

Town of Hubbardston

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PLOWING OF PRIVATE WAYS POLICY

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40 Section 6C, the Board of Selectmen shall annually designate private ways in the Town that are eligible to be plowed under this provision. Every private way to be plowed by the Town must:

- 1.) Be open to public use;
- 2.) Be of sufficient width (minimum 14 feet);
- 3.) Be determined by the DPW Director to be in a condition adequate to ensure that the Town can perform the work without endangering the condition of the equipment or the safety of the operator. If there is a disagreement between road residents and the DPW Director, the final decision about the condition of the road will be determined through consultation with the Board of Selectmen.

Roads that have been constructed pursuant to a definitive subdivision plan approved subsequent to January 1, 1985 but that have not yet been accepted as public ways are not eligible to be plowed under these regulations.

Written application form must be completed by all abutters to the road and submitted to the Board of Selectmen. This application will include a waiver of any claim against the Town for damages caused by the plowing activity. The application will be considered in effect for three years, at which time a new application form must be completed by all abutters to the road.

Upon receipt of the application forms from all abutters to the private way, the Board of Selectmen may place an article on the next available own Meeting warrant to appropriate funds for this purpose (or include said funds in the town's Operating Budget vote). Notwithstanding the requirement that all abutters submitting application forms, the Board, may, without having received applications from 100% of the abutters, place such an article on the warrant if it deems it is in the best interest of the Town to do so. The Board of Selectmen may determine, with assistance from the DPW Director, the estimated cost for the season's plowing. No plowing of private ways will be undertaken by the Town unless Town Meeting approves such appropriation. The expenditures for this activity will not exceed the appropriated amount.

Private ways designated by the Board of Selectmen and plowed under this provision shall be plowed at the convenience of the Town. Public ways will be a priority.

A list of eligible roads will be submitted to the Board of Selectmen by the DPW Director by September 1st of each year. Any private road approved for snow removal must be adequately maintained throughout the year by the homeowners abutting the road.