

TITLE 6

Public Works

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CHAPTER 1

Grades

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SEC. 6-1-1 ESTABLISHMENT OF GRADES.

- (a) **Grades to be Established.** The grade of all streets, alleys and sidewalks shall be established by the Village Board and the same recorded by the Village Clerk in his office. No street, alley or sidewalk shall be worked until the grade thereof is established. In all cases where the grade of sidewalks shall not have been specifically set by ordinance, the sidewalks shall be laid to the established grade of the street. All such grades heretofore established are hereby confirmed.
- (b) **New Sidewalk Grade.** Whenever a street shall be improved for the first time or the grade thereof changed and the street improved so as to conform to the new grade, the grading of the sidewalk shall be considered a part of the improvement, shall be let by contract with the other work of improving such street, and the expense thereof shall be provided for and borne in all respects like that of improving the street, but the construction shall be done by the owners of the abutting lots or parcels of land or at their expense as hereinafter provided. Before such construction is commenced by the owners of the abutting lots or parcels of land, the Village Board shall, upon application by the respective owners for a sidewalk grade, cause such sidewalk grade to be established.

SEC. 6-1-2 ALTERATION OF GRADE PROHIBITED.

No person shall alter the grade of any street, alley, sidewalk or public ground or any part thereof in the Village of Nichols by any means whatsoever unless authorized or instructed to do so by the Village Board or Superintendent of Public Works. All such alterations of grade shall be recorded in the office of the Village Clerk.

SEC. 6-1-3 REGULATION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES.

- (a) **Elevation_** The grade or elevation of all underground construction shall be a minimum of three (3) feet below the established grade of the street, alley, park, public property or easement. The three (3) feet shall be measured between the top of the established grade and the top of the underground construction.
- (b) **Approval of Location.** The location of any and all such underground construction must have the approval of the Superintendent of Public Works.
- (c) **Filing Plans.** Complete plans for any such construction must be filed with and be approved by the Superintendent of Public Works before construction can begin
- (d) **Inspection_** On request of the Superintendent of Public Works, the utility company must provide opportunity for him to check any construction before it may be covered.
- (e) **Conflict with Other Utilities.** If the grade or elevation herein set for the underground construction of utilities shall, in any instance, conflict with other existing utilities, the utility shall be required to lower the elevation of its underground construction, or of the storm sewer, at the election of the Street Superintendent and in accordance with his directions and specifications.
- (f) **Establishment of Grade.** At the request of the utility company, the Street Superintendent shall give the utility company an established grade on any streets, alleys, public parks or easements where it proposes to install underground utilities.
- (g) **Emergency.** In case of an emergency, when immediate action is necessary in order to protect life or property, the utility company may proceed with underground construction subject to obtaining the approval of such work by the Street Superintendent as soon thereafter as is reasonably possible.
- (h) **Restoration of Surface.** In the event of any such underground construction, the utility company shall leave the surface of the ground, or road, in the same condition as before said work was commenced, and in the event of its failure so to do, the Village may proceed to place the surface of the ground or street in such condition at the utility company's expense. Such work shall comply with the provisions of Sections 6-2-3 and 6-2-4.
- (i) **Non-Relief from Obligations.** Compliance with this Section does not relieve the utility company from any responsibility of any kind whatsoever by reason of the widening of the travelway, or any other improvements which may become necessary; nor does it relieve it from any liability of any kind or nature whatsoever. Compliance with this Section shall not relieve the utility company from the responsibility or obligation of removing, relocating or moving any of its mains, pipes or property due to the opening, widening or improving of streets, or due to any other changes which may occur by reason of which such moving, relocation or removing may be necessary.

CHAFFER 2

Streets and Sidewalks

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SEC. 6-2-1 REMOVAL OF RUBBISH AND DIRT FROM SIDEWALKS

No owner or occupant shall allow the sidewalk abutting on his premises to be littered with rubbish or dirt. If such owner or occupant shall refuse or fail to remove any such rubbish or dirt when notified to do so by the Village Board or its designee, the Village Board or its designee may cause the same to be done and report the cost thereof to the Village Clerk who shall spread the cost on the tax roll as a special tax against the premises, pursuant to Sec. 66.60(16), Wis. Stats., or such cost may be recovered in an action against the owner or occupant.

