



# NEWS FROM THE CITY



City of Ashton

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

## Weight of Snow



For those of you that are wondering “When should I shovel the snow off my roof?” Here is a quick rule to help you if you are concerned.

As a rule of thumb, snow weighs approximately 20 pounds per cubic foot or 1.25 pounds per inch of depth. Depending on moisture content, snow can weigh from 1 pound per cubic foot to over 21 pounds per cubic foot

Here is a formula to figure out what the snow on your home weighs:

$$S \times 1.25 = P$$

S = Height of snow in inches

1.25 = Weight of snow

P = Pounds per square foot

If the snow on your roof is 20 inches deep then

this is what the formula looks like:

$$20 \times 1.25 = 25$$

The snow weighs 25 pounds per cubic foot. NOTE: Any ice build-up on the roof would need to be added to this formula. Add 5.2 pounds for each 1 inch of ice depth.

Also:

- Structures constructed in Ashton with building permits are designed for 70 pounds per square foot roof snow load. Older roofs may be of concern because they were built before permits were required and may not meet this minimum roof snow load.
- Until recently, manufactured homes were designed for a roof snow load of 30 pounds per square foot. Look at the certification label (a metal label affixed to the manufactured home) to verify your design roof snow load.
- Flat roofs are more of a concern (Less than 3/12 pitch). Flatter roof

itches tend to hold more snow moisture.

- If we receive excessive rainfall, the weight of the roof snow can increase rapidly.
- If your structure is in question, it is best to consult an Idaho licensed engineer.

Please be aware of the potential dangers of shoveling or raking snow from a roof. Besides the potential damage to the roofing materials and structure, there are such factors as a person sliding off the roof, falling off a ladder, over-exerting themselves or injury from snow sliding on top of them.

In summary, the City of Ashton does not make recommendations on when to remove snow from roofs. It is up to the individual property owner to consider the benefits and dangers of snow removal and decide their own course of action.



### FEBRUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

### MARCH 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
8	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### APRIL 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### Calendar Key

City Council Meeting	Yellow
City P & Z Meeting	Cyan
Utility Bill Payment Due Date	Red
Utility Bill Mailing Date	Green
City Building Closed	Orange



## NEWS FROM THE CITY

# STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS



*Mayor Stronks*

Albert Einstein said, "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow."

With the past year being a national election year and hearing all the promises being made, as Mayor and Council, we will continue with our projects that are in the process. 2016 was the year of many discussions. We sold buildings that were no longer needed and which helped others in their businesses.

After 9 years of service our City Attorney Joette Lookabaugh retired. She was very helpful and served the City with much energy. With her absence, as Mayor & Council, we feel that we have chosen a great lawyer, Sam Angell, who has Ashton in his best interest. He is serving the Council and the City

well.

Because of new EPA restrictions on disposal of ammonia, the City is encountering a 5 million dollar project. Putting in a new holding pond, dredging the existing lagoons and replacing a lot of old sewer pipe that is in need of replacement will help to bring the system up to date. We were able to complete our 3<sup>rd</sup> Street project by Reinke Grain. I feel it is much safer and a big improvement.

Ashton Urban Renewal played a big part in beautifying 4<sup>th</sup> Street on the corner lot by improving it into a beautiful pocket park. The announcement of refurbishing the old Ashton Memorial Hospital by the Henry's Fork Foundation was exciting. It will be great to see it come back to life and be used as a learning center and office space. We are looking forward to celebrating our 100 year of the Ameri-

can Dog Derby. Thanks to all of you who are making this possible.

After 32 years of service in law enforcement, our Chief of Police, Tom Mattingly retired. He will be missed at the City and we wish him the best in the future. Greg Griffel was sworn in as Ashton's new Chief of Police and we feel fortunate to have Wes Owens working for the City.

My goal is still the same as it was in 2016. I hope to concentrate on Economic Development in the Ashton Area. As a Mayor & Council, we will continue to do our best for the citizens of Ashton by following what General Collen Powell said, "There are no secrets to success. It comes from preparation, hard work and learning from failure."

So keep up the good work!

*Mayor Teddy Stronks*

## Careful of the Water Meters

Each home or business on the City water system has a water meter. The water meters have a module on the top of the lid to help with electronic reading.

Customers will need to be cautious about parking, plowing or mowing around the meter lid in order to avoid damage to the meter.

Do not park or drive over the meters. While mowing, please make

sure that neither blade nor wheel damage to the meter or lid will occur. During the winter, plowing can also ruin the module if the lid is plowed over. Please mark your meter to avoid plowing over it, driving over it or any other winter activity that could damage the meter.

Please be cautious with the meter boxes and lids in order to avoid any extra charges.

If you have any questions concern-

ing the new meters, please call the City Building at 652-3987.





