

Sec. 98-51. - City street and city building names, changes thereto.

- (a) In order to further the public health, safety and welfare, the city council shall name new city streets and new city buildings, and existing city streets and city buildings that have not been previously named. The city council may, whenever it deems advisable, change the name of city streets and city buildings. Prior to the naming or renaming of a street, the proposed name shall be forwarded to the appropriate regional authority to avoid duplication of street names within the region.
- (b) In determining the names of city streets and city buildings, consideration shall be given to local citizens who have made positive contributions to the city.
- (c) Reserved.
- (d) Any citizen (hereinafter "petitioner") interested in renaming streets within the City of Petersburg must file a request with the director of public works, or his/her agent, which shall include:
 - (1) The current street name, the proposed street name, a contact name and number (address, phone number and email address if available), reason for the change;
 - (2) Statement that the petitioner agrees to pay all costs associated with the request, including the cost of new street sign(s);
 - (3) An administrative fee of \$200.00, due upon completion and submission of the application (this fee shall not be waived);
 - (4) A map showing the location of the street; and
 - (5) A listing of property owner's affected by the proposed street name and their addresses. Affected property owners include owners of all properties that abut the street in question whether containing an occupied dwelling or not.
- (e) The request for a name change must be approved by 100 percent of all affected property owners.
- (f) If the name change has 100 percent approval, the request will then go before city council for a public hearing.
- (g) Upon approval by city council, the street name change will not be effective for 60 days so that sign costs can be paid by the petitioner and the signs can be fabricated and posted. Petitioner has no more than six months from the date of council approval to provide full payment.
- (h) If the six months elapse, the permit will no longer be valid and a new application request must be submitted. No refunds will be given for failure to meet the six-month deadline.
- (i) The director of public works, or his/her agent, shall notify all affected property owners, and all applicable entities, to include city departments, the post office, and utility companies, of the street name change and effective date. A notice will be placed in the local newspaper and on the city website to make city residents aware of the change.
- (j) Failure of the director of public works to notify all entities and owners shall not void city council approval.
- (k) The street names established under this section shall take precedence over any other designation except those primary highways conforming to Code of Virginia, § 33.1-12, and shall be employed in references to property abutting thereon.

(Code 1981, § 2-11; Ord. No. 14-24, 4-15-2014)

State Law reference— Similar provisions, Code of Virginia § 15.2-2019.