SEC. 6-2-2 CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF SIDEWALKS

- (a) **Board May Order.** The Village Board may determine that sidewalks or curb and gutter may be constructed, laid, rebuilt or repaired along or upon any public street, right-of-way or highway within the Village. The Village Board may determine or change the width or grade of any street or sidewalk.
- (b) **Apportionment of Costs.** Where required by the Village Board, it shall be the duty of the abutting owner to build, repair, construct and perpetually maintain sidewalks along or upon any street, alley or highway in the Village of Nichols and for the owner to pay the cost of repair or reconstruction. Sidewalks in new subdivisions shall be installed pursuant to the Village's Subdivision Ordinance. Whenever the Village Board shall, by resolution, determine that a sidewalk be laid, rebuilt, repaired, lowered or raised along or upon any public street, alley or highway within the Village of Nichols, it shall proceed according to Sec. 66.615, Wis. Stats.
- (c) **Permit Required.** No person shall hereafter lay, remove, replace or repair any public sidewalk within the Village of Nichols unless he is under contract with the Village to do such work or has obtained a permit therefore from the Village Clerk at least three (3) days before work is proposed to be undertaken. No fee shall be charged for such permits.

(d) **Standard Specifications for Sidewalk.**

- (1) **General.** Concrete sidewalk construction shall meet the specifications and provisions set forth in this Section and shall be constructed in locations and to line and grade as established by the Village.
- (2) **Grading.** Prior to construction, ground on which sidewalks are to be placed shall be brought to within three (3) inches of subgrade by the contractor.
- (3) **Subgrade.** Subgrade shall be three (3) inches of sand fill, thoroughly and uniformly compacted and brought to correct grade placing of concrete and thoroughly wet down immediately before concrete is placed. Soft and unsuitable subgrade material shall be removed and replaced with sand or other satisfactory material, and the subgrade shall be thoroughly and uniformly compacted and moistened immediately before the concrete is placed.
- (4) **Concrete.** The minimum quantity of cement per cubic yard shall be six(6) ninety-four (94) pound sacks. Concrete shall be mixed for at least one (1) minute. Gravel shall be of good quality and washed. Concrete shall test two thousand (2,000) pounds compression in twenty-eight (28) days.
- (5) **Jointing.** Expansion joints one-half (1/2) inch thick and four (4) feet wide shall be placed at fifty (50) foot maximum intervals. At all places where a walk intersects another walk or curb line, a one-half (1/2) inch expansion joint shall be placed.
- (6) **Slope.** To provide adequate drainage, the sidewalk shall slope toward the curb at a minimum rate of one-fourth (1/4) inch per foot of width of sidewalk. All joints and edges shall be finished with a one-fourth (1/4) inch radius edging tool. Sidewalks shall be constructed within the limits of the street, and unless otherwise specifically indicated, there shall be a six (6) inch strip of street property left between the property line and the edge of the sidewalk.
- (7) **Width and Thickness.** Residential walks shall be three (3) feet in width and not less than four (4) inches thick except within driveway approaches where the minimum thickness shall be six (6) inches, provided that walks in residential areas may be repaired or replaced to a width not less than the existing width on the effective date of this Section. Sidewalks in front of commercial or industrial establishments shall be of a width and thickness established by the Village Board, except within driveway approaches where the minimum thickness shall be seven (7) inches. Where possible, sidewalks shall be located nine (9) feet from the curb. One-half (1/2) inch reinforcement rod shall be used when replacing or repairing sidewalks over alley entrances.
- (8) **Finishing.** The concrete shall be struck off true to grade, finished smooth and given a broom finish. All edges shall be rounded. No tool marks shall be left on exposed surfaces. In case of rain, the walk shall be covered to protect the surface from being damaged. Walks shall be kept free from all traffic at normal temperatures for forty-eight (48) hours and in cold weather [below fifty (50) degrees F.] for ninety-six (96) hours. No concrete shall be poured when the temperature may be expected to fall below thirty-five (35) degrees F. in any seventy-two (72) hour period or upon frozen subgrade.
- (9) **Curing.** Concrete shall be kept moist by sprinkling, covering or a combination of both for a minimum of five (5) days.
- (10) **Higher Standards.** Where deemed necessary by the Village, higher sidewalk standards may be required by the Village Board.