

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mike Geisel, City Administrator

FROM: James Eckrich, Director of Public Works/City Engineer *JE*
Justin Wyse, Director of Planning *JW*

SUBJECT: Planning & Public Works Committee Meeting Summary
Thursday, July 18, 2024



A meeting of the Planning and Public Works Committee of the Chesterfield City Council was held on Thursday, July 18, 2024 in Conference Room 101.

In attendance were: **Chair Dan Hurt** (Ward III), **Councilmember Mary Monachella** (Ward I), **Councilmember Mary Ann Mastorakos** (Ward II), and **Councilmember Merrell Hansen** (Ward IV).

Also in attendance were: Bob Nation, Mayor; Councilmember Gary Budoor (Ward IV); James Eckrich, Director of Public Works/City Engineer; Justin Wyse, Director of Planning; and Theresa Barnicle, Executive Assistant.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY

A. Approval of the June 20, 2024 Committee Meeting Summary

Councilmember Mastorakos made a motion to approve the Meeting Summary of June 20, 2024. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hansen and **passed** by a voice vote of 4-0.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Recommendation to Hire Project Manager: A request to include all necessary costs in the 2025 budget associated with employing one additional Project Manager.

DISCUSSION

James Eckrich, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, presented a request for the hiring of a third project manager for the Public Works Department. Mr. Eckrich provided the reasons for the request, including the retirement of Proposition S, a large number of grant projects, additional projects from the Building Maintenance Division and the Parks Department, and the creation of the Special Business District. Mr. Eckrich clarified that, if approved, the funding for this position would come from the Capital Projects Fund.

Members of the Committee asked Mr. Eckrich questions about the role of the Project Manager and the number of projects to be managed at this time. Mr. Eckrich answered their questions to their satisfaction.

Councilmember Hansen made a motion to recommend the approval of the hire of an additional Project Manager, to be funded by the Capitals Projects Fund, to the Finance and Administration Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Monachella, and passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

[Please see the attached report prepared by James Eckrich, Director of Public Works, for additional information on Recommendation to Hire Project Manager.]

B. Snow Removal Recoupment Program for Private Streets 2024 Funding Authorization:

A request to consider whether the reimbursement rates for the Snow Removal Recoupment Program for Private Streets should be increased for the 2024/2025 season and whether Policy PW38 should be updated to allow for biennial adjustments.

DISCUSSION

James Eckrich, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, introduced this topic. He clarified that information on the private street snow removal reimbursement program was requested last fall in an effort to allow Council to determine whether the reimbursement amounts should be increased. The maximum reimbursement is currently set at \$40 per residential unit or \$4,500 per mile, whichever is greater. He stated that the numbers have not been adjusted since 2013, and since that time, the cost of road salt has increased by 67.2% while the PCI-U has increased by 29.3%.

The Committee discussed the program and whether the reimbursement rate should increase. Councilmember Mastorakos asked Mr. Eckrich his opinion. Mr. Eckrich stated that his opinion is that if this is a program the Council values and wants to continue, it makes sense to adjust the reimbursement amount regularly, say every two years, to reflect increase costs experienced by the private subdivisions.

The Committee agreed that the program was beneficial to those neighborhoods with private streets and is a program they wish to continue. **Councilmember Monachella made a motion to continue the program with an increase of some kind. This motion was seconded by Councilmember Hurt. This motion passed by a voice vote of 4-0.**

With a consensus to continue the program, the Committee then discussed the amount of the increase. After debating the matter, the Committee ultimately agreed to increase the reimbursement amount in relation to the CPI-U. Specifically, the Committee recommended increasing the maximum reimbursement amount to \$52 per unit or \$5,820 per mile.

Councilmember Hansen made the motion to recommend to Council that the reimbursement rate be increased to a maximum of \$52 per unit or \$5,820 per mile, whichever is greater. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mastorakos, and passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

Finally, Chair Hurt asked if the Committee was willing to change the Policy to reflect a regular increase. Mr. Eckrich stated that he recommended a metric be chosen and that metric used to update the reimbursement rates biennially (every two years). The consensus of the Committee was that the CPI-U is the best metric to use to adjust the reimbursement rates. **Councilmember Hansen made a motion to revise the policy to include a provision by which the reimbursement rates would be updated biennially in accordance with the CPI-U. This motion was seconded by Councilmember Monachella. This motion passed by a voice vote of 4-0.**

After the vote, there was discussion as to whether councilmembers who lived in private streets — and would benefit from the increase — could vote on the change. Chair Hurt indicated that prior advice to Council was indicated if they will benefit from an action, they can vote, but they should disclose their interest publicly. Councilmember Hansen stated that she would discuss this matter with the City Attorney.

[Please see the attached report prepared by James Eckrich, Director of Public Works, for additional information on [Snow Removal Recoupment Program for Private Streets 2024 Funding Authorization](#).]

IV. OTHER

A. Noise – Discussion

DISCUSSION

Councilmembers Hansen and Budoor attested to there being several complaints from residents in Ward 4 about the excessive noise produced by other residents operating All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) at all hours of the day and night. This brought about discussion of the standing noise and disturbance ordinances and if there should be any amendments.

A suggestion was made to potentially modify ordinances to ensure the Prosecuting Attorney is comfortable prosecuting offenders. The council agreed that would be good for the whole of the community, not just this situation, and mentioned addressing subjectivity in the existing ordinances such as, “excessive noise” and “too loud”.

The committee has given direction to look further into the issue and potential solutions, and coordinate any modifications with the City’s Prosecuting Attorney as far as his comfort level prosecuting. Once that is complete, Staff will come back at a later date with a proposal.

This item was for discussion only, so no vote was taken on this measure.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.