# FROZEN

In Ashton, the frost line or the depth that the groundwater in soil is expected to freeze is usually four feet. Snow cover can insulate the ground so that the frost depth is lessened but many residents move the snow in order to make parking easier which makes freezing easier. When the ground freezes, water lines can freeze also.

Moving water does not freeze as easily as standing water.

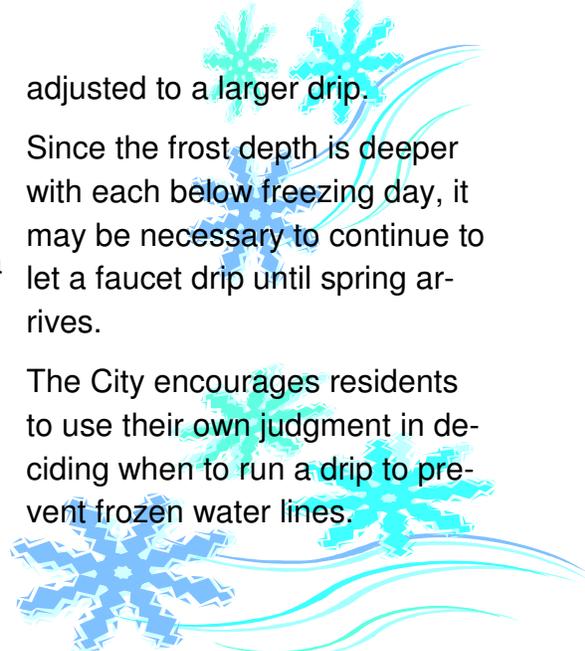
The City water mains are running much of the time but many homes may not have water moving through their service lines at all times. This is where running a dripping faucet may help.

Letting the cold water in a faucet drip can prevent frozen service lines. The drip can be very slight and can be adjusted depending on the weather forecast. If the weather forecast calls for colder weather, the faucet should be

adjusted to a larger drip.

Since the frost depth is deeper with each below freezing day, it may be necessary to continue to let a faucet drip until spring arrives.

The City encourages residents to use their own judgment in deciding when to run a drip to prevent frozen water lines.



# PARKING AND SNOW

By Chief Greg Griffel

Greetings and happy New Year. I would like to remind residents to park your vehicles as far off the City street right of way as possible for plowing purposes. The street crew spends a lot of time and effort to clear our streets so let's make it as easy as possible for them. This winter the snow is deep so the plow crew requires more of the City street right of way to push snow back. Remember to remove your garbage cans from the street, the plowing crew is not responsible for moving them for you.

This winter our department has received several complaints about residents pushing or blowing snow into the street and/or street right of way. When you do

this your snow is carried from your property by the City plow to your neighbor's driveway. There is an ordinance against this action and you can be prosecuted for the violation. Please be courteous.

Our department has also received complaints in reference to overnight and long term parking on Main Street. The City has an active ordinance that states that parking is limited to 2 hours between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm with no parking on Main Street between the hours of 2:00 am and 6:00 am. This is subject to a possible fine and/or towing of your vehicle if violated. If your vehicle is towed the tow and impound fees are your responsibility. Ashton has

limited parking and the Main Street business owners require the parking spaces for their customers. Remember, it is also a violation to park a vehicle on any City street right of way that interferes with snow removal at any time of the day OR night. You can be subject to a fine and towing of your vehicle for this violation.

The 100th anniversary of the American Dog Derby is February 16th thru the 18th so please come out and support this special event. The Derby is an important part of our town's history and there are activities for every age group. Please invite your family and friends to this historic weekend.





## CITY OF ASHTON

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### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Regular City Council meetings are held each month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. For specific dates & other meeting information please refer to our website: [www.cityofashton.com](http://www.cityofashton.com)



## DOG LICENSE RENEWAL TIME IS HERE!

# 2017

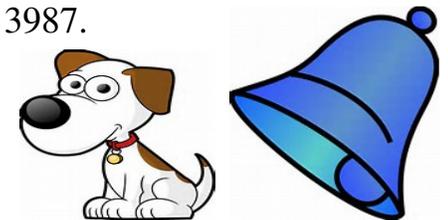
It is time to renew all City of Ashton dog licenses. Every dog in Ashton is required to be licensed. Licenses are sold at the City Building and cost \$7.50. Any dog owner who is known to have failed to license

their dog is subject to a minimum fine of \$25.00. (Ashton Code 6.08.20) **The 2017 Ashton dog license is blue and is the shape of a bell.**

Additionally, even if the dog is licensed, dogs are required to be on your property or on a leash of less than 10 feet. If not, the dog is considered running at large.

Any dog caught running at large is subject to impoundment by the City dog catcher.

If you have any questions, call the City Office at 652-3987.



**EMERGENCY EXIT**

## TWO EXITS

Let's face it, snow shoveling gets old. By the time your walk and a door way are clear you just want to set the shovel aside.

But in emergencies such as a fire a second exit can mean the difference between life and death.

**Please make sure to have two clear exits from your home in case of emergency.**

