



TOWN OF WINSLOW

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Monthly Report to the Town Manager and Town Council January 2023

Up to now, winter had been reasonably mild except for a couple of rain events. However, winter came with a vengeance the week of January 15 and 22. We had three major storms in a two week which put quite a burden on my crew. The crew averaged 60 hours of overtime in that two week period. Luckily the equipment and supplies held up and nobody was ill. We fell a little behind on sidewalks but we have since caught up. Last week he hauled a lot of snow to clear the main roads and improve sight distances for people exiting side streets.

Our corridor removal project at Johnnys Seeds and Orion Ropeworks has finally begun. The contractor is presently cutting concrete and preparing to pour concrete. They also have an electrical contractor removing any existing wiring in the corridor. I have Seacoast Security scheduled for 2/13, to remove a portion of the fire alarm system that is in the corridor. I am confident that the majority of the structure will be removed by March 1st.

Our project at Chaffee Brook pump station is moving along. We anticipate advertising for bids for the river crossing in the next 3 to 4 weeks. There are only a handful of contractors that perform this kind of work, so it is critical to get a contractor locked as soon as possible so we can hit the November 2023 window for the river crossing. The remainder of the building project will be bid at a later date.

There are three items on this month's agenda that pertain to Public Works. The first is an order authorizing a bond anticipation note for the Chaffee Brook pump station project. The second is to approve an amendment to the Sunset Heights engineering proposal. As the design was moving forward, it became apparent that discharging all the storm water from that development into the small stream next to Aquarius Pools would not be possible. I have requested we construct a new, larger outfall directly to the Kennebec River from Lithgow Street. Unfortunately, this will require boring under the railroad tracks and obtaining a permit for the outfall. Both of these developments have significantly increased the scope of the project, necessitating the amendment to the original proposal. If we don't relocate the storm water discharge location and keep it as originally proposed, we will end up with a situation similar to the issue we have on the China Road.

The third item is requesting permission to start the process to find a replacement for the existing Foreman who has indicated his desire to leave Winslow Public Works in June. We would like the new hire to have an opportunity to work alongside the current foreman for a couple of months. We will also be discussing the second foreman position that has been proposed for the Parks and Sewer Departments.

Respectfully submitted by,
Paul E. Fongemie
Public Works Director