowed our crew has been clearing the route where we will be installing the new 12" water transmission main. They have made good progress cutting and chipping and are ahead of schedule but still have quite a ways to go.

Water Main Flushing: Last week a couple crewmen shut down all but a few of our winter water main bleeders. (The rest are buried in deep snow and ice). While doing that they flushed the entire water system.

SCADA: Technology is a wonderful thing. Until it gets a headache... Then its headache becomes your headache... A few weeks ago our water system SCADA computer started acting up and stayed that way while several technicians worked to figure out the problem. They finally figured it out. Repairs and reprogramming are done and it's all working good now.

New Mechanics: Our very talented service manager/lead mechanic Rick is leaving at the end of next week. We will miss him and wish him well on his new endeavor. We have hired a replacement who is currently at diesel tech/service manager school. He will start at the beginning of July after he graduates college. We have also hired a new mechanic to replace the mechanic who left two weeks ago. With the assistance of our skilled crew he will "hold down the fort" until reinforcements arrive.

Major Equipment Repairs: Our mechanics had to replace the king pin bearings and exhaust system on our FL-80 six wheeler. While servicing our Morbark 15" chipper our crew noticed the radiator mounts were beginning to fail. That resulted in a tear down and rebuild of that system to prevent disaster. They also replaced the leaking timing cover on the International wheeler. We had a dual wheel failure on our Chevy wheeler that resulted in a destroyed brake drum and studs. They had it fixed and back in service in short order.

Club 1 Generator: Our 8KW generator is installed and operational. It handles the lights, heat and pool pump with ease.

Water Main Breaks: None that we know of...

Water Production for March 2018 was 14.9 Million Gallons.