

STREET COMMITTEE MEETING

January 5, 2016

A special meeting of the City of Jackson Street Committee was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 11:30 a.m. on January 5, 2016 with the following persons in attendance: Street Committee members Dave Cushman and Mike Handevitd, City Administrator Jennifer Bromeland, Street Superintendent George Tauer and Recording Secretary Dave Maschoff. (Street Committee member Donnie Schoenrock was absent.)

SNOW REMOVAL ISSUES IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA INVOLVING SOME BUSINESSES AND THEIR PRIVATE PARKING LOTS

Street Superintendent George Tauer explained there has been a lot of trouble this year with businesses pushing all their snow from their parking lots onto the street. He said he wanted to send the businesses a letter to remind them of the City's policies regarding snow removal. Tauer said he wanted to know if he would have the support of the Street Committee in sending a letter. He noted about two-thirds of the businesses in the downtown area have been pushing their snow off their parking lots into the street.

Cushman asked if removal of the snow from the sidewalks in the downtown area onto the street has been acceptable.

Tauer said it has been.

Bromeland provided Street Committee members a copy of a proposed letter to be sent to businesses regarding the City's rules pertaining to snow removal.

Tauer mentioned there have also been some problems with sidewalks not being shoveled in residential areas. He said reminders to residents could be added to the utility bills.

Tauer said it creates problems when businesses push the snow from their entire parking lot onto the streets. When that occurs, Tauer said taxpayers are paying for the businesses' snow removal.

Bromeland asked if some businesses would have the capability of hauling their snow away.

Tauer said if a business doesn't have their own capability to do so, there are contractors that can be hired to haul the snow away.

Cushman noted it hurts the local economy when local contractors don't have the opportunity of being hired to haul the snow away.

Cushman said he had no problem sending the proposed letter presented to the Street Committee to property owners in the downtown business district regarding the City's rules on snow removal. He asked if it would be helpful to sign the letter "by the Order of the City Council".

Bromeland said the letter could be signed "BY THE ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL".

Tauer noted that there are a lot of residential areas where the sidewalks have not been shoveled and snow from driveways is being pushed out onto the street. He said the Street Department plows the snow off the street again, but it causes repeat trips with the snowplow. Tauer said if a notice is sent to residents in the utility bills to explain the matter, he thinks the situation will be under control again. Tauer noted in the last few years, it's been getting worse and worse.

Bromeland said Mayor Walter has already talked with her about the downtown businesses. She said the Mayor said the City does not have to give the businesses notice because there is a clause in the City's ordinance that says it constitutes an emergency situation and is a hazard and if it's been 24 hours, abate the snow and bill them for removal. Bromeland said that's already being done.

Cushman suggested maybe sending a reminder every fall to businesses and residents about the City's rules regarding snow removal.

Tauer suggested also sending the letter regarding the City's snow removal policies to contractors that provide snow removal services.

Bromeland said the letter regarding the City's snow removal policies will be sent to businesses in the downtown area and a copy given to the City Council. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



David A. Maschoff, Recording Secretary