



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

October 21, 2013

To: Mayor and City Council Members
 From: Brian Kischnick, City Manger
 Subject: City Council Member Questions and Responses

I have discussed questions advanced by Mayor and Council with Staff, and responses are attached. Thank you for asking questions in advance of the meeting.

Subject: I-4 Winter Maintenance Agreement

Question:

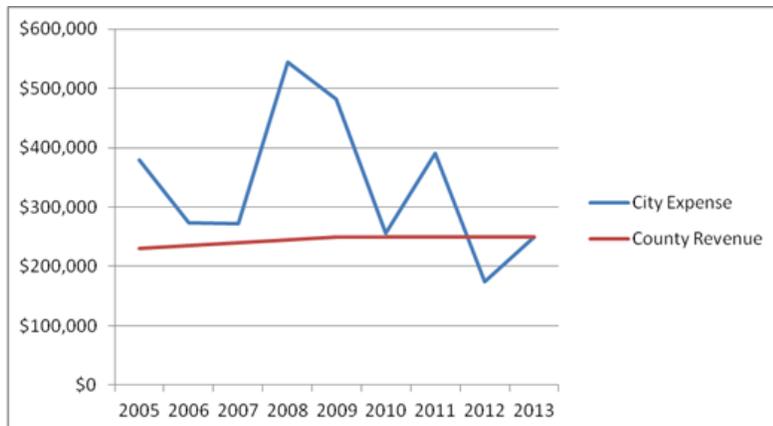
One thing was unclear in the detail of this item. On Exhibit A it shows the detail of what Oakland County is paying us to maintain these roads in the winter. What is our total cost to clear these specific roads. I am assuming the Oakland County funds do not cover the estimated costs in their entirety (I thought I read something in the Troy Times a few years ago, that it cost us much more than that).

Response:

From: Kurt Bovensiep, Superintendent of Parks, Streets and Drains

Here is a quick historical description of our expenses for snow and ice control on Oakland County roads compared to the revenue the county provides to us. Please let me know if you would like a more detailed response indicating expenses by category (personal services, salt, equipment). Also to be noted this year, we have a 18% decrease in the cost per ton for salt.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
City Expense	\$378,488	\$273,711	\$271,571	\$543,774	\$481,233	\$255,548	\$390,946	\$173,581	\$249,855
County Revenue	\$230,676	\$235,289	\$239,995	\$244,795	\$249,691	\$249,691	\$249,691	\$249,691	\$249,691
Difference	-\$147,812	-\$38,422	-\$31,576	-\$298,979	-\$231,541	-\$5,857	-\$141,255	\$76,111	-\$163



Subject: K-2a Pure Troy

Question:

I like this except that it doesn't really address the specific snow removal situation addressed by the group that initiated the conversation. What about the guy who has to push his snowblower past 4 homes, around the block, and past 4 homes again to get to his walk behind his home on Wattles? Any thoughts?

Response:

From: Brent Savidant, Director of Planning

Increasing the threshold for both time and snow depth provides more leniency for all Troy residents. This includes residents with "difficult to get to" parcels.

- Difficult=Difficult

Based on feedback from City Council, Staff spent a lot of time trying to determine a reasonable standard for "difficult sidewalks". We discovered that defining "difficult sidewalks" is in itself a difficult task. If more sidewalks are determined to be "difficult sidewalks", more linear feet of sidewalk will not be maintained by abutting residents. The City would then need to determine whether to leave the sidewalks covered in snow or assume the cost to maintain.

If the City chooses to clear snow and ice at City cost then that should be done outside the ordinance process.

For snow events of between 3" to 6" the cost is \$0.1205 per linear foot. Over 6" the cost is \$0.1656 per linear foot.

c: Mark Miller, Director of Economic and Community Development
Lori Grigg Bluhm, City Attorney
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