

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: ASSESSING COSTS FOR SNOW/ICE REMOVAL AND MOWING**

**BACKGROUND:**

After a snowfall, property owners have the responsibility to remove snow and ice accumulations from the abutting sidewalks. According to the *Municipal Code*, owners shall remove these accumulations within 10 daylight hours after the storm has stopped. If sidewalks remain uncleared after that time, the City may remove accumulations and assess the actual cost of the removal to the property owner. This action is performed on a complaint basis. Once a complaint has been received, notice is given to the abutting property owner that the City will clear the sidewalks if the owner has not done so within 24 hours of that notice.

In accord with this policy, a hired contractor removed snow and/or ice at the properties listed below. In addition, City staff followed a similar process and performed mowing services at one of the properties where the owner did not remove noxious weeds from the property. Included in the list below are the names and addresses of the property owners and the costs associated with the snow/ice removal or mowing. The work was completed, and bills have been mailed to these individuals. To date, the bills have not been paid. A certified notice of this hearing was mailed to the property owners.

Stephen C. Kruger 2334 Storm Street Ames, IA 50014 Snow/ice removal at 2334 Storm Street Date of Service: January 4, 2014	\$168.75
Augustin Mendez c/o 114 Des Moines Avenue Ames, IA 50010 Snow/ice removal at 1429 Curtiss Avenue Date of Service: January 15, 2014	\$162.50
Ted & Alec Frits 2342 Storm Street Ames, IA 50014 Snow/ice removal at 2342 Storm Street Date of Service: January 4, 2014	\$162.50
Federal National Mortgage P.O. Box 650043 Dallas, TX 75265 Snow/ice removal at 3724 Ontario Street Date of Service: January 4, 2014	\$262.50

David E. Hansen Trust \$212.50  
1655 Candlelight Drive  
Las Cruces, NM 88011-4901  
Snow/ice removal at 1418 Kellogg Avenue  
Date of Service: January 9, 2014

Sarah Zwick-Tapley \$200.00  
P.O. Box 2032  
Fort Collins, CO 80522  
Mowing at 1111 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Date of Service: August 12, 2013

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. The City Council can adopt a resolution assessing the costs of the snow/ice removal or mowing to the property owners shown on the above list. The Finance Director will then prepare a spread sheet on these assessments, and the City Clerk's Office will file the assessments with the Story County Treasurer for collection in the same manner as property taxes as provided for by the *Code of Iowa*.
2. The City Council can choose not to certify these costs to the County Treasurer, and instead absorb the costs.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

These property owners failed to clear their sidewalks or maintain their yard even after receiving notice to do so, and have neglected to pay the costs incurred by the City.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby assessing the costs of the snow/ice removal or mowing to the property owners shown above.