



City of Pittsfield

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty Four

AN ORDINANCE

AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PITTSFIELD CHAPTER 20, SECTION 20-21 REMOVAL, ETC., OF SNOW AND ICE FROM SIDEWALKS

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Pittsfield, as follows:

The Code of the City of Pittsfield, Chapter 20-21, Removal, etc., of snow and ice from sidewalks be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following Sec. 20-21:

Section 1

Sec. 20-21 Removal, etc., of snow and ice from sidewalks—Duty of owner of abutting property to remove, etc.; Director of Public Health, or his or her designee, to prosecute violators.

[R. O. 1947, ch. 24, § 33; Ord. No. 746, § 1, 3-9-1994; Ord. No. 806, § I, 7-10-1996; Ord. No. 1044, § I, 7-13-2010; Ord. No. 1256, § I, 11-15-2022]

The owner responsible for land or a building abutting a paved sidewalk shall, after snow has ceased to fall thereupon or whenever snow shall have collected or deposited upon any such sidewalk, within 24 hours, remove the same or cause the same to be removed from such sidewalk; and also remove or cause to be removed from such sidewalk, or cover or cause to be covered with sand or some other suitable substance, within 24 hours after it has formed or appeared, any ice with which the same may be encumbered, in such way as to render such sidewalk safe and convenient for travel, to a width of 36 inches. In the event that the sidewalk has a width of less than 36 inches, the owner may only remove snow to the width of the sidewalk. If a person is found to be violating the provisions of this section, it shall be the duty of the Director of Public Health, or his or her designee, to assess a fine to any such person pursuant to MGL Chapter 40U in accordance with the fine schedule set forth in Chapter 4 1/2 entitled "Noncriminal and Criminal Enforcement," § 4 1/2-2.

If the owner responsible for land or a building abutting a paved sidewalk fails to remove the snow which has collected or been deposited upon any such sidewalk, and/or fails remove, or cover with sand or some other suitable substance, within 24 hours after it has formed or appeared, any ice with which the same may be encumbered, in such way as to render such sidewalk safe and convenient for travel within 48 hours, the City may remove such snow or cover such ice at the owner's expense. The cost of such snow and/or ice removal or covering if unpaid by the owner along with the administrative fee assessed may be enforced pursuant to MGL Chapter 40U.

The cost of removing snow and ice or covering ice shall be assessed against the owner at a rate which shall be twice the then current hourly rate paid by the City to the contractor the City hires to remove the snow and ice, with a minimum of 1 hour to be charged. In addition, the owner shall be assessed a \$50.00 administrative fee for each violation which results in the City's contractor being sent out to remove snow and ice from the sidewalk.

Section II

This ordinance shall take effect upon enactment.

Approved as to Form and Legality,

Stephen Pagnotta

City Solicitor

In City Council

Read and passed to be ordained

November 26, 2024

10 Yeas - 0 Nays

/s/ Peter T. White, Council President

/s/ Michele M. Benjamin, City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor

December 3, 2024

/s/ Peter M. Marchetti

A true copy, attest:

Michele M. Benjamin
City Clerk