

TOWN of MILLTOWN  
Polk County, Wisconsin

SNOW PLOWING ORDINANCE

23-2

November 2023

Repeals and Replaces existing Snow Policy  
Statement 19-1, Snow plowing Resolution  
95-02 and Snow Removal Notice  
for the Town of Milltown

## **SNOWPLOWING ORDINANCE 23-1**

The Town of Milltown, Polk County Wisconsin, ordains as follows;

### **Section I. Purpose**

With the arrival of another Wisconsin snow season comes the concern about access to work, school, and business. Safety for the traveling public is a main concern of the Town of Milltown.

Our goal is to have all town roads passable within a reasonable amount of time after a snowfall has stopped. Our plowing priorities reflect a commitment to ensuring that roads are kept open to serve critical facilities and to provide access between state highways and our communities.

Our complement of snow plow equipment consists of (2) two tandem axle dump trucks with mounted front plows and side wings and rear sanders, plus (1) one motor grader with plow. We supplement our plowing with applications of salt/sand mix. The Town of Milltown does not assure a completely bare road and will not normally salt or sand entire sections of roadway.

Users of the Town of Milltown road system are reminded to exercise caution and to drive with care. It may not be possible to drive the posted speed limit at all times.

### **Section II. Authority**

The Town Board of the Town of Milltown has powers Under Section 60.10(2) (c). Wis. Stats., which grants general police powers as set forth in Section 61.34(l). Wis Stats., to regulate certain uses. activities. businesses and operations that may affect the streets and highways in the Town of Milltown.

### **Section III. Definitions**

Authorized Official - Town Board Members, Town Clerk, and Head of Road Maintenance.

Residential Driveway- Any driveway accessing a lot or parcel that's primary use is not an agricultural. commercial or industrial use.

**Agricultural Driveway-** A driveway used to access an agricultural field or agricultural buildings.

**Cornmercial/Industrial Driveway** - A driveway used to access a property that is primarily commercial or industrial use or to access a business.

**Residents** - Occupants or owners of a property which include full or part time residents.

**Road Right-of-Way (RoW)** A maximum of thirty-three (33) feet from the centerline of a town road.

**Public Roadway** - A road that is maintained by the Town of Milltown.

**Private Roadway** - A road that is not maintained by a governmental entity.

**Salt/Sand** - A mixture of salt and sand mixed in different percentages used to melt or offer traction on roadways.

**Snowplows** - Any piece of equipment used to remove snow from public roadways to include dump trucks, motor graders, front end loaders.

#### **SECTION IV. Jurisdiction**

This ordinance shall apply to all public roads in the Town of Milltown.

#### **SECTION V. SNOW REMOVAL PROCEDURES**

##### **DISPATCHING OF SNOW PLOWS**

The Town will usually not dispatch snowplows until after a snowfall has stopped. During extended periods of snowfall, exceptions may be made. Snowplows will not be sent out in situations that are deemed by the Town Board Chair, or Town Maintenance supervisor to be hazardous.

If snowfall stops during regular working hours, plows may be dispatched at that time. If the snowfall stops during night or early morning hours, plows will be dispatched at an early morning time according to the conditions. Weekend plowing will be handled in a similar fashion.

## OPERATIONS

Generally the clearing of roads consist of following three phases:

A. Make the Public Roadway passable.

Clean one lane in each direction. Generally, a plow and wing are used.

B. Widen the lanes to edge of shoulder.

Salt/sanding may be done at problem locations on paved roads including intersections, curves, hills, and bridges. Normally entire road sections will not be salt/sanded. An appropriate mixture of salt to sand is used, depending on temperature and/or the amount of snow or ice.

C. Clean up under normal circumstances

Remove ice and slush off the roadway after salt and sun have been allowed to work.

\* Depending on the situation, more than one phase may be accomplished at a time.

## SECTION VI. DAMAGE TO PERSONAL PROPERTIES

The Town of Milltown Maintenance Department will fix or repair any damaged mailboxes/supports, fences, or other personal property that have been hit by a piece of Town of Milltown snow removal equipment when reported by the owner within seven (7) days. **Damage from snow being plowed from the roadway or shoulder by the snow plow will not be repaired. The Town of Milltown is not liable for damages to fences, vehicles, and/or other objects placed within the Town of Milltown Road Right of Way (RoW).**

## **SECTION VII. ASSISTING MOTORISTS OR PRIVATE VEHICLES**

The Town of Milltown Maintenance staff may assist stranded motorists by contacting law enforcement/emergency personnel. Town of Milltown staff **will not attempt to remove stuck vehicles** from ditches, snowbanks or any other impediment.

## **SECTION IX. PRIVATE DRIVEWAY PLOWING**

With the number of private contractors available to plow private driveways, the Town of Milltown will not plow or maintain agricultural driveways, commercial driveways, private roads, or private driveways. If deemed necessary, the Town of Milltown will plow agricultural driveways, commercial driveways, private roads, or private driveways in the event of a fire or medical emergency when asked to do so by law enforcement, fire, or EMT personnel.

## **SECTION VIII. RESIDENT PLOWING**

Town residents are reminded that **it is unlawful** under Wisconsin Statue 346.94(5) to push or plow snow from driveways onto or across Town Roads. Piles of snow left on or within the right of way (side of road or immediate ditch) of Town of Milltown roads can freeze into a solid mass creating a hazardous situation for vehicles and snowplows. Piles of snow also increase the chance of drifting snow being deposited onto the roadway. Accidents and damages caused by snow piles placed in the roadway may result in liability to the property owner.

## **SECTION X. VIOLATION/PENALTY**

First time violators (which include other party plowers) who push or plow snow from driveways onto or across Town of Milltown Public Roadways or leave piles of snow on the Town of Milltown Public Roadway or Town of Milltown Public Road Right-of-Way

(RoW) will receive a letter from the Town of Milltown informing them of the infraction and requiring them to clean up the snow from the road or Right of Way (RoW). Further infractions by the resident (which include other party plowers) will be issued a citation to include a \$100.00 fine per infraction. Residents failing to clean up an infraction following an issued letter by the Town of Milltown will be issued a citation.

#### **SECTION XI. VALIDITY**

Should any section, clause, or provision of this ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any part thereof other than the part declared to be invalid.

#### **SECTION XII. INFORMATION**

Questions or concerns regarding snow removal and/or road conditions should be directed to the Town of Milltown Chairman or be brought to a Town of Milltown monthly board meeting for clarification.

#### **SECTION XIII. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and legal publication.

Adopted this 13th day of November By the Town Board of the Town of Milltown.



Mike Dau  
Town Chair



Jon Eckel  
Town Supervisor



Chris Nelson  
Town Supervisor



Cheryl Kloehn  
Town Clerk