

Streets Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: July 16, 2026

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Service Department

Members Present

- Chairman Chris Bell
- Councilmember Chris Berger
- Councilmember Mary Rensel
- Resident Member Todd Kruse
- Street Commissioner Tim Young

Mayor Koons attended a portion of the meeting.

Call to Order

Chairman Bell called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

Approval of Previous Minutes

The committee reviewed the minutes from the May 21, 2026 Streets Committee meeting.

Motion: To approve the May 21, 2026 meeting minutes.

Result: Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Truck Purchase

The committee revisited the replacement truck purchase. Street Commissioner Young reported that only one bid had been received through email, but because it was not submitted in accordance with the formal bidding process, the Village Solicitor advised that it could not be considered.

The committee discussed two remaining options:

- Purchase through the Sourcewell/State purchasing program.

- Re-advertise for bids.

Young reported that:

- Sourcewell pricing guarantees pricing based upon approved specifications.
- Valley View could no longer source a 2026 truck but may be able to provide a 2027 model.
- Other dealers indicated they could likely source a truck if ordered soon.
- Delivery of the chassis would likely occur approximately six weeks after ordering, with approximately 180–190 days required for installation of the swap loader equipment.

Young also compared the Valley View swap loader with the specified SwapLoader brand and found only minor differences, primarily in hydraulic flow capacity, concluding both systems would adequately meet the Village's operational needs.

Committee members discussed:

- Warranty implications between 2026 and 2027 models.
- Potential tariff-related pricing increases.
- Whether Valley View would honor its previous pricing for a 2027 model.

Conclusion

Young will contact Valley View to determine whether the previously quoted pricing can be maintained for a 2027 model. If pricing is favorable, the committee expressed support for proceeding through the Sourcewell purchasing program. Otherwise, alternative purchasing options will be considered.

Bell Road West Road Diet and Restriping

Young reported that one quotation had been received for approximately **\$19,000** to:

- Repaint the centerline.
- Grind existing pavement markings.
- Install new edge lines using ODOT standard pavement markings.

The estimate was considerably lower than previous preliminary estimates.

The committee held an extensive discussion regarding the proposed "road diet."

Discussion Highlights

Supporters noted the project would:

- Increase shoulder width for pedestrians.
- Potentially improve bicycle accommodations.
- Encourage slower vehicle speeds through narrower travel lanes.
- Potentially reduce or delay the need for construction of an expensive multi-use path.

Committee members also expressed concerns including:

- Existing lanes already feel narrow for trucks and trailers.
- Additional narrowing could create conflicts between larger vehicles.
- It is uncertain whether wider shoulders would significantly improve pedestrian safety.
- The Village should carefully evaluate whether the benefits justify the cost.

Additional discussion included:

- Maintaining clean shoulders through periodic sweeping.
- Future equipment purchases capable of both street sweeping and catch basin cleaning.
- Long-term paving schedules.
- Potential future improvements along East Washington Street in conjunction with Chagrin Falls waterline work.
- Possibilities for future sidewalk connections serving commercial areas.

Conclusion

The committee agreed to wait for a second quotation before making a final recommendation regarding restriping.

Street Commissioner's Report

Daisy Lane Culvert

Young reported that:

- Existing flooding issues could be addressed by replacing the current crossover with a **30-inch culvert**.
- Engineering staff confirmed adequate elevations to support the larger installation.

Lakeview Culvert

A previously collapsed culvert had been repaired by inserting a smaller culvert inside the original pipe. Young recommended replacing it properly before Bell Road East is resurfaced.

Bell Road East

A resident notification letter is being finalized. Young anticipates limited participation by residents in optional culvert replacements.

Maple Hill

- Culvert replacement work has been completed.
- Crews temporarily shifted to complete bocce court preparation and equipment repairs.
- Ditching work will resume, followed by shoulder restoration and crack sealing.

Hazelwood

Young reported:

- Pavement repairs have been completed.
- Additional resurfacing may be considered if funding remains available.
- Survey work for the Hazelwood stormwater project is progressing.
- Resident concerns regarding berm width were investigated, confirming approximately four feet of shoulder remains available.

Additional Maintenance

Young also reported:

- A curb drain replacement is needed on Sunridge.
- A deteriorated catch basin on Woodside requires replacement.
- Waverly Lane storm sewer work remains on schedule.

Crack Sealing Program

The crack sealing contractor has scheduled four days of work within the Village's budget.

Priority streets include:

- Bell Road West
- Daisy Lane
- East Washington
- Bell Meadow
- Maple Hill
- Other recently resurfaced streets

Young explained his long-term objective of developing a road maintenance system that categorizes roads as red, yellow, or green, allowing the department to complete entire neighborhoods before moving to the next area rather than responding only to isolated maintenance requests.

Village Landscaping

The committee discussed concerns raised by residents regarding flowers at Village Hall.

Young explained:

- Flowers had been purchased and installed under a compressed schedule.
- They have been watered daily.
- Extremely high temperatures and reflected heat from the building caused significant damage.

The committee agreed future landscaping should be planned seasonally, including:

- Spring plantings.
- Summer replacements.
- Fall flowers.
- Christmas decorations.

Members emphasized the need to develop a comprehensive annual maintenance calendar for Village properties rather than addressing landscaping on an ad hoc basis.

2026 Road Program

The committee reviewed bids for the 2026 paving program.

Five bids were received.

Specialized Construction submitted the lowest responsible bid of **\$274,766.10**.

The committee confirmed that:

- The approved road program budget remains **not to exceed \$375,000**.
- The budget includes approximately **\$125,000** for miscellaneous pavement restoration associated with culvert replacement.

Motion

Motion: Recommend awarding the 2026 Road Program contract to **Specialized Construction** in the amount of **\$274,766.10**.

Result: Motion carried unanimously. Recommendation will be forwarded to Council.

Trail and Bike Path Update

Chairman Bell reported that the committee recommends delaying any levy or bond initiative for the proposed trail project.

The committee agreed additional work is needed to:

- Explore alternative funding sources.
- Continue discussions with the Geauga Park Foundation.
- Improve public communication.
- Evaluate overall community support before pursuing a ballot issue.

The committee agreed that postponing the proposal allows for a more informed decision rather than rushing the process.

Village Appearance and Annual Planning

Members discussed establishing an annual maintenance calendar addressing:

- Seasonal landscaping.
- Holiday decorations.
- Grounds maintenance.
- Park improvements.
- Community events.

The committee also discussed parking challenges experienced during a recent park concert and suggested future event planning should reserve parking for residents, particularly senior citizens, while directing performers to alternate parking locations.

Employee Safety

The committee discussed employee safety during periods of poor air quality resulting from Canadian wildfire smoke and during extreme heat.

Topics included:

- OSHA recommendations.
- Air quality alerts.
- Availability of N95 respirators.

- Appropriate work modifications during hazardous conditions.
- Additional hydration and cooling measures.
- Development of formal Village procedures governing employee safety during extreme weather and environmental conditions.

Young agreed to review current practices and available guidance before making recommendations.

Future Meetings

The committee agreed to schedule Streets Committee meetings on the **first Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m.**, followed immediately by Public Utilities Committee meetings. Adjustments may be made as necessary.

Department Head Coordination

Chairman Bell reported that the Village department heads recently met to address administrative concerns and internal communication issues.

He noted that:

- The meeting was constructive.
- Several misunderstandings were resolved.
- Department heads committed to working collaboratively.
- Continued meetings will be held to improve coordination and communication.

Committee members viewed the meeting as a positive step and encouraged continued progress.

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Result: Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at **6:22 p.m.**