

HIGHWAY REPORT

January 2013

In my first report as Highway Superintendent, I would like to mention the impressive work ethic and willingness to give the new guy a chance that the crew of Bob, Todd, and Jamie has shown me this first week. We have remedied a preexisting septic issue, have made appropriate repairs and have gotten the three plow trucks ready for inspection. Dead trees have been removed from Hilltop, Elshon and Gallatinville roads. Also the new propane tank has been installed at the highway garage. I have enjoyed my visits from Jeff Galm, Tom Garrick, and John Patterson and appreciate the opportunity to run some of my ideas for the future past them. I feel it is important for me to especially thank our town clerk Lisa De Leeuw for the extra time and help she has given me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Gomm

Highway Report

February 2013

The Highway Department this month handled four snow events, one snow storm and hauled in 350 ton of ice control Grit. After proper repairs were made to the town equipment, we are now current on our New York state inspections. The crew erected shelving for the town court building and applied a fresh coat of paint to the office, break room, and bathroom at the town garage.

With the cooperation from the Germantown, Taconic Hills, and Pine Plains school districts, the Highway Department is now notified 2 hours prior to an unscheduled early dismissal so we can take appropriate action to assure safe passage on Gallatin roads for their ride home.

I am currently compiling Quotes for a 1 ton, 6 wheeled dump with a plow and hopper. This truck is to replace a 1991 International. I plan to have prices for the Boards consideration for the March meeting.

Respectively submitted,

Jack Gomm

Highway Report

March 2013

The milder weather gave the highway department the opportunity to put in 7 days of cutting brush. We also handled 4 snow events and 1 snow storm. We replaced all the wing cables and hardware on two of our older plow trucks along with replacing one front spring on truck #8. The bed chain motor and the spinner motor and bearings have been replaced on the pick-up's sander.

We have received 7 bid proposals for a 2013 1 ton truck with 4 wheel drive, an aluminum dump body, a 2.5 yard poly sander and a 9ft stainless plow. This is to replace a '91 international. I intend the service life of the new truck to be 15 years.

I am recommending the purchase of a Chevrolet from Joe Basil Chevrolet in Cheektowaga New York. Their bid for a complete truck delivered is \$54,757. This price is higher than the lowest bid of West Herr Ford in Hamburg N.Y. by \$1,499. I feel that the longer drive train warranty, the lower working height and the proven track record of the Duramax diesel motor and the Allison transmission in the Chevrolet makes it a better value for the town. The ordering date for this truck is March 20th for the 2013 model year. The 2014 model year is estimated by both dealers to increase 4-6%. I would appreciate a vote on this truck at tonight's meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jack Gomm

HIGHWAY REPORT

APRIL 2013

The Highway Department handled 2 snow storms and 1 snow event. We have cut down dead trees and cut back brush on Skiba road. We have replaced a 12" x 20' culvert pipe on Camp road along with cleaning ditches on Camp, Church, Tinker Hill and Mill Hill. We have started our spring sweeping and have about 20 miles complete.

The one ton dump truck that was approved at the March meeting was ordered on March 15 with a delivery date to be around mid-June.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Gomm

HIGHWAY REPORT

MAY 2013

The Highway Department has continued sweeping roads, and has hauled scrap iron away for recycling. We have done extensive ditch work on Doodle Town, Klein, New Forge, and Old Route 82. We have also done brush and tree work on Beaver Road.

Our Chips allocation for this year is \$102,127. That is up \$22,000 from last year. I am recommending work to be done on a portion of Beaver Road as a part of our Chips project. The East section of Beaver Road between County Route 2 and Camp Road is in poor condition. I am recommending total reclamation followed by a two inch thick coat of black top.

Reclamation is a process that grinds up the existing oil and stone and mixes it with a stabilizer where it is then graded and rolled to form a good base for black topping. The finished cost of this process is approximately \$84,000. Both the reclamation and blacktopping are under the county bid, and with Board approval, I hope to have this project finished before school starts in September.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Gomm

Highway Report

June 2013

The highway department has started replacing missing, damaged and non-compliant road name signs with new compliant high reflective signs.

We also started our road side mowing earlier than in years past so that we had one pass done on ninety percent of the roads by Memorial Day. We have replaced a culvert pipe across Doodletown Road along with continuing our cold patch and improving on ditches throughout the town.

I am recommending the replacement of the dump body on truck #8, our 1997 International. The engine, transmission and frame on this truck are in good shape, but the dump body is very rusty and I feel that replacing the body will add 7-10 years of service for the town. The body I am recommending is a Tenco combination dump body and sander body through Arrowhead Truck Equipment. We are able to "piggyback" the Oneida County bid for this body, the bid includes sand blasting and painting the frame and replacing all the original hydraulic hoses. The bid for this project is \$29,803.00 with board approval tonight the body can be ordered and would have a mid-October date for completion.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Gomm

Highway Report

July 2013

The Highway Department took delivery of the new Chevy 1-ton dump on June 21, 2013. We attended our annual OSHA training at the Columbia County Fair Grounds. We replaced culvert pipes on the east side of Beaver Road and have a tentative date of July 22, 2013 to begin the reclamation project. We began ditch work on Tinker Hill Road and were in the middle of our second round of roadside mowing when Mother Nature decided that we needed to focus our attention elsewhere.

