



## MEMO

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*"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."*

**TO:** Finance Committee

**FROM:** Paula Vandehey, Director of Public Works *PAV*

**DATE:** August 30, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Request to create a tiered fee system for the annual Street Snow Removal Assessments and approve rates for 2018/2019 winter season.

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### BACKGROUND

Attached is a copy of the Snow Removal Policy that was first approved by Council in 1990, and most recently updated by Council in 2017. This past year, the following questions were raised regarding this special assessment:

- **What is the concept behind the policy?** The idea is that these property owners are receiving a higher level of service than other property owners, and therefore, should pay for that additional service.
- **What streets are assessed?** The streets listed on the attached policy are assessed annually.
- **What properties are assessed?** All the properties along the streets listed in the policy except those zoned residentially. In 2017 there was a total of 617 parcels assessed.
- **Does the rate vary depending on how often the snow is removed from a particular street?** No.
- **What is the assessment rate?**
  - \$0.80 per lineal foot for streets per year
  - \$0.50 per lineal foot for alleys per year

This rate has not increased since 1990!!

- **Should the rate be different for streets that are a higher priority, and therefore snow removal occurs sooner along those streets (i.e. the downtown snow is removed before Wisconsin Avenue)?** The Finance Committee directed staff to establish a tiered system for their consideration.
- **What is the downside of eliminating this special assessment?** The downside would be the loss of the \$61,600 of revenue annually.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Based on inflation calculations, \$0.50 in 1990 has the same buying power as \$0.98 in 2018, and \$0.80 in 1990 has the same buying power as \$1.56 in 2018.

In a typical snow event, the snow from the downtown area is removed within the first 2 nights and the remaining areas are removed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> nights. The attached Policy shows a proposed 2-tiered fee system based on the removal of a typical snow event.

**Therefore, we recommend the following tiered rate fee system for the 2018/2019 winter season:**

**\$1.00 per front foot for alleys**

**\$1.50 per front foot for Tier 2 streets**

**\$2.00 per front foot for Tier 1 streets**

If approved, the revenue generated would be approximately \$132,900 which equates to about half of the average annual snow removal expenses for these streets.



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Council Approved: 2-1-2017

## CITY OF APPLETON SNOW REMOVAL POLICY

The following policy be adopted to be in effect until revised or superseded.

A. Snow shall be removed from the roadways and alleys according to the following list:

LOCATION	FROM	TO	CLASS
S. Allen Street	E. Lawrence Street	E. Kimball Street	A
N. & S. Appleton Street	W. Prospect Avenue	W. Pacific Street	A
E. & W. College Ave.	N. Drew Street	N. Story Street	A
N. Division Street	W. College Avenue	railroad tracks	A
N. & S. Durkee Street	s/o E. Lawrence Street	E. Franklin Street	A
W. Eighth Street (N/side)	S. Walnut Street	S. Elm Street	A
S. Elm Street	W. Eighth Street	W. Lawrence Street	A
E. & W. Harris Street	N. Morrison Street	N. Appleton Street	A
E. Johnston Street	N. Durkee Street	N. Morrison Street	A
E. Kimball Street	Morrison Street	S. Allen Street	A
E. & W. Lawrence Street	S. Morrison Street	S. Memorial Drive	A
S. Memorial Drive	Fox River	W. College Avenue	A 2
N. & S. Morrison Street	E. Lawrence Street	E. Franklin Street	A
N. Morrison Street	E. Franklin Street	E. Harris Street	A
S. Morrison Street	E. Lawrence Street	E. Kimball Street	A
S. Oneida Street	Olde Oneida Street	E. Roeland Avenue	A 2
S. Oneida Street	E. Lawrence Street	E. College Avenue	A
N. Oneida Street	s/o Washington Street	E. Pacific Street	A
N. Richmond Street	W. College Avenue	W. Marquette Street	A 2

LOCATION	FROM	TO	CLASS
N. Richmond Street	W. Marquette Street	W. Northland Avenue	A <b>2</b>
N. Richmond Street	W. Northland Avenue	Ridgeview Drive	A <b>2</b>
W. Sixth Street (N/side)	S. Walnut Street	S. Elm Street	A
Soldiers Square	S. Morrison Street	S. Oneida Street	A
N. & S. State Street	railroad tracks	W. Lawrence Street	A
N. & S. Superior Street	W. Lawrence Street	railroad tracks	A
N. & S. Walnut Street	W. Eighth Street	W. Johnston Street	A
E. & W. Washington St	N. Drew Street	N. Division Street	A
E. & W. Wisconsin Ave	Rankin Street	N. Badger Avenue	A <b>2</b>

The following are the charges for street snow removal:

**\$2.00 Tier 1**

**\$1.50** 80 cents per lineal foot with the following exceptions. **Tier 2**

**\$1.00** 50 cents per lineal foot for alleys.

- B. All other streets are removed based on need and staff availability. The priority 2 & 3 snow removal lists are on file at the Municipal Services Building.
- C. Snow Plowing and Removal from any City Parking Lot shall be charged to Parking Meter Account based upon actual cost.
- D. Where snow is removed at the election of the City, no charge shall be made for property zoned and used residentially.

**Proposed Tier 2**