

**ROAD WORK SESSION  
HARRIS TOWN BOARD  
Wednesday, June 3, 2009, 7:30pm**

The Harris Town Board met on Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at the Harris Township Service Center for a road session. The following Officers of the Board were present: Supervisors Gary Rosato, Dennis Kortekaas and Larry Key, Treasurer Peg Bishop and Clerk Michele Smith. Absent: none.

Also in attendance: Julie Kennedy, Township Engineer from SEH

***The purposes of tonight's meeting were:***

- Review the completed road assessment report, derived from road inspections performed by the Board of Supervisors
- Discuss possible road projects (gravel and paved) for 2009 and 2010
- Discuss road project priorities - based on need, feasibility, and budgets (for 2009 and 2010)

**GRAVEL ROADS:**

The budget for 2009 for gravel roads is \$15,000.00. After much discussion, **it was agreed that 4" of compacted gravel should be added to the following roads:**

1. Wagon Wheel
2. Root Road
3. Bear Creek
4. Forest View
5. River Ridge
6. River View
7. Norway
8. Wendigo Heights Road
9. Hauser Road (TBD – depends on the cost)

The Board agreed with Julie's recommendation to strive to routinely adding gravel to unpaved roads every 3 years. The list above would be 1/3 of the township's gravel roads (there are currently 24), that are in the most dire need of additional gravel. In 2010, another 1/3 will have gravel added, and in 2011 the last 1/3. Julie will add a "gravel last added" column to the road prioritization report, to keep record of this. Larry will review the current road files and see if he can determine when gravel was last added to our roads.

The Board approved that Julie get prices for adding gravel to all of the above proposed roads, with the exception of Wagon Wheel, where a gravel project has already been started. Julie will bring the pricing to the June Regular meeting on June 10, 2009;

Based on the cost of gravel used on Wagon Wheel, and a very rough estimate of tonnage for use on the other roads, Julie calculated that we may come in very close to the budget line item for gravel – or \$15,000.

**Other gravel issues** discussed:

- The new Norway Road turnaround is in bad shape; Julie will go take a look at the road.
- Root Road was graded, but needs the culvert replaced ASAP; it's exposed and has a hole in it.
- Tolerick Road is bad in the spring
- Southwood is bad in the spring
- Pinecrest needs a turnaround
- The top "worst" roads, per the prioritization list were: Wagon Wheel, Bear Creek, Wendigo Heights, & Norway; all will have gravel added this year.

**PAVED ROADS:**

The budget amount for 2009, for major road repair, is \$140,000. We also will have an additional \$200,000 in the capital improvement fund at the end of 2009 for major road repair, with another \$100,000 levied for 2010. After much discussion, the following was the priority set for paved road projects:

1. Underwood Road turnaround (estimated to cost around \$130,000 )
2. Underwood Road - overlay from the Wendigo Park Road, westward to the end (depending on results of road core sampling; this road is in a wet area and it's hard to know how thick the bituminous is.)
3. Mishawaka Road – overlay, culvert "repair" and speed humps. This is a high volume road. From the boat landing to the township line is the area that's bad.

#### 4. Keyview – overlay

**The Board approved that Julie have Braun do core samples of the Underwood Road to help reveal what the make up is of the road base is.** This will help determine the best method of repair, and the related costs.

#### **Other paved road issues** discussed:

- Melody Road – the edge is breaking off near Friezen’s hill due to wash out. This was a major concern as Julie said the whole hill could wash out if they don’t determine why it’s happening. Julie will take a look at right away.
- The cost to reclaim a paved road, 24’ in width, and with an overlay and 2’ shouldering: \$31.50/foot or \$166,320 per mile. The area of Underwood Road being considered for repair is ¾ of a mile long. It was redone about 18-19 years ago, per Rosato.

#### **STRIPING:**

We budgeted \$1,000 for striping in 2009. Last year we spent \$7,222 but did some long roads: Sunny Beach Road, Southwood Road and the newly repaired portion of the Wendigo Park Road.

In 2009, the Board would like to stripe the following roads, depending on price:

- Isleview
- Birch
- Mishawaka Shores
- Wendigo Park Road – other ½ (from Underwood Road, north)
- Sunny Beach Road, from 67 to and including Roman’s road (the loop)
- Gary Road

Supervisor Rosato will talk to Jeff Davies from the City of Grand Rapids Public Works Department, as he’d suggested we work together on striping. Davies thought we could get a better deal on pricing if we combine with them for a contract.

Julie will add a column to the prioritization report, and the inspection sheets, to mark if striping is needed.

#### **OTHER ROAD ITEMS DISCUSSED:**

- Supervisor Rosato spoke to Jeff Davies about a form of pothole repair that the City Public Works crew uses, where they inject some form of fill/sealant. He was not sure if it was just for pot holes or if crack filling was also done by the same method. The Board wondered if this is something the township could use. Rosato will talk to Davies about it more and report back to the board.
- Brad Timm, resident of Sunny Beach Road, is putting in a horseshoe driveway and had requested a culvert. Supervisor Key met with Timm and noticed that he does not have a culvert in his current driveway, but that there has never been a water problem because of it. Because residents are, by township policy, entitled to one culvert per home driveway, Key recommended giving Timm a culvert for the new portion of his driveway, since he didn’t have any. The Board agreed this would be acceptable. Lease Landscaping will be putting in the drive way.

The work session ended at approximately 9:45pm

Respectfully submitted

Michele Smith, Clerk