

# Town of Rensselaerville Highway Department

## Monthly Town Board Report

February 11, 2010

- 1. Storm 01/25/2010:** On January 25<sup>th</sup> we had a combination of warm temperatures and steady rain with a couple of torrential down pours that caused rapid snow and ice melting. As a result of this volume of water, in a matter of about 6 hours we had 60 washouts on 32 of our Town Roads. The washouts ranged from shoulders and driveways to collapsed pavement on Cheese Hill to over 1000 feet of Davis Mountain Road that was impassible resulting in having to close the road. Jaycox Road flooded on the end due to an ice jam in one of the culverts. Fortunately by 9pm the flow had subsided enough for the culverts to handle the water flow and the residents could get into and out of their driveways. We are picking off the areas as fast as we can get to them, we are about 75% complete. Unfortunately right now the grader is down and we are waiting for parts. Another unforeseen expense was the purchase of 300 tons of crusher run stone to fill in these washouts. I called Mike Franchini who is the Albany County DPW Commissioner and he is also involved with acquiring emergency funds from the state and federal agencies. He told me that no other towns had reported the extent of damage that we had so there was not a big enough claim to go after funds from either agency.
- 2. Maintenance/Repairs:** We are continuing to do maintenance and repairs on the trucks and machinery. I am concerned about the cost. In January alone we have spent \$20,172.21 ([see attached](#)) on maintenance and repairs. Some of these repairs were major and I will discuss them later. At this rate I feel I am going to have to park everything by April because we are going to be out of money. I hope the Town Board will entertain the idea of getting on a truck and equipment replacement plan that I should have for you by the March town board meeting.
- 3. 2009 Invoices:** I currently have \$28,470.47 ([see attached](#)) in expenses that were incurred in 2009 and have had to pay for them out of my 2010 budget. Except for a couple, most of these expenses were talked about at 2009 board meetings (i.e.: major truck repairs, salt). And when Andrea asked the Department heads what their expected expenses were at the end of the year so she could reserve the funds, we all know there was nobody in the highway department to give her that information since the highway superintendent had resigned. Andrea was proactive and did catch some of them. So under these circumstances, I am respectfully asking the Town Board to consider reimbursing the highway department from last year's unexpended balance for the appropriate budget items.
- 4. Waste Oil Furnace:** We are currently using the waste oil furnace, and with a joint effort with the transfer station coordinator and the highway department, and of course approval from the town board, we should be implementing a used oil collection policy very soon. And I think we are going to hear more on that later.

5. **Safety and Training:** We have taken the safety program to the next level. Dave Potter and I met with Victoria Busch from Selective Insurance (our carrier) and she set me up with their website which has a wealth of information available for us to utilize. We are now conducting weekly safety meetings on topics relative to our operations. A representative from the Operating Engineers visited us on Monday to explain to us what they have to offer for training. Some of the men will be attending the OSHA 10 hour course and possibly the 40-hour Haz-Mat course. And as it becomes available they will also be getting training on different pieces of machinery. I have also signed the men up for a free Excavator Safety Seminar in March that is put on by Dig Safe New York (provided it is not snowing). We have also updated the stairs that led to the storage area above the records room and the parts room. Both had about a 16” step at the top so a platform with hand rails was added where the additional step was needed.
6. **Kenyon Road Dump:** As requested, the Kenyon Road Dump gates have been reinstalled and secured to deter any trespassing.
7. **Fire Extinguishers:** Kyle Bates from SimplexGrinnell was on site today to inspect the extinguishers in our building, trucks and machines for compliance since it appeared that it hasn’t been done since 2007. He estimates the cost for the building to be at \$650, and the highway trucks and machines to be \$560 ([see attached](#)). I am willing to pickup the tab for the highway part of it if need be.
8. **RTE 85 Project:** I didn’t attend the CDTC meeting yesterday because of the big snow storm we...almost...got, but I spoke with Phil Pearson Sr. who did attend. Rensselaerville did not get picked and the next meeting isn’t until March. I attended the February 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting and the sense I got from that meeting was that the State is going to be spending a majority of their money on bridges and main corridors and arterials. Even if the Route 85 project was picked it could be five years before they would fund it.
9. **Accessibility:** I just wanted to remind everyone that the door to my office is always open and you can call me anytime if there is ever a question or problem or if you have some valuable information about your road that might be beneficial to the highway department. I also have an email address which was published in the last newsletter ([hwysupt.renselaerville@yahoo.com](mailto:hwysupt.renselaerville@yahoo.com)). If you are happy with the way your town roads are being maintained, please tell the men. If you are unhappy, please tell me.

Attachments:

- (1) DA5130.4 – Machinery (Contractual) “Repairs/Maintenance”
- (1) 2009 Invoices Paid From 2010 Budget
- (2) SimplexGrinnell

## TOWN OF RENNELAERVILLE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

### 2009 Invoices Paid From 2010 Budget

Budget Item	Vendor	Amount	Voucher No.	Invoice No.	Invoice Date	Total
DA5130.4	Ben Funk Trk 3	82.68	v10-43		12/15/2009	82.68
DA5130.4	Greenville Auto Shop	59.96	v10-46		12/1/09- 12/8/09	142.64
DA5130.4	HL Gage Sales Trk 2,6,17	4,015.30	v10-44		12/7-12- 23/09	4,157.94
DA5130.4	J Becker & Sons Trk 2	12.66	v10-42		12/30/2009	4,170.60
DA5130.4	Mid-Valley Auto Parts Trk 15	73.31	v10-21		12/7/2009	4,243.91
DA5130.4	Orange Motor Co. Trk 1	177.83		647252	12/21/2009	4,421.74
DA5130.4	Orange Motor Co. Trk 1	-68.67		647325	12/22/2009	4,353.07
DA5130.4	Rensselaerville Body Shop Trk 9	275.00	v10-37		12/29/2010	4,628.07
DA5130.4	Van Kleecks Tire Trk 16	857.04	v10-47		12/23/2009	5,485.11
DA5130.4	Omni Services, Inc. Backhoe	90.76		8134712	10/8/2009	5,575.87
DA5130.4	Mid-Valley Auto Parts Trk 15	14.98		721754	12/31/2009	5,590.85
DA5130.4	HL Gage Sales Trk 6	9,610.81		C110565	12/16/2009	15,201.66
DA5142.4	American Rock Salt Salt	11,726.06	v10-41		12/15/2009	26,927.72
DA5142.4	Main Care Energy Diesel	1,542.75	v10-20		12/28/2009	<b>\$28,470.47</b>