

**Minutes – One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee
Thursday, January 18, 2018**

Members Present:

Alice Summerour
Bill Carver
Frank Wigington
Jay Cunningham
Marline Elkins
Ray Higginbotham
Roger Sandbothe
Kenneth Jones

Conference Call:

Dee Gay
James Brock
Johnny Brown
Lindsay Edwards
Susan Tucker

Absent:

Joe Profit

Cobb County & Other Officials Present:

Dr. Jackie McMorris, Deputy County Manager
Tom Bills, PRCA, Program Manager
Jimmy Gisi, PRCA, Director
Jim Wilgus, DOT, Director
Meagean De La Cruz, Admin, DOT
Lindy Tisdell, Finance

City of Marietta:

Dan Conn, Public Works Director

Chairperson Alice Summerour called the One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee to order at 3:00 PM on January 18, 2018.

As there was a quorum present, a motion was made to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2017, meeting. Motion was made and seconded; minutes were approved unanimously.

Lindy Tisdell from the Finance Department gave the monthly financial report regarding the 2016 SPLOST Summary.

Dan Conn, City of Marietta, Public Works Director, gave an update on the City's 2011 and 2016 SPLOST programs. Discussion was held regarding various projects in the 2011 SPLOST including several Congestion Relief and Mobility Improvement projects, Safety and Operational Improvement projects and Capital Improvement projects. The Cherokee Street at Cherry Street Intersection Improvement project is currently on hold due to Kennestone WellStar Hospital future development plans, the construction of the Roswell Road at Cobb Parkway Intersection Improvement project will be completed as part of the Manage Lanes project. He also highlighted projects in the 2016 SPLOST program including Burnt Hickory Road Trail, Cobb Parkway at Allgood Road Intersection Improvements, North Park Square sidewalk widening and streetscapes enhancement, and various Public Safety projects.

Questions/Answers for Marietta:

Q. S. Marietta Pkwy at Atlanta St.: Why was there a need to redesign this project?

A. The first initial design estimated a cost over our budget. We are working to redesign to accomplish the same project goals for a substantially less amount of money. Such as taking the 12-foot lanes down to 11-foot lanes. It will reduce the wall and decrease the cost of the project.

Q. Why was the Polk Street at Mountain View Road Intersection project over budget significantly as well?

A. We initially looked at the project just as a roundabout. When in design, we found that traffic would cause challenges entering the roundabout. We had a choice between not completing the project at all or adding an outbound lane all the way to Burnt Hickory to address that which then

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resulted in added cost. We completed a project rebalancing recently so we are still able to fund all projects as originally planned.

Q. Traffic Calming Retroreflectivity Requirements: Is there an ability to contest the State and Federal push back regarding this?

A. The requirement is a new one from Federal Highway Administration put into place during the recession. During that time, the local government entities determined they were not able to meet those requirements. However, local governments were not fully aware of the specifics for the requirements. Therefore, it continued to get pushed back.

Q. Do we have the ability to appeal the FHWA requirements/decisions?

A. Yes, we have gone through several attempts to appeal but we were not successful.

Q. Franklin Road Project: Does Federal funding cover the entire cost of the project?

A. It is an 80/20 match. We will cover 20% and GDOT will cover up to their agreed portion of it.

Q. Regarding construction bids and estimated project costs, are we being too conservative on estimated project costs?

A. Construction costs have increased significantly especially with the economy booming right now.

Q. Merritt Road at Barnes Mill Road: Is there only one ROW acquisition needed?

A. Yes.

Q. Do we need until Fall for this?

A. Yes.

Q. When would the City estimate the beginning of construction?

A. Three months after the ROW donation.

Q. Public Safety and Training Facility: Can the City utilize the County's training facilities?

A. Yes but at a cost.

Tom Bills, PRCA, Program Manager, provided an update on the 2011 and 2016 SPLOST projects. The 2011 projects are 96% complete and the 2016 projects have 24% complete, 26% in design and 30% in construction. He highlighted the Cato Nature Center/Bartlett Property Dam repairs. He also highlighted some 2016 SPLOST projects including various paving projects, the Jim R. Miller Park Exhibit project and the Synthetic Turf Field conversion projects. PARKS have completed approximately 17 parks paving projects and other paving projects planned include PARKS Admin Complex, Pitner Road RC Park and the Mable House Complex.

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Questions/Answers for PRCA:

Q. Will the Synthetic Turf go all the way to the walking track at Mud Creek?

A. Yes.

Q. With Baldwin Paving, is there anyone checking the quality of the paving outside of the Company?

A. There is a one-year warranty. In addition, our consultants have Inspectors who are inspecting the projects underway through completion as well as prior to the expiration of the one-year warranty.

Jim Wilgus, Director, DOT, provided a quarterly update on the 2011 and 2016 SPLOST program. The 2011 SPLOST projects are 92.2% complete and the last project is back in design. There are currently 7 projects in design and 9 projects in construction. Some highlights for the 2011 SPLOST program include Lower Roswell Road, various sidewalk projects, Wade Green DDI, and the Interstate North Parkway Realignment. In the 2016 SPLOST program there are 65 projects in design and 12 projects in construction. Some highlights for the 2016 SPLOST program include various bridge and sidewalk projects, South Barrett Reliever, Phase 2, John Ward Road at Irwin Road, and resurfacing needs.

Questions/Answers for DOT:

Q. What is the secret to getting federal funding?

A. Our Planning Department does well at finding out what projects they are interested in funding.

Q. Resurfacing: Is a 20-year cycle for resurfacing sufficient enough?

A. Yes.

Q. Does inclement weather impact the sustainability on the asphalt?

A. The roads do not freeze as deep into the grounds like other places further North.

The next order of business was the Election of District Representatives for 2018.

Roger Sandbothe was nominated for District 4 Representative; nomination was seconded and Roger Sandbothe was approved unanimously.

Johnny Brown was nominated for District 1 Representative; nomination was seconded and Johnny Brown was approved unanimously.

Dee Gay was nominated for District 2 Representative; nomination was seconded and Dee Gay was approved unanimously.

Susan Tucker was nominated for District 3 Representative; nomination was seconded and Susan Tucker was approved unanimously.

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The next order of business was the Election of Officers for 2018.

Marline Elkins was nominated for Secretary; nomination was seconded and Marline Elkins was approved unanimously.

Frank Wigington was nominated for Vice-Chairman; nomination was seconded and Frank Wigington was approved unanimously.

Alice Summerour was nominated for Chairperson; nomination was seconded and Alice Summerour was approved unanimously.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.