

MEMORANDUM

TO: Debra Aylsworth, Public Works Director

FROM: Dennis Boswell, Street Superintendent

DATE: February 8, 2008

SUBJECT: Snow Event of January 31 – February 2, 2008

On the morning of January 31, 2008, the weather forecast was calling for snow beginning around 1 pm on Thursday January 31, 2008 and continuing until approximately 9 am Saturday morning, February 2, 2008. Because of this crews were split into twelve hour shifts. The night crew was told to report to work on Thursday at 7 pm and the day shift reported to work at 7 am that day.

The forecast was for light snow with an accumulation of 1 to 3 inches by Thursday evening with heavy accumulation totaling 5 to 8 inches overnight ending by 9 pm Friday morning.

Light snow began Thursday, January 31st around 11 AM and City trucks began spreading salt. By 1:30 pm enough snow had accumulated to plow so City trucks began plowing and contractors were called in at that time. Thoele's vehicles began arriving by 2 pm.

The snow continued to fall lightly with an accumulation of only 1 to 2 inches by 7 pm.

Because of the light accumulation and the likely need for contractors later in the early morning of Friday and throughout the day, contractors were called off at 8 pm to return at 2 AM when the heavier snowfall was expected. Thoele's vehicles, upon return, worked in their assigned residential zones, achieving the first pass on the streets. Once all streets received the first pass, Thoele's vehicles re-plowed to widen street passage, along with City crews.

The snowfall began to intensify between 1 and 2 am Friday to the point that salting operations were ceased to avoid wasting salt by plowing it off the streets. Plowing operations continued by City crews and contractors through the night with an additional accumulation of approximately 6 more inches of snow through the night until the heavy snow stopped around 6 am. A total accumulation of about 8 inches was received during the duration of this snow event.

It should be noted since the snow did not cease until approximately 6 am and, with the accumulation of the heavier snow in just a few hours, plows had to continuously re-plow Priority 1 and 2 streets until the snow stopped.

Contractors worked until 3 and 4 pm Friday until City crews with salting capabilities could move into the residential areas.

By 7 pm Friday most streets had been cleared curb to curb and parking lots were being cleared.

The night crew continued cleanup on residential streets from 7 pm until 3 am Saturday morning.

Throughout the day on Friday, the predominant phone calls received at the Street Division pertained to depositing snow in residents driveways as crews widened out the streets curb to curb. A few calls were from residents in cul-de-sacs and side streets wanting to know when we would be there or why we hadn't been there yet.

There were two calls received on Saturday to respond to streets that had been missed. When a truck was sent to these streets, two streets had been plowed and bare pavement was present in many areas. However, because of cars being parked on sides of the streets and some packed snow in spots on the streets from little traffic volume, it was assumed by the residents that the streets had not been treated.

In all, approximately 70 calls were received at the Street Division during the duration of this snow event. Of these seventy, about 20 were received over the weekend on voice mail concerning snow removal. Again, most of these calls were stating the streets had not been plowed when they had been. Because of the presence of some snow on the pavement residents assumed their streets had not been plowed.

During a meeting with the contractors, a few deficiencies were noted and efforts to correct these will be made during the next snow event.

As a whole, I believe the crews and contractors did an excellent job in clearing the excessive amount of snow received having basically all streets cleared within 12 to 18 hours.

Total costs for the storm:

City crew wages:	\$20,840.22
Salt Amount used: 1,021.38 tons	\$42,387.27
Calcium Chloride: None Used	
Fuel Costs:	\$5,180.95
<u>Contractor Costs</u>	<u>\$30,063.19</u>
TOTAL COSTS:	\$98,471.19

Overall the City has over 550 pavement lane miles to maintain in the City. Depending on the amount of snow accumulation, it takes 8 to 12 hours given the current level of equipment and staff to perform the first pass of all streets.