

Town of Rensselaerville Highway Department
Monthly Town Board Report
July 08, 2010

1. **Current Highway Dept. Work:** The Highway Department has been continuing its ditching operations on Pucker Street, Littner Road and Camp Winsoki. We have graded Edwards Hill, Mercer Lane, Snyder Lane, Bates Lane, Fleming Road, Cook Road and Wood Road. We have also conducted asphalt patching operations on the following roads; Barger, Gerard, McCulloch Cross, Rugg, Chase, Sayre, Gifford Lane, Stevens, Miller, Pond Hill, Gifford Hollow, Wilsey, Carr, Johnny Cake, Peasley, Bryan and Hale. We have resumed mowing the sides of the roads after the mower had been down for three (3) weeks waiting for the right part to come in. At the request of the Town Supervisor we have placed additional posted signs on the gateposts at the old Kenyon Road dumpsite. It appears the other signs may have been torn down.

Carver Sand and Gravel, who was low bidder for 'in-place' asphalt paving on our April material bid, has presented the town with a reduced paving rate that is currently \$11 per ton lower than their bid price. Does the Town Board wish to take advantage of this savings opportunity? If so, I recommend that we T&L (true and level) and pave Siebert Road. This may also require amending the Highway Agreement.

2. **Maintenance and Repairs:** Last month we spent almost \$6,000.00 on repairs to our Trucks and Equipment. The Maintenance and Repair budget line (DA5130.4) is almost depleted. I am requesting \$20,000 be transferred over from the General Repairs Payroll budget line (DA5110.1) to cover further repairs, including the repairs needed for the 1983 OshKosh plow truck. I would also like permission from the Town Board to proceed with the necessary repairs to the 1983 OshKosh. We can have the transfer case rebuilt for less than \$6500 and a replacement rear end complete will cost \$2500 or less.
3. **1987 OshKosh:** I had the opportunity to locate some used plow trucks that I thought were worth looking at. I looked at five (5) trucks and the one best suited for our needs and was in the best condition is a 1987 OshKosh. The truck has been partially reconditioned. It has 60,000 miles and also an automatic transmission. The price for the truck with a plow, wing, stainless steel sander and to finish reconditioning the chassis is under \$33,000. If the Town Board has any interest I can do a more thorough inspection of the truck? I feel this is a good truck and it is built heavier than the one we have making it more suitable for our heavy snowstorms.
4. **Medium Duty Truck Specs:** The bid notice, bid forms and specifications are ready to be sent out. What bid opening date and time would the Town Board like to put on the bid documents?
5. **Part Time Employee:** I would like to hire a part time employee by the end of this month. Should we advertise the position in the local papers? Since the TB is responsible for the rate of pay, what rate would you like to assign to this position?
6. **Reclassify Employee's:** I would like to reclassify two (2) employees according to the Union Agreement. When we are doing major repairs on trucks and equipment, the employee doing the work should be getting the mechanic's rate, which is \$0.40 more per hour, for the day. This would not be an everyday occurrence. Same goes for the Equipment Operator. According to the Union Agreement they should be getting \$0.40 more per hour. This rate would be for the day.

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7. **Employee Training:** Our attorney emailed me Tuesday (07-06-10) about getting additional information added to the training agreement with the Union. I forwarded his request to the Union President.
8. **Safety:** We are continuing our weekly safety meetings. Topics covered were; work zone traffic safety, trenching safety, Lyme disease and welding and cutting safety.
9. **On-Line Auction:** I will be forwarding information to the TB members this month regarding selling our used and outdated equipment ‘on-line’. There is a site that is used by a lot of municipalities including the Town of Colonie.
10. **Route 85:** I attended the monthly CDTC meeting on July 07, 2010 to petition for the repair of Route 85 in the Village of Rensselaerville. The CDTC is currently looking at rural projects for their next round of selection. They assured me that Route 85 would be looked at. They predict that the Federal Government is not going to increase highway spending until after the next Presidential Election since the easiest way to increase the highway fund is to raise gas prices \$0.05 per gallon and they don’t think that would be very popular right now.
11. **Park Committee’s:** As per Council Member Dorner’s request, I have received revised quotes from Copeland Coatings for the Rensselaerville and Preston Hollow Tennis Courts. It looks like there will be a \$1,790 savings between the two projects compared to last years quotes. I will forward the quotes onto the respective committee’s.
12. **I Want to Know:** If you have any branches or tree’s that have come down, potholes or washouts that need to be repaired, drainage issue’s or any other road condition you want to inform me about, please call our office so that we may take care of it. I do return phone calls.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Zeh
Highway Superintendent