On the afternoon of July 7, 2013, a thunderstorm that dumped upwards of 4 to 5 inches of rain in an hour and a half did considerable damage to the northern end of town. The crew was out past dark on Sunday cutting up trees and opening up clogged culverts where possible in an attempt to minimize road damage. Bob gave up vacation time and changed a doctor's appointment without being asked, because he knew we had a busy week ahead of us. This is just one example of the dedication and the work ethic that this crew has. I am currently compiling damage costs with the hope that FEMA will be involved with the repairing of our damaged roads. As repairs are being made, we are installing bigger culverts, wider ditches and placing Gabien stone in the ditches so that we are better prepared for such weather events as the storm last week.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Gomm

Highway Report

August 2013

Repairs to the damaged roads of the July 7th storm continue. After a meeting with Columbia County Town Superintendents on Wednesday, it appears that the three towns of Gallatin, Taghkanic, and Ancram will not receive FEMA assistance; although, final word has not arrived.

For part of our Chips allocation, Beaver Road was reclaimed on July 22nd and 23rd; and the paving was done on August 1st.

With the arrival of the new Chevy 1 ton Dump, I am recommending that we use Auctions International to sell the 1991 International Dump that the new truck is replacing. Auctions International is an online auction that used by Columbia County and several towns with good results.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Gomm

Highway Report

September 2013

The highway department has improved drainage along Kolzowski, Briggs, East Pond Lilly and Tinker Hill roads. We have put shoulders down and added a sixty foot swale along Beaver Road. We have hauled in modified item four to Tinker Hill road to improve its base in preparation for oil and stone.

On August 18th, an energy audit was performed on the town garage by National Grid. National Grid is offering a program to improve our lighting. This includes installation of new light fixtures in the main bay, office, break room, bathroom, upstairs storage room, outside lighting and outside lighting by the gas and diesel tanks. National Grid estimates the annual savings to be about two thousand dollars. They will pay approximately 40% of the total bill. There is a 24 month, a 12 month and a lump sum payment plan which saves 15% on our share of the bill. Under the lump sum payment plan our share of the cost is \$5,856.87.

The 1990 International that was offered through Auctions International received a high bid of \$7100.00. I am asking the town board's approval for the sale.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Gomm

Highway Report

October 2013

Our final roadside mowing has begun along with ditch work on Benton, Green Acres, West Pond Lilly, and East Lilly.

Oil and stone work was completed on Tinker Hill, portions of Gallatinville Road, and the town hall parking lot.

The 1990 International was purchased by Gary Goodell of Goodell Tree Service of Vestal New York. It was picked up on October 5th.

I am requesting the purchase of a power broom from Westchester Tractor for the 5525 John Deere tractor. The final cost of this unit is not to exceed \$13,500. The money is to come from DA 5110.1 of the highway budget.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lisa for her assistance with Auctions International, filing for the highway Chips reimbursement and work on the upcoming highway grants.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Gomm

10/9/13

Proposed Gallatin Road Projects
2014

Chips: Church Road

- Motopave from Milan Line for .7 miles
- 2 coats of oil and stone from end of Motopave to cul-de-sac

Doodle Town & Klein

- Single coat of oil and stone to tie in repairs from July 2013 storm

Kozlowski Road

(If Box Culvert grant is awarded)

- 2 coats of oil and stone over culvert pipes
- 1 coat of oil and stone from County Route 8 to end

Green Acres Road

- 1 coat of oil and stone from County Route 8 to Gold Road

Skiba Road

- 1 coat of oil and stone from Barnett and Near Road intersection to end

Near Road

- 1 coat of oil and stone from Barnett and Skiba intersection to 2012 Chips project

Barnet Road

- 1 coat of oil and stone from McNeil Road to Near and Skiba Road intersection

This is my list of projects proposed for 2014 and is contingent on:
1) Passing of 2014 Highway Budget as Proposed

2) No Natural Disasters

3) Grant Money for Kozlowski

HIGHWAY REPORT

NOVEMBER 2013

Final roadside mowing for the year is winding up, as well as getting our trucks ready for winter duties.

Blacktopping and shoulders were done on Doodletown and East Klein to finish up repairs from the July storm damage.

The new lights have been installed at the town garage and are a great improvement to the facility.

The power broom was put out to bid and Keil's Equipment was the lowest bid at \$10, 854, a savings of \$2,600 from the projected costs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Gomm

HIGHWAY REPORT

December 2013

The Highway Department has completed its road side mowing for the season along with removing dead trees from Wilmer, Gallatinville and Sigler Roads with assistance from Everhart tree service. We rented a bucket truck with an operator from Everhart to handle trees that were near power or telephone lines.

We have handled three snow events so far this season and have hauled in over 200 ton of road grit from Red Wing in Elizaville.

I am requesting the board to move the balance of the brush and weed line DA5140.1 to the machinery repair line DA5130.4.

An ad was placed in the Register Star to get applicants to fill the full time position vacated by Jamie Robinson. We had nine applicants, with the assistance of Fraiser Patterson and Jeff Galm, we interviewed the top four candidates. I have chosen Ethan Santos of Near Road, Gallatin, to fill the vacancy. Ethan has a clean Class B CDL and has experience with plowing and sanding, bucket truck work, welding, fabrication, as well as mechanical skills.

I am going to take this opportunity to personally thank Tom Garrick for all his help this past year. Working with a man who has an understanding of trucks, equipment and the need to keep them in good working order was a big help. When I first took over in January, there was a lot to do and decisions to be made on current equipment and the replacement of the old. I appreciate his support throughout the year and I wish him well.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Gomm