

Highway Superintendent Report: 03/15/2022: Richard Meilleur

We have had another busy month maintaining winter roads. We have also used the Counties bucket truck to remove 4 large, dead maple trees that were in danger of falling into the road. All wood was cut up and put into the woodshed for next year's use.

The two street sweepers have been serviced and are ready for spring cleanup.

The Fuel oil Boiler has been serviced and repaired at a cost of less than \$700.00. We now have a back up heat source if the wood boiler goes down.

We have one truck down with major repairs needed. Approximately \$10,000.00 in parts. Twin turbos are both bad and charge air cooler needs to be replaced.

Also, side tilt box needs repair on two trucks one at the cost of \$2,200.00 for hinge pin assembly, the other box is beyond repair; it will work as dump box only. We will need to figure out options before next plow season.

I have got quotes on 3 plow trucks. I have also got finance option information. The only hard quote I could get was from International. As of this week the International truck if ordered now would be delivered in approximately 14-18 months.

Peterbilt and Western Star quotes were a lot higher with no guarantee on delivery time or price.

I have contacted USDA Rural Development about grants and financing; based on our median income and population in Russell we should get a \$30,000.00 to \$50,000.00 grant on the plow truck. There are a few things we need to do to make sure we are in compliance with NYS Municipal Finance Law.

All new capital equipment purchases we make are eligible for grant money; multiple purchases can be on one grant. We can get bonded locally by a bond council for \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00. There is \$12 million available to municipalities this fiscal year. All we have to do is apply to get our share.

I have contacted Bill Dashnaw about the grant process as he has helped several towns in the county with the grant application process. I would like to hire him at a cost of Approximately \$300.00 to help ensure we get the most grant funds available.

I would like to thank the men for another safe and productive month.