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(continued)

The answer to your question depends upon whether the removal of snow is a "public work" within the meaning and intent of the aforementioned sections of the City Charter, and, therefore, it may be well to examine some of the applicable case law.

In the case of Carter v. City and County of Denver, 160 P.2d 991, 992, 114 Colo. 33, cited in Words and Phrases, Vol. 35, 1961 Cumulative Supplement, it is stated at p. 156:

"'Public works', in connection with contracts respecting such works, is a work in which the state is interested, or every species and character of work done for the public and for which the taxpaying citizens are liable, or work by or for the State and by or for a municipal corporation and contractors therewith."

In Peterson v. United States, for Use of Marsh Lumber Co., S.C.A. Ohio, 119 Fed. 2d 145, 147, cited in Words and Phrases, Vol. 35, 1961 Cumulative Supplement, at p. 155 the term is defined as follows:

"The term 'public work', must be understood in its plain, obvious and rational sense, and includes any work in which the United States is interested and which is done for the public and for which the United States is authorized to expend funds."

A situation somewhat analogous to the present matter, involving the removal of a different substance, is found in the case of State v. Butler, 77 S.W. 560, 568, 178 Mo. 272, cited in Words and Phrases, Vol. 35, at p. 435:

"The term 'public work,' as used in a provision of a city charter prohibiting the assembly from directly contracting for any public work, or improvement or repairs thereon, or fixing the price or rate therefor, and prescribing the method by which such work or improvement, etc., shall be done, has no technical meaning, and includes every species and character of work done for the public and for which the taxpaying citizens are liable. It includes contracts for the removal and disposition of city garbage, which contract was let to a sanitary company, which disposed of the garbage by the method known as 'reduction.'"