

City of Berlin, NH

Office of the City Manager

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

3-6-2023



1. Last week was a very busy week for snow removal. There were storms for the majority of the week, ending with a 10" storm on Saturday. Staff was able to keep up with plowing and treatment – plowing times may have increased due to breakdowns and staffing. At present we have 6 loaders in service, the 7th will be back in service this week. We are down 2 laborer positions and one mechanic position, which makes repairs and snow removal take longer. We have also changed the way we apply cutting edges to the snowplows – in the past we fabricated and installed the cutting edge – now we order a heavy, hardened steel cutting edge that is fabricated and predrilled – the benefits being longevity of the cutting edge and labor to replace the edge. We are in the process of updating the edges, allowing all equipment to be in service and available for snow removal.
2. As stated earlier, we are down 2 laborers and 1 mechanic. Extensive advertising has taken place and it appears that the requirement to have a commercial driver's license is an issue with applicants. Options are being considered where the CDL requirement could be amended to allow applicants who would like to work on solid waste pickup but lack a CDL could be hired. As for the mechanic position we are not currently requiring a CDL. We are also considering some type of training program for CDL drivers – scheduling and cost are some concerns with this program.
3. It appears that the winter parking arrangement on Jericho Road is working at this time. This office has heard no complaints to date.
4. Information regarding the road condition analysis is being compiled and will be ready for presentation at the next meeting.