

**CITY OF BLUE ASH**  
**Interoffice Memo - City Manager's Office**

**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** City Manager and Department Directors  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item for the February 25, 2010 Council Meeting  
**DATE:** February 23, 2010  
**COPIES:** Department Directors, Press, Clerk of Council, Solicitor

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The following offers a brief description of the sole legislative item included on the February 25 Council agenda:

**Ordinance No. 2010-11 - Authorizing emergency purchase of bulk rock salt**

Though Thursday's meeting has been established to be a work session with the topic of housing, given the record-breaking snowfalls that have occurred in February, the emergency need arose last week to purchase additional road salt.

Most recent purchases of road salt have been accomplished through Blue Ash's participation in a cooperative arrangement with the City of Cincinnati utilizing North American Salt Company (as approved by Council in May 2009). However, the maximum amount of salt at the guaranteed price from this vendor as outlined in that purchasing arrangement had already been reached, and the renegotiated price with North American for additional purchases was deemed unacceptable. The Public Works Director solicited informal proposals from other vendors, with the most responsive proposal received being from Evans Landscaping for the purchase of the road salt at a cost not to exceed \$80 per ton delivered.

As is allowed by Section 9.12 of the Charter, because there was no Council meeting scheduled, the City Manager contacted via telephone on February 16 at least four members of Council last week to confirm their approval to move forward with the emergency purchase of just over 1,000 tons of salt from Evans Landscaping for an amount not to exceed \$80 per ton, with subsequent approval to be presented by ordinance at this meeting. The Public Works Director estimates the City saved approximately \$7,700, as compared to the price for road salt that the previous vendor, North American, quoted.

Ordinance No. 2010-11 authorizes payment for this emergency purchase of salt last week (about 1,027 tons at \$80 per ton), and Section III provides Council authority to purchase additional tonnage should the need arise in the 2009/10 snow season at the same cost of \$80 per ton.

Please direct questions regarding this ordinance to the Public Works Director or City Manager.