



TOWN OF WINSLOW

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Monthly Report to the Town Manager and Town Council February 2022

As I reported last month, our contractor, Comprehensive Land Technologies, was able to coordinate with Pan Am railroad to clear the vegetation growing in the right-of-way for the main sewer line running between the railroad and the Kennebec River. They started the project on February 21 and finished on March 5. They did a fantastic job. I have included a couple of pictures of the finished product. I have not received their invoice for the work, but we may have to amend the original order due to significant costs associated with the railroad that were not anticipated.

In reference to the generator at Chaffee Brook, the first portable generator we procured as a stand-by did not function properly and we ended up getting a replacement from Sunbelt Rentals in Bangor. CMD Power Systems in Herman, our generator repair service, has come in and taken the stationary generator apart and has ordered repair parts. We will be replacing the majority of the internal parts. They hope to have the unit back together within a couple of weeks. Their cost estimate is \$10-15,000.00 and the rental generator will be approximately \$12,000.00.

Our vendor, Morton Salt, has been able to get back on track with salt deliveries, so to date, we have not had any further issues with procuring road salt as needed. I'm sure as the season ends and MDOT starts looking at next winter, the past issues with Morton Salt will be a topic of discussion as to whether to renew their contract for another year. I may reach out to last year's vendor, New England Salt, and move away from MDOT's vendor.

On the agenda is an item to permit the use of the existing PW Equipment Capital account to replace two dump bodies and purchase a sweeper for the new sidewalk machine. The replacement bodies were intended for the 2022-23 budget, but since our new trucks will not be built until July 2022, I am asking to shift things around. Because the vendor is not busy due to the lack of truck chassis, they would be able to turn the trucks around quickly. The trucks are a 2012 Freightliner and a 2014 Western Star. Both trucks are here for many more years and the current bodies are well worn. The new bodies are of a higher quality than the existing bodies. Unfortunately, the flimsier bodies were all that was available at the time. The vendor, Viking Cives, now manufactures their own units. Our last purchase, a 2016 Western Star, has one of these bodies and the difference in quality and durability is obvious. The new trucks coming this summer will have the same bodies.

Weatherwise, February had a lot of small, back to back storms. The crew has put in quite a bit of overtime with no major staffing issues. All in all, our sand and salt supplies are adequate to the end of the season and our equipment has performed well with the exception of unit #4 which is slated for a new body. The mechanics have been able to put it back together a couple of times to keep it available.

Respectfully submitted by,
Paul E. Fongemie
Public Works Director



