

**McGill, Pam**

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**From:** Serge Bonte [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 1, 2023 7:16 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** McCarthy, Kimbra; , City Attorney  
**Subject:** 12.5.23 Meeting Agenda Item 4.2 WasteWater Fund to pay for legal bills??????

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Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

As I understand it, monies in the WasteWater Fund come from fees levied on Mountain View property owners. These fees are to insure we have a functioning and safe sewage system. It's puzzling how these fees could be used for unspecified litigation.

I understand that your practice is not to discuss City litigations in public, However, I feel strongly you should at least identify the case you want to litigate using ...WasteWater Fund monies.

One could speculate it might be to cover the costs of the Baykeeper lawsuit. In that lawsuit, the City is seemingly trying to get out of insuring our wastewater is safe before reaching our creeks and the San Francisco Bay. Worse, according to this recent article: <https://www.mv-voice.com/square/2023/11/10/water-pollution-lawsuit-against-mountain-view-sunnyvale-could-change-course-following-supreme-court-ruling> the City might be taking the position that our creeks are not "US waters", siding with a MAGA Supreme Court intent on removing most is not all water protections in this county.

Should that speculation be reality, I feel that it runs completely contrary to the purpose of the WasteWater Fund fees and that the City should find another funding source.

For the sake of our creeks and of the Bay, I also hope the City will reconsider its legal stance on that lawsuit.

Sincerely,

Serge Bonte  
20+ years Mountain View WasteWater Fees Payer.