

Town of Rensselaerville Highway Department
Monthly Town Board Report
August 12, 2010

1. **Current Highway Dept. Work:** The highway department has placed by hand over 200 tons of asphalt in potholes throughout the town on numerous streets. At 2000 pounds per ton, that equates to almost ½ million pounds of blacktop. We are almost complete on placing asphalt in the larger areas with the grader (grader patch).

Pucker Street - We have completed the extensive ditching that was needed and also some on Schuesler Lane. The necessary tree, stump and limb removals have been completed. The next phase will be to update the culverts prior to placing the stone base material.

Pearson Road – We have excavated the areas in the blacktop that had fallen apart and placed additional stone base material which was then compacted. These areas will be paved after traffic has a chance to run on it and beat it down. This gives us a chance to watch the area and to make sure the problem has been corrected before it is paved. Once the area is paved we will be applying a single surface treatment of oil and stone to the road. Additional rip-rap stone (6” to 12” size) was placed on the slopes at the box culvert to stop the erosion that was occurring.

Our next move is to head over to Fleming Road, then up to Pond Hill and Camp Winsoki.
2. **Maintenance and Repairs:** Last month we spent \$3,437 on repairs of equipment and trucks. The transfer case for our 1983 Osh Kosh has been delivered to W&W in Selkirk.
3. **Medium Duty Truck Bids:** I have summarized the bid results from Tuesday nights (08/10) bid opening for the used medium duty truck. We only received seven bids out of almost fifty that were sent out. Also all the bids were for new trucks, nobody bid a used truck as we had hoped for. The low bid for a truck and dump body was \$44,848 by Vision Ford. The low bid for a complete truck with a plow and sander installed was \$60,439 by Egglefield Ford.
4. **Amended Highway Agreement:** I have amended the highway agreement which shows Siebert Road as the alternate road to be improved this year.
5. **Equipment Rental:** I would like to rent an asphalt paver for one to two months to place the stone base material on our roads that are being improved this year. I had figured on subbing this operation out in my highway budget, but I feel confident we can do this ourselves and save money. The advantage of using a paver is that you are only handling the material one time which keeps it from unraveling and you don’t end up with all the loose stones on top. It is also placed at the proper thickness, width and cross slope in that one pass. Another benefit would be less wear and tear on our aging equipment. It is also a safer operation for the traveling public and our workers since you are always going forward and not continually back and forth like you would do with a dozer or grader.
6. **Part Time Employee:** I would hope the Town Board would honor my decision to hire the individual presented before you to fill the part time employee position. This would be dependent of course on a positive license and background check.
7. **Utilization Report:** Before you is a report for the months of May, June and July for the rented excavator. We are currently using the machine at an 87% utilization rate.

(continued)

8. **Park Tennis Courts:** I have been assisting the Preston Hollow and Rensselaerville Park Committee's with their tennis court revitalization projects and can report for them that Preston Hollow's court is either complete or close to it and the asphalt patching in Rensselaerville has been done. Copeland Coatings tells me they should be at Rensselaerville in about a week.
9. **Safety:** We are continuing our weekly safety meetings. Some of the topics covered were West Nile virus, Tree trimming and removal, Tree work fatality injury facts and Using hydraulic and pneumatic tools safely.
10. **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 (797-3798 or 239-4225) so that we may take care of it. I do return phone calls.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Zeh
Highway Superintendent