

RESOLUTION NO. 0824

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

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF SOLON, IOWA, JOHNSON 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 Solon; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility for providing snow and ice on Solon's 20 miles of streets and alleys rests with the Public Works Department. Snow and ice control is emergency work with the ultimate goal that City streets be cleared at any time of the day and night. This will be accomplished as efficiently and expeditiously as possible with the resources available to the City government.

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

INTRODUCTION

Due to the location of Solon, Iowa, snow, ice, or freezing rain can be expected between mid-November and mid-March each year. Snow and ice control is basically emergency work in which City streets must be cleared at any time of the day or night. Since snow and ice removal is considered an emergency service by the City of Solon, and the City of Solon shall undertake operations using the methods, resources, and equipment necessary to keep access to the City as open as possible during snow events.

SNOW EMERGENCY DECLARATION.

A snow emergency is defined as a special condition of a snowfall event requiring residents to move their vehicles off the city streets to accommodate emergency snow removal. A snow emergency declaration allows for the towing of vehicles from the city streets. A snow emergency is normally declared after a measurable snowfall of 4 inches or more; however, any amount of snow combined with ice, rain, and/or wind can also require a snow emergency to be declared. The Mayor, City Administrator or Public Works Director may declare a snow emergency. A snow emergency may be declared in advance of an anticipated storm, to start at a specific time; or a snow emergency may be declared anytime during or after a storm. A snow emergency will normally not last more than 24 hours past the end of the last snowfall. That a snow emergency has been declared will be

communicated to the public through mass media outlets as deemed appropriate by the Mayor, City Administrator, or Public Works Director.

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:

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 Director of Public Works' 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 10 p.m.-2 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 Director of Public Works, 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, ALLEYS and TRAILS

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

The City will clear snow from alleys after all paved street snow removal operations have been completed.

The City will clear snow from City trails after all other snow removal activities have been completed. City will not use sand, salt or other abrasives on trails and slick conditions may exist.

MONITORING AND NOTIFICATION OF ICE/SNOW EVENTS

During normal working hours, (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday) the observations of the Public Works Director or employees, or Johnson County Sherriff, may alert the first response for snow and ice removal.

The Director of Public Works 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 Mayor, City Administrator or the Public Works Director.

Notification of the enactment of the emergency parking ban, snow emergency declarations and road closures will be made by the Mayor, City Administrator or the Public Works Director. Announcements will be given to KCJJ AM 1630,

KCRG AM 1600 and TV9, KGAN TV2, KXIC FM 100.7, WMT AM 600, KHAK FM 98.1 and KRNA FM 94.1.

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.

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.

CEMETARIES

As requested by township personal for a burial event, the city will sand cemetery drives. Requests must be made during normal working hours.

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. 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 Solon 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 Solon City Council.

Passed and Approved this _____ day of _____, 2008.

Richard Jedlicka, Mayor

Attest:

Suzie Siddell, City Clerk

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