



TOWN OF WINSLOW

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Monthly Report to the Town Manager and Town Council February 2021

February was a fairly quiet month weather wise. We had some snow and rain. The worst was the sleet and rain storm we had. Because of the rain, everything on the sidewalks froze before we could open them the next morning. It took the crew the better part of two weeks to get them all open. We had to wait for warmer weather to soften the snow so we could move it.

This winter has been tough on employee retention. We dismissed a truck driver for personnel reasons and we lost a sewer employee to the Town of Clinton. He will be working at the transfer station for approximately \$4.00 per hour more than we were paying. I am losing my junior mechanic on March 5. He is returning to paramedic service in Dover-Foxcroft. And finally, I lost my administrative assistant on February 18. We have advertised and interviewed for the sewer and truck driver positions and have filled both positions. I have hired an administrative assistant and will advertise for a mechanic starting this March 7.

The last month or so, I had an engineer from Dirigo Engineering looking at what is required to remove the ramp between Orion and Johnny's. It appears the two parties may come to an understanding to let Orion share warehouse space at Johnny's until the lease expires in 2022. At this point, I have instructed the engineer to complete the planning and it will be ready to execute when the lease expires.

At the Council's request, I contacted a demolition contractor to give us a revised estimate for the Junior High building. He and I toured the building with Shelly Phillips and I am waiting for his estimate.

On February 24, I had a virtual meeting with our engineers on the Chaffee Brook pump station project to question the contractor that will probably be constructing the river crossing to get a better understanding of the methods they will employ so we can get a better handle on the costs.

We have experienced a few issues with our plow trucks. Two of them have had their radiators replaced. Unit #6, the Sterling, actually had two radiators installed. The first was an older unit that had been repaired and it lasted two weeks. We then installed the new unit that had been ordered when it first started leaking.

Finally, on February 24 at approximately 9:00 pm, one of our trucks was in a minor accident on the Albion Road at the town line. Unit #4 had stopped at the town line to turn around when a young girl was unable to stop and rear ended our truck. No one was injured, police and insurance reports were filed, our truck did not sustain any damage, and I believe the case is closed. Unfortunately, the private vehicle did sustain some damage.

Respectfully submitted by,
Paul E. Fongemie
Public Works Director