



To: Dylan Mulfinger
City Administrator

From: Vic Kane
Public Works Director

11/4/2022

Dylan:

Should we lease city lots for snow storage?

Following procedure, we would we have to advertise this to the public. Thus, others could actually end up leasing it, opening up possible issues. We should add void clauses, require nothing more than snow on the property or additional City approvals would be needed. To cover things like depositing grass, burning leaves, storing of dumpsters, grease bins, gravel or dirt piles. Deposited items must not be filled with debris or contaminated. Easily done by hydraulic fluid spewing from a broken hose. No leaving equipment onsite such as a loader or trucks. What if the lessee wants to haul Dollar General, Fareway, Pizza Ranch, Casey's, Mc Donald's lot snow to this site. Can they sublet the lot out? Can they charge others per load and pile on this lot. Should it say in town snow only? For example, we oddly get trees hauled in from out of town at the yard waste site. The city could charge as a storage unit. Cost based on letting the entire lot or marked sections? The lessee should have insurance if someone get hurts on the property. It could include care of the property i.e., mowing / treating weeds, sidewalk clearing or is that provided by the city? Limited saving on mowing as we mow the rest. Allow us access for utility easements depending on site area.

What about allowing private entities to push into city lot piles?

The downtown snow removal is setup because the city uses the area for parking. The buildings are from basically back alley to curb out front. There is nowhere to put snow in this situation. It is not set up for business who have onsite parking areas. We do not maintain these lots; why should we take on the snow removal. Basically, this system has worked edictal for years. This new concept could be requested by anyone close enough to the piles. Sites like the banks, gas stations, legion, VFW... What about those who are close but want to haul to our piles? Most businesses' move snow every event where we only move at 3 inches. There are lot more smaller events then larger adding extra hauling and storage cost. This could require increased hauling by us even if we did not push lots ourselves. Also, we have experienced snow events that have pushed our storge capabilities without this extra snow.

In Conclusion:

We have never allowed lots shoved into the streets for us to pick up. Why would we allow it in the lot piles unless it benefits the city. Unless we are doing this for free, we would have to figure a way to calculate a cost. This is variable as they may not haul every event but may push the differing snowfall amounts. There are also the unknown hidden costs of added time allotments from unaccounted-for issues, legal reviews, supervision, & billing for a few. Plus, we try not to compete with other city private businesses supplying a service.

Thank you in advance for your time in this matter,

Vic Kane
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From the Desk of
Public Works Director Victor Kane