February 4, 2015

WINTER STORM SNOW PLOWING UPDATE

At the beginning of this recent winter storm, drifting snow caused many problems, especially in the area west of Route 59, where the storm left drifts as high as 3 feet, making it even more difficult for plowing. The City end loader was used to open streets where drifting snow had occurred in order for the plows to do their job.

A decision was made early Sunday morning to mobilize the sub-contractors to handle the snow removal in the cul-de-sacs. Six sub-contractors were mobilized and continued to clear the cul-de-sacs in the City all day Monday.

City snow plow trucks started entering neighborhoods and side streets at 5:00 AM Monday, February 2, 2015. The City plow trucks continued to plow these streets and plowing was completed by 10:00 PM Monday, February 2nd. All cul-de-sacs were treated by the contractors by 10:00 PM Monday, February 2nd.

The City of Joliet received 16.1 inches of snow during this storm. Since 2003, this was the second largest snow event in Joliet, surpassed only by the 18 inches of snow in the blizzard of 2011. Due to snowfall intensities, at times receiving 1 inch per hour, snow pack remains on many of the main and secondary routes throughout the City. These routes are currently being treated with large amounts of salt, mixed with liquid chemicals to help with the melting process.

This hard-packed snow, that cars drove on top of, resulted in softened snow due to the moderating temperatures and cars were sinking in to it, giving the appearance that the City never plowed the street. As the temperatures moderate and the sun and salt begin to work on all City streets, residents should expect to see “slushing” up of the existing hard-pack. Neighborhood and side streets will all be plowed again today, Wednesday, February 4, 2015, and the Roadways Division anticipates having all City streets plowed by the end of the work day.

For further information, contact Roadways Division at (815)-724-3650.

James D. Hock
City Manager

The City of Joliet is the fourth largest city in the state of Illinois, located just 45 miles southwest of Chicago’s Loop. Home to over 147,000 residents, in addition to thriving businesses and attractions, the City of Joliet is easily accessible by rail, auto and bus transit. A perfect place to live, work and play, Joliet is constantly striving to promote growth and diversity. For more information on Joliet visit www.cityofjoliet.info or call 815-724-4000.