If it’s not one stinking problem, it’s another.

A sewer line on the east end of River Street on the south side of Brady backed up earlier this month and it took several hours over two days for workers to clear enough tree roots out of the pipe to allow wastewater to flow through.

The root issue is not likely isolated in the one line, said utility superintendant Troy Chestnutt, but that area is the most pressing.

“The thing is, it’s clay pipe,” Chestnutt told village trustees during their regular monthly meeting on Dec. 9. “I have a feeling if we don’t do something with it soon, we’re going to have bigger problems than tree roots.”

After having addressed the root issue in that area several times, Chestnutt said he believes at least part of that particular 300 feet of sewer line is collapsing and needs to be replaced from manhole to manhole.

Although the village has already accepted a bid from Johnson Service Co. of Kearney for closed-circuit televising of village sewer lines in the spring, trustees authorized Chestnutt to have the small portion of the system on River Street televised to see just how much damage is there.

The rest of the televising throughout the town will be done later in conjunction with ongoing studies necessary for addressing the sewer lagoon repairs mandated in 2009 by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality.

On a positive note in that area, Chestnutt said data collected from the lagoon flow meter during December shows a 24-hour average of 23,000 gallons of wastewater pumped from the village.

Trustee Jeff Miller said that's roughly a third of what engineers were originally projecting when an expanded lagoon area was suggested.

"That means we could possibly repair two or three of our existing cells instead of building more," Miller said.

In other village business, trustees:

agreed timing is now right for the remainder of a two-part crack-sealing project on the village's paved streets. Stulich Asphalt was previously awarded the bid and will do the work on Market Street.

accepted the lone sealed bid for the old pay loader from Jason Axthelm for $5,001.39. The minimum required was $5,000.

approved appointments to all village committees and boards, which remain the same as the previous year.

discussed and authorized three cost-saving measures suggested by clerk Pam Diehl. They include canceling a service contract with Orkin for spraying the Community Center, discontinuing printing of meeting minutes in the North Platte Telegraph and no longer mailing the Brady Blade to non-village customers. Total savings will be approximately $2,000 per year.

voted to purchase a laser printer to replace the current office copier/printer at a cost of $525.

decided to seek cost estimates on a grapple for the new pay loader with the intention of selling the loader on the village tractor. Chestnutt said the smaller tractor is not designed for the loader attachment and it would make more sense to have one on the pay loader. Quotes are expected for the next meeting.

conducted employee evaluations.