

Bedford, road crews to work together on snow removal

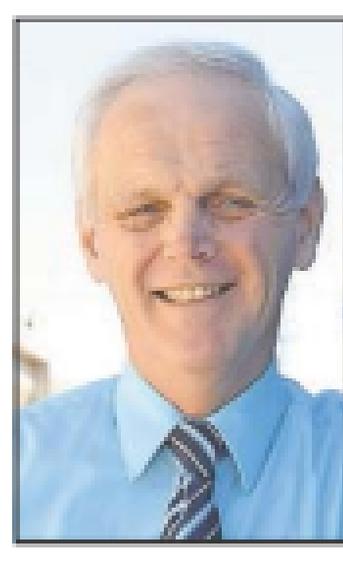
BY PAULA WETHINGTON

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BEDFORD TOWNSHIP — If all goes as planned, Bedford Township subdivision streets will see a bit more attention in a timely manner when it comes to snow removal.

The extra efforts are coming from Bedford Township itself.

As Supervisor Paul Pirrone explained at Tuesday's board meeting, the township will dedicate three of its maintenance dump trucks and employees to help clear neighborhood streets while the Monroe County Road Commission focuses on the major routes. "We have started snowplowing subdivisions already!" he said.



RANDY
PIERCE

But in order to make this work, residents are asked to park their cars off the streets when there is more than 1" of snow.

And since even three more trucks can't be everywhere at once, Mr. Pirrone explained that the township crews will start in different areas each time they work snow plow duty.

Also at the board meeting, Randy Pierce, managing director of the Monroe County Road Commission, explained the road commission's responsibilities and limited resources when it comes to snow removal.

"Bedford Township gets their fair share of the money," Mr. Pierce assured the board and the audience. "We are trying to give the best service we can give."

The road commission maintains about 1,500 miles of federal and state highways, along with many primary and local roads in Monroe County. But Monroe County has only 33 trucks — way fewer than the number that are available in Lucas County (Ohio), Wayne or Washtenaw counties.

As a result, some subdivision streets, which are last on the list, didn't get a county snowplow until Thursday as a follow up to the most recent snowfall.

An alternative to waiting it out, township trustee Nancy Tienvieri said, is for neighborhoods to hire their own private snowplow service.

"It gets you on the main roads faster," Mr. Pierce said about private plow contracts.

But as other township board members noted, such an arrangement requires homeowner associations to levy and pay the expense.