

## **RESOLUTION NO. 707**

### **A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THIS CITY'S SNOW AND ICE CONTROL POLICY DURING WINTER MONTHS, SPECIFICALLY DEFINED AS NOVEMBER THROUGH APRIL.**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF WEST BRANCH, IOWA, CEDAR COUNTY, AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, this policy and level of service are to be implemented within the amount of money budgeted for this service and as contained in this City's street budget and approved by the City Council, City of West Branch; and

WHEREAS, the clearance of snow or ice and maintenance of the City streets during the winter months is primarily for the benefit of the local residents of this city, each storm has individual characteristics and must be dealt with accordingly. The portion of the roadway improved for travel will have upon it snow and ice in compacted condition. These conditions may be continuous or they may be more concentrated on hills, curves and/or intersections. The City's existing snow removal equipment will be utilized for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of West Branch, Iowa, Cedar County, that the following snow removal policies are adopted:

#### **LEVEL OF SERVICES**

Clearance of snow or ice, sanding, salting and other maintenance respecting winter conditions shall be accomplished within the amount of money budgeted for this service and as practical. The entire width of that portion of the road improved for travel may not be cleared of snow, ice, compacted snow and ice or frost. Snow cleared from that part of the roadway improved for travel shall be placed on or in the adjacent shoulder, ditch or right-of-way. Snow can be expected to accumulate adjacent to the traveled portion to the extent that a motorist's sight distance to the left and right may be greatly reduced or impaired. The snow removed from intersections will be piled in its corners in piles of unequal height. The lines of sight, sight distance or visibility of motorists approaching these intersections may be greatly reduced or impaired. The City shall not be responsible for snow pushed or otherwise placed on the roadway or shoulders by others. Motorists shall drive their vehicles during these conditions with additional caution and watchfulness, especially in respect to the surface of the roadway and reduced or impaired visibility, and are advised to reduce their speed at least 50 percent per hour below that legally permitted or advised under normal conditions. In respect to roadways that have only one lane open, further extreme watchfulness and caution should be exercised by the motorist and their speed should not exceed 10 miles per hour. During these conditions, no additional warning or regulatory signs will be placed warning of impaired sight distances,

visibility at intersections, road blockages, one-lane conditions or that the road surface is slick or slippery, or what the advised speed should be: and

### **SEQUENCE OF SERVICE**

In the implementation of snow and ice removal and other maintenance of the City streets during the winter months, the Public Works Director shall select the actual sequence of roads to be cleared as provided for in this section of the resolution, and shall determine when drifting, wind velocity and additional snow or snowstorms require the snow removal equipment be removed from the roadway. The Street Superintendent's professional judgment shall prevail unless it is clearly erroneous.

1. The initial effort will be to get all routes open to one-lane traffic as soon as possible and/or practical.
2. After one-lane travel is possible, subsequent snow removal will be carried on during normal working hours.
3. The snow plows and spreaders will not normally be in operation between the hours of 8 p.m.-4 a.m. The trucks may be called off the road if snow and blowing reduces visibility to hazardous working conditions, in the professional judgment of the Street Superintendent or his delegated representative.
4. It is not the policy of the City to provide a "dry" pavement condition.
5. After roads have been plowed, as provided in this section, intersections, hills and curves may, but not necessarily, have placed on them, salt, sand or other abrasive. These intersections, hills and curves may not be re-sanded, re-salted or have other abrasives replaced on them between snowstorms.

There is no time limit after a snowstorm in which any of the above sequence of clearance, on paved or unpaved roads, shall take place.

### **PRIVATE DRIVES AND ALLEYS**

The City will not clear snow from private drives and alleys. Normal snow removal operations may result in snow being deposited in private drives and alleys. Snow from private drives and alleys shall not be placed on the roadway or shoulders.

### **MONITORING AND NOTIFICATION OF ICE/SNOW EVENTS**

During normal working hours, (6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday) the observations of the Public Works Director or employees, or police, may alert the first response for snow and ice removal.

During off duty hours, police officers may contact the Public Works Director or City Administrator regarding street conditions.

Police and public works personnel will monitor weather conditions when inclement weather is approaching. The use of weather reports from radios, TV, the Internet and National Weather Service broadcasts will be used concurrently with existing street condition reports to determine notification timing.

Notification of the application of the snow ordinance or of road condition reports will be made by the Public Works Director working in conjunction with the City Administrator and the Police Department.

Notification of the enactment of the emergency parking ban, snow emergence declarations and road closures will be made by the Public Works Director with the consultation of the City Administrator and Police Chief.

### **ANTI-ICING**

Prior to a precipitation event, the Supervisor may employ anti-icing operations. If frost, snow and/or ice is being forecasted and pavement temperatures are dropping at a rate they will reach freezing, one truck will be dispatched to apply salt brine to pavement at a rate of 30 gallons per lane mile. The operator will apply anti-icing materials to first priority streets only for efficiency.

### **MAILBOXES**

Mailboxes not installed in accordance with United States Postal Service specification and damaged during snow plowing operations will not be the responsibility of the City for reimbursement for repair or replacement. Each mailbox installation should be sufficiently solid to withstand snow-clearing efforts by the City. The City is only responsible to clear streets from curb to curb. It will be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner to clear snow around mailboxes to assure mail delivery by the United States Postal Service. In the event a City vehicle damages a properly installed mailbox, the City will install a new green-treated post and/or standard black mailbox. If the property owner desires a different mailbox, the City will reimburse up to \$50 toward replacement by the property owner.

### **LIMITATION OF SERVICE**

Notwithstanding anything else stated in this resolution, the policy and level of service provided for in this resolution shall not include the following, and the following services shall not be performed:

1. Sanding, salting or placing other abrasives upon the roadways that are slick, slippery and dangerous due to the formation of frost.
2. Sanding, salting or placing of other abrasives upon paved roadways due to freezing rain that occurs outside the City's usual working hours.
3. Placing additional warning or regulatory signs warning of impaired sight distances, visibility at intersections, road blockages, one-lane conditions or that the road surface is slick or slippery or what the advised speed should be; and

### **EMERGENCY**

The service or the level or sequence of service may be suspended during "emergency" conditions. An "emergency" condition shall be considered as one where loss of life is probable, where a serious injury has occurred or where extensive loss of property is imminent. These conditions should be verified through a physician's or Sheriff's office. The City will respond to all "emergency" conditions, either during or after a snowstorm.

Service or the level or sequence of service shall be further suspended in the event the Governor, by proclamation, implements the State Disaster Plan, or the West Branch City Council, by proclamation, implements the County Disaster Plan. If such occurs, the City personnel and equipment shall be immediately subject to the direction of the Governor or the Mayor of the West Branch City Council.

Passed and Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandy Hatfield, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ty Doermann, City Clerk