

## **Milton Department of Public Works – FY 2019 Annual Report**

The mission of the Milton Department of Public Works (DPW) is to steward Milton's infrastructure and environment by delivering efficient, effective, and equitable public services to all residents. Every Milton resident relies on the services provided by the DPW every day. We provide and deliver potable water, collect and treat wastewater, construct and maintain sidewalks, roads, and stormwater infrastructure. We plan and advance municipal capital improvement projects, and pursue federal and state grants in order to leverage Milton's local budget to obtain outside funding for local projects.

There have been a few staffing changes within the department. Ashley Jackson has joined the department as a Public Works Engineer, Steve Edgerly has joined our Water & Wastewater Division as a Water & Wastewater Operator, and Larry Underwood is our new Mechanic in the Highway Division. Additionally, Will Sanderson and Lindsey Beaudoin have left the department for other employment opportunities.

Danny Sweeney and Larry Blow have both reached the 5-year employment milestone with the department. Congratulations Danny and Larry!

The DPW consists of the following divisions: the Administrative Division (AD) and Engineering, the Water & Wastewater Division (W/WW), and the Highway Division (HD).

### **ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION & ENGINEERING**

The AD consists of David Allerton, P.E., Director of Public Works/Town Engineer, and Ashley Jackson, Public Works Engineer. Additionally, we receive administrative support from Sheila Wright Mooney in the Town Manager's Office. The AD is responsible for managing the Department of Public Works, including: capital projects, consulting engineers, contractors, and being the liaison with funding agencies; seeking state and federal grant funding opportunities; developing and managing annual budgets; overseeing the different DPW Divisions; reviewing and processing invoices to ensure projects remain on budget; responding to resident concerns; collaboration with other Town Departments on projects; etc. Additionally, we review and approve Highway Access Permits, Excess Weight Permits, projects under review by the Development Review Board and Planning & Zoning Office, and ensure we are meeting all State permit and reporting requirements.

This year, the AD obtained over \$570,000 in grants and subsidy for Town projects. These grants include: two Better Roads Grants for drainage improvements on Beebe Hill Road and Westford Road, a Lake Champlain Basin Program Grant for final design of stormwater improvements at the Highway Garage, a Grants-in-Aid Grant for ditching and drainage improvements on Kingsbury Crossing, a VTrans Structures Grant of the construction of East Road Bridge No. 6, and a VTrans Class 2 Paving Grant for Everest Road. Additionally, the Town received a 30% subsidy for the Lake Road Water Main Replacement Project through the Agency of Natural Resources Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, for moving the project through quickly and being ready to proceed.

The AD managed and completed the following projects: East Road Bridge Nos. 5 and 6 replacement project, Lake Road Culvert replacement, Steeplechase Lane high service water system hydropneumatic tank replacement, Westford Road high service water system hydropneumatic tank replacement, Bartlett Road reconstruction, replaced approximately ½-mile of 4-inch water main on Lake Road with a new 12-inch water main, obtained approval from the State of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources on a new Stormwater Management Plan, and completed a Stormwater Master Plan identifying projects around

town to help us reduce stormwater impacts to local creeks, the Lamoille River, and Lake Champlain. Additionally, we completed paving portions of Everest Road, Bear Trap Road, East Road, North Road, Lake Road, in addition to Quarry Lane and Cooper Road. We managed a pavement crack sealing project to extend the life of pavement in certain areas around town, and replaced some sections of guardrail. We worked with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission and the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District to have two stormwater murals painted on sidewalks in town.

The AD is working to advance the following projects: Hourglass Project, Route 7 Gap Project, Route 7 Streetscape Project, Cherry Street Sidewalk Project, projects from the recently approved Stormwater Master Plan, revising the DPW Specifications, the River Street Pressure Sustaining Valve Replacement, and the Beaverbrook (Flanders) Water and Sewer Evaluation. Additionally, we are working on a long term paving plan for the town, replacing guardrails, culverts, and repairing or replacing stormwater catch basins. There are many other projects on our list to do, including work on the Rollin Irish Road culvert and Mars Hollow Road (repairs required due to the Halloween 2019 rain event), Duffy Road culvert, and the Munson Hill slope failure and road repair.

### **WATER & WASTEWATER DIVISION**

Five full-time employees staff the W/WW Division. The W/WW Division operates and maintains approximately 35 miles of water mains, pumping stations, water reservoirs, and more than 300 fire hydrants and blow-offs, while serving almost 2,500 connections. Potable water is purchased through the Champlain Water District (CWD), and a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is published each year outlining water quality testing results. The CCR is available at the Milton Town Office, the Milton Town Website, or from CWD. Additionally, we operate and maintain approximately 15 miles of sewer collection mains, pump stations and the Milton Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF). The WWTF system serves approximately 1,000 connections.

Division staff are responsible for reading and repairing water meters, while the Town Finance and Town Clerk's Office provide billing and collections services. W/WW bills are issued quarterly, in January, April, July and October. Water main hydrants are flushed twice a year, in April and October.

W/WW worked on and completed the following projects this year:

1. Upgrades to the Steeplechase Lane and Westford Road high service water systems,
2. Lake Road water main replacement,
3. Cleaned Sludge Holding Tank No. 1 and replaced all aeration membranes,
4. Cleaned the wastewater effluent chambers,
5. Cleaned the septage receiving tank and added aerators for improved efficiency,
6. Cleaned all pump stations,
7. Upgraded the Maplewood Avenue lift station control panel,
8. Completed a comprehensive audit of W/WW billing,
9. Repaired and replaced approximately 60 water meters,
10. Responded to customers concerns of leaks and low water pressure, and
11. Continue to complete general maintenance on all W/WW systems.

If you have a W/WW problem, please contact us as soon as possible. If a resident needs to contact us after hours for a W/WW problem, please call Milton Dispatch at 893-2424; do not call 911.

## HIGHWAY DIVISION

The HD consists of eight full time staff. The HD is responsible for maintaining Milton's network of more than 100-miles of paved and gravel roads. This is a huge task, and includes maintenance of pavement, stormwater improvements to roadside ditches, culverts, catch basins, signage, and equipment. This year we purchased a replacement single axle dump truck, and a cold planer for our skid steer.

The HD accomplished the following work:

1. Completed ditching, drainage and road improvements to a section of Beebe Hill Road.
2. Repaired road base on Bear Trap Road prior to our pavement contractor paving the road.
3. Removed 330-feet of shoulder berm, and 1,300 feet of berm under guardrails.
4. Cleaned out 13,500-feet of ditching along town roads.
5. Cleaned 21 stormwater catch basins, and completed repairs on 5 catch basins.
6. Repaired and flushed out one 24-inch diameter drainage outfall.
7. Replaced 10 culverts for a total pipe length of almost 500 feet.
8. Put down approximately 130 tons of asphalt patching.
9. Completed the total reconstruction of Bartlett Road.

The HD continues to do the typical day-to-day duties of plowing the roads in the winter, performing roadside mowing and brush clearing, vehicle maintenance, responding to resident concerns and numerous other tasks. This past winter definitely put a strain on our salt budget, as we spent over \$230,000 on salt to keep our roads passable at safe speeds.

We look forward to continuing our service to the residents of Milton. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact us at 893-6655, or [dallerton@miltonvt.gov](mailto:dallerton@miltonvt.gov).

Respectfully Submitted,



David K. Allerton, P.E., Director of Public Works/Town Engineer