



# MEMORANDUM

To: Nederland Board of Trustees  
From: Jason Morrison  
Date: January 9, 2013  
Re: Staff Report -- Public Works

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## **Collections, Distribution, and Water Treatment Plant**

We continue to have problems with power surges, which have a negative effect on the water plant, tripping breakers, turning off pumps, etc. We are working with Xcel Energy each time this happens to correct the problems and protect the Town investment. We are also working with the manufactures of the smaller pumps to find out what they recommend for surge protection. Water meters have been attached to the three bleeder lines in Big Springs to monitor water usage while we prevent mains from freezing. Operators Chris Pelletier and Bill Bodkins have also made great strides in the ongoing process of consolidating and organizing the water plant and getting all of our supplies from some of the out buildings around town into the water plant for inventory and convenience.

## **Wastewater Treatment Plant**

The windows are going in at the new wastewater treatment building, and everyone is getting excited to start training on the operations soon. We have been having issues with grease and other foreign materials causing clogs at the influent building. Chris and Bill have come up with a make-shift jetter that can be hooked up to our compressor trailer so we do not have to call for a jet truck each time this happens. We will be working on a policy on grease disposal for local businesses that do not have grease traps and dump grease into the wastewater system. This is part of our voluntary compliance with the EPA's MS4 (sewer/storm water) regulations, many of which are educational in nature.

## **Streets and Drainage**

The Public Works crew is getting back into the groove of plowing and is looking forward to plow season this year. So far (knock on wood), we have been able to spend more time plowing than repairing vehicles. The new loader and plow seem to work well. One of the old trucks that was wrecked over the summer brought enough insurance money to put two plows on the new trucks. This makes plowing some of the smaller sections of town a lot easier and efficient. We still have the big trucks to sand and plow with, so this year we are starting the season with a solid fleet. We had 500 tons of sand delivered to the dream yard so we should not be short on sand this year, so all we need now is snow and the fun begins.

## **Side notes**

This year, Chris Pelletier came up with the idea to take all of our scrap metal and have it recycled and donate the money to the food bank. This brought \$1,000 for a donation just before Christmas.

Great idea, Chris, and thanks to Len Cole for donating his time and equipment to haul the steel to the recycler. Happy New Year.