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November 2, 2016

Dear Sturgeon Bay Property Owner,

As you may be aware, the Sturgeon Bay Common Council discussed the clearing of snow from sidewalks in the downtown areas, defined as the area around 3rd Avenue and Madison Avenue after each 3" snowfall. For years, the City cleared a single five foot wide path from sidewalks on several blocks in these commercial areas. When Egg Harbor Road improvements were completed with the installation of sidewalks some businesses and homeowners requested to have their sidewalks included as part of the City's snow removal program which prompted us to review this process.

After researching our City records we have not been able to determine when or why this practice started. The City questioned other municipalities to see if they clear sidewalks for businesses. We received ten responses to the question, all of which stated they do not clear snow for sidewalks abutting private property in commercial areas since they are treated the same as residential properties. Like the practice in Sturgeon Bay, the responding communities indicated that if sidewalks are not cleared within a certain amount of time the city will hire a contractor or have a municipal employee clear the sidewalk and bill the property owner for this service.

This issue of clearing sidewalks in some areas and not others was brought before the City of Sturgeon Bay Community Protection and Service Committee for discussion and review on October 13, 2016. At this meeting it was recommended to the City of Sturgeon Bay Common Council to discontinue snow removal on sidewalks adjacent to private property.

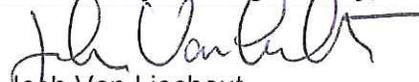
The City of Sturgeon Bay Common Council discussed this recommendation on November 1, 2016 and approved the Community Protection and Service Committee's recommendation. Effective immediately, the City of Sturgeon Bay will not be removing the snow from sidewalks adjacent to private property.

As in years past, the City will continue to pull snow from the curb lines when deemed necessary as well as enforce the snow removal and sidewalk clearing ordinance.

Attached is a drawing of what are the property owner's responsibility and a copy of our ordinance for your review.

If you should have any questions please contact the Municipal Services Office at 920-746-2912.

For the City of Sturgeon Bay,


Josh Van Lieshout
Administrator

Encl.