

Highway Report

Meeting topics:

1. We have had many small breakdowns and a couple more serious breakdowns this month including, broken teeth in the rear drive axle of one ten wheeler. the conveyor chain, sprockets and axel broke in another, and had to have much of the bed chain replaced as it was bent from sand freezing in the spreader. We are doing all repairs "in house" to save labor cost.
2. Hydraulic hoses burst and hydraulic rams fail causing plow trucks to return to the garage for repairs, unable to lift plows or spread sand. Thus causing delayed plowing
3. We had a head plow damaged due to people pushing snow across the road, (a violation of NYS law), and not clearing the trails which froze down causing the head plow to cut into the road surface and consequently bent the plow frame so bad it would not scrape snow. The plow frame will be cut apart to allow it to relax and be plated and welded back together. This will take about 16 hours to do properly. The road surface will have to wait till spring for repairs. Most of our plows are much older than the trucks that push them, and are in need of updating.
4. The propane garage heaters are being repaired as all 4 units failed during the cold snap we had recently. This caused one truck to not start and 3 trucks had frozen sand in the spreader before they started plowing. I can't stress how important it is to have heat in the "Truck Barn". I had to find the parts on Amazon to fix them as they are no longer in production. The units must be taken down to install the new parts and we have only two heaters running at the time of this meeting. We have installed a nylon strap to act as a seal on the bottom of one overhead door to mitigate the amount of air blowing in under the damaged door. Both of our buildings need extensive amounts of work and should be prioritized as they are both heated and not efficient.
5. Our sand pile is very low. We will need to haul sand as soon as the weather permits. Not having a covered sand pile and a very cold winter has led to large chunks of sand that are not usable until very late in the season. I will be looking into possible grant to help with getting a fabric building for sand storage. More on that later.
6. Last , I would like to announce that the Town of Coventry and the Highway Dept. crew, were recognized in a "state wide" publication of Superintendents Profile magazine. I would ask that it be placed on the Town website under the highway department section for all constituents to read and learn a little more about what has been accomplished here in our community.

Town Board Meeting Feb 12th 2025 7:00pm.

