

Highway Committee Meeting
March 10, 2025, 8:00am
Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Don Smith, Ed Lentz

Vehicles/equipment: 09 FL: axle, driveshaft, spring repaired; broken leafspring; steering box cleaned and working but needs to be serviced/replaced before next winter; 21 Pickup - alternator and battery

Truck 18: rollover on Walters and Pardee; twisted frame; claim submitted to Gates-Cole; may be possible to repair or replace frame; meanwhile, contingency plans are in place in case we get another snow storm

Vehicle repair costs and mileage: no surprises; fuel usage by plow trucks are way up; fuel went from 4422 gals in 2024 to 10949 in 2025; cost went from \$3040 to \$7000

Highway Maintenance: nothing extraordinary; Nancy learned that DEC has a grant program to encourage switching to brine; we will look into this

2025 Budget: later in the year, and after we figure out what to do with the 2019 FL (Truck 18), we may need to reallocate funds from "reserves" to operational lines

Highway Garage:

Fire Alarm Monitoring: RFP has not gone out; Ed will send it out

Salt/Sand Shed: ceiling tiles removed

CHIPs:

Improvements, Bridges, Machinery:

Turnbull Rd Bridge: going to order the steel before Wednesday - get board approval for up to \$5K. include steel for interior wall

CH-14 Comms Tower: nothing to discuss at this time.

Draft Setback Law: ok w/ respect to highway matters but there is a question about why it requires a 50' boundary line setback as opposed to, e.g., a 25' setback

Policies - Handbook Sections 4-9: Hwy Cmt discussed revising the overtime section to provide that if overtime requests are made the night before (e.g., ≥8 hours before start time) ("Regular OT Request"), then OT start time is the requested start time but if requests are made with shorter notice ("Short Notice OT Request"), then OT start time is the time of the request; tardiness section can be revised to provide that an employee is tardy if he reports to work more than 45 minutes after a Short Notice OT Request

Personnel: Barry is retiring effective Sept 23.

Shared Services Agreement: nothing to discuss

Other Town Facilities: nothing to discuss

Property Improvements:

Coyote Hollow driveway permits: check for new culvert pipe was received; culvert will be installed by town at first opportunity

Resident Compliments/Concerns: nothing to discuss

NYS Legislative Highways Advocacy Day: Don attend both the press conference and lobby day

Other:

Highway Committee Meeting
February 10, 2025, 12:00pm
Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Don Smith, Ed Lentz

Vehicles/equipment: Routine maintenance

Vehicle repair costs and mileage: January repair costs (\$2.9K) are in line with/ previous three years (\$2.0K, \$0.5K, \$5.8K). Fuel consumption and costs are nearly double Jan 2024.

Highway Maintenance: snow and ice have been relentless making it difficult to keep up; salt inventory is low and is in short supply across NYS; overtime is way up; in general, our roads have been in good shape despite the unusual weather (especially in comparison to the last 5 or 6 years)

2025 Budget: we are likely going to have to amend the budget in the fall due to increased fuel, salt/sand and overtime costs
cost of new comms equipment on tower on CR16 are not in the budget

Highway Garage: humidity in storage half of building is worse than last year; we will talk to Bill Brown about possible solutions

Fire Alarm Monitoring: RFP was sent out

Salt/Sand Shed: nothing new

CHIPs: the "word on the street" is that the Governor is proposing to hold funding flat
Improvements, Bridges, Machinery: nothing to discuss

Turnbull Rd Bridge: nothing to discuss

Personnel: Julian Lentz has given verbal notice of resignation effective Feb 23; need board approval to hire PT MEO at \$20.00/h

Shared Services Agreement:

Other Town Facilities:

Property Improvements:

Coyote Hollow driveway permits:

Resident Compliments/Concerns: complaints of icy conditions on Gardnertown Road above Gilbert Lake Road and on Gilbert Lake Road north of the intersection with Gardnertown were discussed; we are doing the best we can with these road sections just like we are with all roads in the town. Request to pile plowed snow farther from driveway on Harrington Road was received; Don will consider what we can do.

Other:

NYS Legislative Highways Advocacy day: Mar 5: Don will try to attend

Comms Tower on CR16 is up; waiting for estimates on equipment and installation but likely to cost ~\$10K