

11/3/08
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**TOWN OF ACTON
INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION**

Date: 10/15/08

To: Steve Ledoux, Town Manager

From: Engineering Department
Bruce M. Stamski, P.E., Town Engineer/Director of Public Works

Re: Private way plowing petitions 2008-2009 winter season

We anticipate receiving private way plowing petitions from the two private ways that participated in the program last year; Heron View and Wyndcliffe Drive. We may receive additional applications prior to the October 31 deadline. Private drives have to meet certain standards to be accepted into the program (i.e. have a turnaround for our plows).

To determine the fee to be charged we have calculated a cost per foot to plow and chemically treat our public roads on a per foot basis and applied that per foot cost to the private ways. Attached to this IDC is a cost analysis for this upcoming winter season. It is my recommendation that we raise the fee from \$1.50 per foot to \$1.85 per foot. We believe this rate is sufficient to cover the costs for plowing/treating the private ways for the upcoming winter. One of the conditions of the agreements is that "there may be additional charges reasonably assessed by the Town if conditions warrant."

The petitions received will be presented to the Selectmen at the 11/3/08 meeting. This memo is to present the anticipated increase in fees to you and the Selectmen prior to the hearing date.

PRIVATE WAY PLOWING COST ANALYSIS FOR 2008-2009

We charged \$1.50 per foot of private way last year. The charge was determined by calculating what it cost to plow/ chemically treat our 105 miles of public roads on a per foot basis.

Based on last years expenditures plus anticipated fuel increases

FY08 monies spent on snow and ice budget	\$573,962
¾ of the highway staff time for 4 months with benefits 789,674 x 4/12 x .75 x 1.4	\$276,386
Vehicles- 24 pieces of equipment average replacement cost \$75,000 10 year life 75% of 4 month use	\$ 45,000
Vehicle maintenance budget \$85093 x 4/12 x .75	\$ 21,273
Uniforms \$12,600 x 4/12 x .75	\$ 3,150
Fuel - diesel 27,200gal @ \$3.77 + gas 850gal @ 3.12	<u>\$105,196</u>
Total	\$1,024,967

Cost per foot $1,024,967 / 105/5280 = \$1.848$ per foot use **\$1.85/foot**

The two private ways that we plowed last year

		2007-2008	2008-2009
Heron View	478 feet	\$717.00	\$884.00
Wyndcliffe Drive	1250 feet	\$1875.00	\$2313.00