

Motion following Notice of Motion

Extended Months for Snow and Ice Clearing

THAT Administration prepare a report with a recommended plan for snow and ice clearing during the months of October through March in order to address the current weather patterns and snow trends; and that this report be presented for Council's consideration by the end of the third quarter of 2017.

Background

Councillor Bidzinski served Notice of Motion at the March 28, 2017 Council meeting, to be presented at the April 25, 2017 Council meeting.

While we are all very busy with a lot of planning at this time of year, I would like to suggest one aspect of our community that I have always felt needed a little more attention paid to, especially because our weather seems to have changed dramatically over the past number of years.

In the past we could always count on some cold weather in usually November, followed by cold and snow in December, January and February. March usually brought the start of a warming trend that led to spring and then summer. The last number of years has brought some whirlwind differences as we have experienced significant changes in our expectations of when we would be experiencing cold, snow and even rain. We have had cold when we did not expect it as well as warm weather in January with rain and sometimes a lot of snow and then a drop in to the minuses creating havoc with our street clearing and our surface water draining. Initially we thought these anomalies were just that, anomalies but as these have occurred more regularly over the years it has become apparent that these changes will be the norm as we had better plan for them in the future. I believe our residents need to understand that our past practices will no longer work to our advantage and that we need new and revised practices and procedures to deal with the inevitable changes that seem to be that norm. I believe it is not fair to our citizens to have to put up with the amount of aggravation they must endure because we develop lakes on some of our streets in January, February and March. There must be a plan to help our residents during this time. I do know our transportation department does their best and a good job in assisting those in need but sometimes it is not enough. I will be bringing this new planning idea as a councillor request during our next Council meeting. I believe we, with the amount of expertise we possess in this county through our staff, will come up with a solution.