

Royalton Township Board of Supervisors Road Inspection Minutes
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24 April 2023
Unapproved

The annual road inspection began at 11:45 a.m., Monday, 24 April 2023, with Chair Marshall Pearson, Supervisor Jeff Schlaeger, Supervisor John Graham, Road Superintendent Dan Saumer, and Clerk Duane Swanson participating. Notice of this inspection had been published and posted according to law.

Using the attached spreadsheet, originally drafted by Road Superintendent Saumer, the delegation toured each of the 27.0 miles of township roads (with the exception of Snake River Drive). Supervisor Schlaeger drove, starting with an odometer reading of 29,479. The main purpose of the road inspection was to review the roads for which the township is responsible. Special attention was paid to the condition and need for culverts, ditching, brushing, tree removal, and graveling. Especially significant during this year's inspection was an analysis of the damage to the roads and culverts caused by the recent rapid snow melt and attendant flooding. The inspection also included a review of properties that had potential zoning issues, particularly excessive amounts of disabled vehicles, garbage, or those that had exhibited previous issues. All roads, regardless of jurisdictional oversight, were reviewed for the zoning concerns.

The attached road notes delineate extended issues regarding specific roads. In general, it was determined that no brushing would be done in 2023, continuing the every other year cycle that has been in place for several years. Roads requiring graveling, or on schedule to be graveled in 2023, are Eagle Lane, Robin Drive, Buffalo Road (light coating), Grasston Court (light coating), Crestview Lane (light coating), Cabin Drive, Carlson Lane, Frost Drive, Acorn Drive (on turnaround) and Mystic Dove Drive. Spot graveling was recommended for the low spots on Pine Bough Road and Raspberry Road south. In addition, insertion of rock covered with gravel was recommended for frostboil spots on Apple Road, Church Road, Butterfly Road, and Homer Road. Extensive study was done of Bluebell Road, especially considering the washout of a major portion of that road. Preliminary conclusions support the insertion of two additional culverts across the road and leaving one existing culvert in the area breached, covering the emergency rock with a small layer of gravel, and after the road dries out reconsidering longer-range alternatives. Raspberry Road north also experienced washouts; the inspection team recommended insertion of a new culvert across the road plus a driveway culvert across Mike Saumer's driveway. Extensive ditching is needed on both sides of the road. On Church Road, it was recommended that an existing field driveway be removed from the east side and a new

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culvert installed further south. Supervisor Graham distributed hydrological studies for Raspberry north and Church roads. An additional culvert on Eagle Lane will be needed. Additional road issues include: Fixing the culvert apron on Bear Claw Drive, measure the distance of Sage Drive to determine the end of the township responsibility, and re-measure Clover Lane to determine the extent of township responsibility, studying the feasibility of reducing the curves in Crestview Lane, and encouraging the replacement of a mailbox on 540th to permit easier snowplow and grader access.

Additional tree cutting opportunities were noted on Royalton Road North (east and west sides), Royal Heights Lane, and Timber Drive (west end).

During the road inspection, Clerk Swanson noted properties that had special assessments levied against them or that currently were in violation of the town's septic codes. Members questioned if building permits had been issued for numerous properties. Several properties were found to have more abandoned or junked vehicles than permitted by the town's ordinances. These issues will be reviewed by the board after codification and study by the office.

At 3:45 p.m., the road inspection concluded, with Supervisor Schlaeger's odometer reading 29,573.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane P. Swanson, Clerk

Marshall Pearson, Chair/Supervisor

Jeff Schlaeger, Vice Chair/Supervisor

John Graham, Supervisor