

Winter 2021 – 2022 Crystal Lake Snow Plowing Update

The early snowstorms of November, 2021, really caused some disruptions to manage the snow plowing on Crystal Lake roads. First of all, was the large amount of wet and heavy snowfall so early in the season. Secondly, with the fall weather being so pleasant, the ground had not yet frozen. This resulted in the lower levels of snow melting and subsequently freezing to form an ice condition on parts of the road which is very difficult to plow down to a clean surface. This situation was worsened when the contracted equipment suffered a breakdown. While the repairs were quickly made and the contractor returned the following day the roadways became further packed with ice.

During the time our contractor's equipment was down, several calls were made to obtain other equipment and an operator to help out. However, when such a snowstorm impacts the entire region, everyone is busy serving their communities and contracts that alternate arrangements were simply not available.

The Hamlet Board has been in contact with the Ministry of Highways in hopes of having their snow removal equipment clear the entirety of Lakeview Drive. Unfortunately, this request was denied and they will only continue to remove snow on their portion of the road.

The good news is that, through the effort to find alternate contractors, we became aware of another local resident with suitable equipment. We have been working with this new person to see if he can be an alternate or backup to our existing contractor.

In order to develop a system to provide more timely snow plowing, the Hamlet Board will be investigating additional options, including the possibility purchasing our own snow removal equipment. Safety of residents, including ready access by emergency vehicles, is of utmost importance.

We thank you for your patience and understanding and also would especially like to thank the number of individuals who cleared the roadway using their own equipment. If you have further concerns or suggestions, please contact Board Member Brad Tokaruk @306 540-4257