

Highway Department Division of the DPW Department, Q2 FY2019 Report

October FY2019

This was the beginning of my employment in the town of Templeton. The first project I was involved in was the collapse of a portion of Pailfactory Road. The shoulder was stabilized and the swale was re-established. Highway department manpower and equipment were used and saved money as opposed to using Chapter 90 funding. Another major problem faced was on Hubbardston Road where water runoff through private property caused erosion to the road, undermining the pavement. A swale was established to defer water from the road. Cold patch was added to keep the surface together and smooth for traffic.

There was a lot of cold & hot patching done throughout town with a hot top application done on Royalston Rd. A cross culvert was excavated and replaced in the area of Royalston road as well. Royalston Rd continues to move forward for the State TIP list and will hopefully make it in the fiscal year 2021.

A review of RED LINED vehicles revealed, H35, will be replaced with the new F550 arriving approximately mid February. M11, the catch basin truck is not operational and has been taken out of service. The feeling is it should be replaced to allow the Highway department to clean catch basins after the winter season. H10, the department pickup truck is rusted beyond repair and we hope to replace it if a surplus vehicle becomes available from another department. H1, the former director's vehicle is in need of major repairs and cost wise not recommended to stay in the fleet.

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Some Baystate scholar classes have been attended and Playground safety classes are scheduled for February. There is a lot to learn about the town but with my excavating knowledge, the experience over the years and the support of a well

balanced crew, in time I will have a handle on all aspects of the DPW function as is required. The driveway permit was re-written to encompass some details that are important for the public to be aware of.

Snow fighting equipment was inspected and the preparation for the upcoming winter season. Each large truck, loader/excavator will have a safety inspection book. The operator will be responsible to inspect their vehicles prior to beginning the day's projects and also to report any defect or concern in writing. The first storm was successfully addressed and allowed an insight to changes that will improve the way in which storms will be handled in the future.

The interior office space was changed to greet the public when applying for permits and such. A break room was added to an area up stairs to allow for a space for daily updates on projects. I am working on bigger improvements for next year.

A used catch basin truck was offered by a local company at a very reasonable cost. The select board approved the purchase as it will enable us to keep catch basins and drop inlets clear of debris.

December FY2019

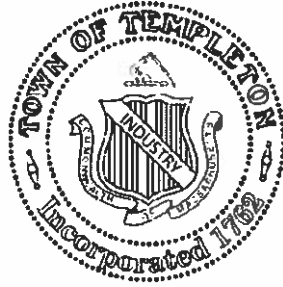
Issues where as residents were discharging water into the roadway was addressed and options were discussed with them to educate them on water discharge. Discharging water into a roadway is in violation of town bylaw XXVIII section 3, and can create a very dangerous situation in the winter months.

I have begun to attend MPO meetings to become more informed of road projects as they move closer to being added to the TIP list.

An area of our salt shed was rebuilt as it had degraded from years of use. I have learned that maintenance has been required on this structure many times over the years, which have propelled me to more aggressively look into going to straight salt that will be dispensed out of regulated shed.

Stone Bridge is carefully being engineered to both improve the structure as well as keep it historically appealing. Stone bridge is an historic site that was established to connect Templeton to Phillipston.

At the new police station, the DPW assisted in the excavating for the new in ground 1000 gallon propane tank in order to keep the cost down. The DPW took on the project of excavating for the tank and pad, then backfilled and dug the trench for the supply line.



Building and Grounds Division of the DPW Department, Q2 FY2019 Report

October

The introduction of the new John Deere tractor has been completed and will be retrofitted for the infield groomer. It is exciting to know that the infield grooming can be completed in a much faster manner. Service of all tractors was discussed with the staff and a reasonable plan for continued maintenance agreed to.

Buildings and grounds , Burials and cemetery, familiarizing myself with all of the properties and the maintenance required is a task but thanks to a highly knowledgeable staff, they have has enabled me to ease into the new position rather seamlessly. The cemetery basics are something I bring with me but logistics in each town is different.

November

Documentation was created to more easily keep track of lot purchases of burial lots and to also assist in information on funerals. It seems as though the cemetery department has a good idea of what to do but records are most important and an effort to preserve that information is critical.

A review and tour of all town buildings will be necessary to properly have an idea of what changes and maintenance are needed; for instance, the heat supply for each building in terms of type of fuel, and efficiency.

Projects that were initiated prior to my being hired have been completed. These projects include the roof on the highway addition and the roof on the porch of the Baldwinville fire department. Also a new boiler was added to the EMD building.

I have continued research into achieving ADA compliance in many more aspects of the town buildings. A quote has been received to replace the rear doors at town hall.

The B & G staff assisted the tree decorating committee in hanging the lights on the trees on the 4 town commons. The Light and Water department assisted with the higher trees.

December

Many trees in both cemeteries were evaluated this year for removal due falling limbs and threat of falling completely. The highway division was able to help in some ways but most of the large pine trees were handled by an outside source.

Scout hall projects are under way as Julie and I have teamed up to get the projects back on track. Selectman Julie Richards acquired funding from grants to bring the building back to life. Once a very active place for residents, it had fallen to disrepair and needed some TLC to become a place for meetings and the like. The scout hall committee meets regularly to plan steps and spends much of their own personal time doing demolition, cleaning and repairs.

Cemetery meetings are scheduled monthly for the 2nd Tuesday of the month and public attendance is encouraged. There is a lot of history in the cemeteries around town, including the burial ground at Templeton center. The tombs have been restored thanks to the efforts of former director Alan Mayo. The history of those burials dates back to the mid 1800's.

A review of services provided to public buildings and areas in the play grounds and at Gilman Waite field have been evaluated and some can be stream lined to make things more efficient.

Gilman Waite field continues to grow and the recreation committee is very eager to introduce new ideas and opportunities. With the help of many volunteers the building has evolved and is closer to being done. Although there are still many projects still need to be completed before the building can become accessible to the public.