

Meeting with Portage County Highway Department (PCHD)
April 5, 2018

In Attendance: Chair Sharon Schwab, Supervisors Jim Yetter and Dale Winkler, PCHD Staff Jesse Rintala, Town resident Nathan Wolosek

Meeting began at 3:15 pm. Those present expressed concerns about the 30 ton weight limit on the culvert crossing immediately north of Buena Vista Road and CTH F intersection. The PCHD does NOT plan to replace these culverts in spite of estimated \$2,000,000 cost to reconstruct CTH F from CTH W north to STH 54. Per Mr. Rintala the additional cost to upgrade this crossing is \$500,000. He stated that the PCHD has received complaints about this decision from McCain Foods and a Plainfield Trucking representatives as this highway is heavily trafficked by both. Wolosek and Winkler both expressed concerns about the real possibility that T. Grant roads would be used in lieu of permitted travel on CTH F due to heavy loads. Rintala said that the weight limit might be raised to 35 or 40 tons due to new asphalt, but probably no higher. He suggested that we write a letter to the PCHD (with copies to Commissioner Nathan Check), and attend future meeting(s) currently scheduled for the first and third Tuesdays each month beginning at 4pm. However, due to the recent election the Highway Committee assignments have not been made nor is it certain that the meeting day/time will be retained. He suggested we check back at month's end as the assignments for the five positions should be made April 17, 2018.

Due to current weight limit above Schwab requests that PCHD refresh rumble strips at the intersection of CTH W and CTH U. Already semis traveling north from STH 73 are turning west on CTH W and traveling to that intersection. The strips are rapidly being smoothed out. .

PCHD has received a permit from Casey Jones, WNDR (former position held by Marc Hershfield) for a 60" squash pipe across the south end of Buena Vista Road and CTH F. The Town is requesting that we be informed when elevations are being shot, so that we may determine where best to install proposed culvert(s) crossing further to the east on Buena Vista Road and if proposed ditch "cleaning" both north and south of the road would be effective.

Because CTH F will be widened to a 30' drive surface a short approach may extend onto both surfaced and unsurfaced intersecting town roads. Those present asked Rintala to look at both Maple Road and Birch Avenue where 60 and 75' paved approached/aprons, respectively, had been added by the Town. They are both working out quite well, especially because grading operations now do not extend onto the county highway, increasing both safety and operating performance. The Town would like to work in cooperation with PCHD to request longer approaches on the following roads: Buena Vista (east side); Washington (west side); Grant (west side); Kellner Rd (east side); Lake (east side); Griffith (east & west sides); and Deer (west side) at a minimum.

Rintala wasn't sure how much money should be allocated in the 2018 town budget to accommodate the 110th Street culvert crossing currently on the bridge/culvert share cost agreement. Perhaps a good estimate is \$10,000 for this year?

In future years, both the new Tower Road bridge and culverts on Evergreen will be included on PCHD bridge inspections. However for 2018 the WiDOT will inspect them at no charge to the T. Grant.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Schwab

Sharon Schwab, Chair

Secretary pro tem

Approved 4-17-2018