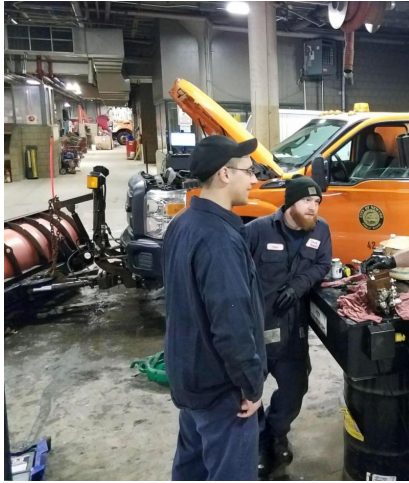


Mayor's Update



Like you, we've been working through the night and all day today to try and stay ahead of the ice, but the weather is conspiring against all of us. It's bad out there. The roads are icy and slick, and so are the sidewalks. Clearing off your car or shoveling your sidewalk and driveway is just plain tough.

This storm was particularly difficult. Rain was forecast to follow last night's snow and sleet. Instead, more sleet followed just a short period of rain and temperatures stayed well below freezing. Now temperatures are plunging into the single digits.

Unfortunately brine and rock salt have little effect when it's below 10 or 12 degrees outside, so despite our best efforts, there will be patches of ice this evening and into tomorrow.

Our crews have been working through the night and all day. We're sending people home in shifts to get some rest so they can stay safe and healthy to go back out. If you see one of the crews, please give them a thumbs-up.

Please, if you need to go out today or Monday, bundle up, watch your step and drive slowly.

The good news is there have been no reports of any trees down, or power outages.

We're going forward with our 51st Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Newton Community Celebration tomorrow. This year's celebration is at the First Baptist Church of Newton, 848 Beacon St., starting at 9:30 a.m. If you can, the Rotary Club of Newton is collecting donations of toiletries for Newton's food pantries.

Warmly,

Ruthanne

P.S. Go Pats!

