

November saw the completion of our storm and sewer projects by Pratt & Sons. Everything is complete except the topsoil and seeding which will be completed in the spring. We did some extra work on East Bowden Street. When we started excavating for the sewer line, we noticed very little gravel under the roadway. Therefore we rebased the whole street with crushed aggregate and fabric before paving.

In the shop, we concentrated on prepping our trucks for the upcoming snow and ice. We have had two major storms to date with only minor equipment issues. With the ground being not frozen for both storms, we have caused a fair amount of shoulder and lawn damage. If you receive complaints of specific damage, let me know and advise them we will repair it in the spring.

We were able to find time to complete the sewer hook-up for the second service at Orion Rope. Everything is now online and the two old stations have been taken offline. The old pumps will be sold for scrap.

On November 19, I met with a representative from MDOT to discuss the upcoming paving project on the Augusta Road and Bay Street. It is scheduled to go out to bids around February 2015. This usually indicates that the project will commence in early summer. They did indicate that they would push it back to accommodate our proposed sewer work. Kennebec Water District also indicated a water main replacement project south of the connector in the spring. It was also indicated that they would not hold up the project to accommodate Summit Natural Gas. It appears they have had problems with Summit keeping to their proposed schedules.

As the council is aware, we have reached a tentative labor agreement with the Public Works and Fire Department employees. It will be nice to get this issue behind us. It has been a time consuming issue and at times has ruffled a few feathers among the employees.

Finally, Chief LaFountain and I have been working on designing and permitting a boat landing at our main pump station. This would give emergency services good access for launching boats on the Winslow side. The location is gated, paved, and plowed. A perfect location for our responders.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Paul E. Fongemie
Public Works Director