

## Paula Vandehey

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**From:** Ahrens, Jody [Jody.Ahrens@Voith.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 09, 2013 3:28 PM  
**To:** Paula Vandehey  
**Subject:** Special assessment issue  
**Attachments:** Saplp000113050913390.pdf

Hello Ms. Vandehey,

I spoke with Mary in the DPW this afternoon regarding the special assessment charges for "snow removal", a copy of which is attached. She informed me that I need to make an appointment to go before the next committee meeting on 5/21 to discuss my concerns and that you could put me on the agenda. I would like to request that my name be added. Are there any time limitations I need to be aware of?

I was also told that I could see the photos taken at my residence for this "service". Do I need an appointment to do so or can I just come down to City Hall. Where would I go to view these and if you could provide a name of who I need to contact that would be greatly appreciated?

I would like to request copies of these photos.

I would also like to request a copy of the snow fall records Mary referred to that you have on file for the period of 3/19 (date of complaint) to 3/22 (date of service). Will these records also provide temperatures for that same period?

I also have a few questions regarding this assessment process.

- Is the tax payer not contacted by the city when a complaint is filed?
- Is the tax payer not given opportunity to correct the alleged problem before it comes to something like this?
- How may I see a copy of the breakdown of charges? \$87.40 for 5 minutes of work is excessive. The 5 minutes is based on the timestamp of before and after photos per Mary. I am not even sure how "snow removal" that warrants a complaint can even be accomplished in 5 minutes.
- Who is the contractor retained for this type of work?
- My neighbor was told that the first occurrence of something like this is treated as a courtesy and there would be no charge. Why was I not also granted that same consideration.
- Do the photos show the sidewalk on the west side of my home? The sidewalk with no drainage issues that is exposed to the sun.

I understand there is a need for this type of service for a negligent person but never have I nor will I ever fall into that category. I am an extremely responsible person and I go out of my way to do my civic duty. I clear the 2 street walkways and the fire hydrant. I have shoveled out the street walkways as many as 3 times in one day to keep them clear because of plowing and snowfall.

I am a single moderate income homeowner that tries very hard to maintain and slowly improve my property. In the 9 years I have owned this home I have done major improvements when I can afford to. \$87.40 may not seem like a great deal of money to some people but it is to me. I am already penalized tax wise for the maintenance of 2 city streets adjacent to my property and now something like this. I am so disappointed in the process and I strongly feel the need to express my concerns.

Thank you for your time and I would appreciate a timely response to my questions above so I may put together the proper info for the May 21st meeting.

Jody Ahrens  
833 W Lorain St.  
Appleton, WI 54914

Cell (920) 268-3233



03-22-13 10:42:23

833 W. Main Street

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03-22-13 10:48:04

833 W. Main Street

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# Sidewalk Snow Removal Appeals

ADDRESS	Official End of Storm	36 Hour Time	Contractor Cleared	Fee
30 Bellevue Place	10:00 PM, Wed. 1-30-2013	10:00 AM, Fri. 2-1-2013	2/5/2013	\$ 75.00
30 Bellevue Place	10:00 AM, Sat. 2-23-2013	10:00 PM, Sun. 2-24-2013	2/28/2013	\$ 75.00
903 W. Lorain Street	1:00 AM, Fri. 2-8-2013	1:00 PM, Sat. 2-9-2013	2/13/2013	\$ 87.40
804 E. South Street	10:00 AM, Sat. 2-23-2013	10:00 PM, Sun. 2-24-2013	2/26/2013	\$ 119.40
804 E. South Street	8:00 AM, Wed. 2-27-2013	8:00 PM, Thur. 2-28-2013	3/1/2013	\$ 119.40
2201 S. Schafer Street	2:00 AM, Tues. 3-19-2013	2:00 PM, Wed. 3-20-2013	3/23/2013	\$ 122.20
833 W. Lorain Street	2:00 AM, Tues. 3-19-2013	2:00 PM, Wed. 3-20-2013	3/22/2013	\$ 87.40

