

Town road damage can't be ignored

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Reimbursement for repairs on River Park Rd. likely to be pursued

Town of Saukville officials are poised for a fight over damage done to a 600-foot stretch of pavement on River Park Road.

Town Chairman Barb Jobs told the Town Board last month that the Ozaukee County Highway Department estimated it will cost \$13,000 to fix the pavement damaged when heavy farm equipment was hauled over the road.

Jobs was careful not to name the farmer or the hauler he hired to bring in the equipment, but said if the case goes to court the town could seek triple the cost in damages.

"It looks like this could very well end up in litigation. Our town roads aren't built to handle these large trucks," she told town supervisors.

The board also agreed to study its list of road project priorities to determine where funding from the state's Local Roads Improvement Program should be spent.

Approximately \$13,000 had been earmarked from the program for the reconstruction of Blueberry Road, with the town expected to pitch in \$25,000.

However, town officials have determined it will cost much more than \$38,000 to rebuild the road.

The state road money must be spent by 2015, so the town must decide where to spend the money or lose it.

Town supervisors also accepted the extension of the town's road maintenance contract with the Ozaukee County Highway Department through 2013.

Earlier in the year, town leaders from throughout the county opposed parts of a Guaranteed Work Partnership. Although the plan addressed a number of township concerns, such as the elimination of storage fees from the bills sent to the towns, officials balked at guaranteeing a minimum level of payment that would be made to the county.

While the details of the partnership plan are being resolved, the county asked that towns simply extend their current road maintenance agreement for six months.

With no revised plan offered yet and no town action, the current agreement runs through the rest of the year.