

**APPROVED**

**Minutes – One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee  
Thursday, October 18, 2012**

**Members Present:**

Lee Berg  
Johnny Brown  
Bill Carver  
Marline Elkins  
Murray Homan  
Scott Johnson  
Alice Summerour  
Frank Wigington

**Cobb County & Other Officials Present:**

Diana Belanger, Finance, Account III  
John Reida, Director, Property Management  
Sam Heaton, Fire Chief//Acting Public Safety Director  
Randy Crider, Deputy Chief  
Mark Reida, Public Safety Facilities Supervisor  
Julie Arnold, Property Management, Admin Supervisor  
Nancy Rouse, Admin, DOT  
Robert Quigley, Cobb Communications

**Absent:**

Dania Aponte  
David Hong  
John Pape  
Virginia Gregory

**Others:**

Scott Stokes, Public Works Director, Smyrna  
Don Hicks, Croy Engineering  
Darion Dunn, Croy Engineering

Chairperson Alice Summerour called the 39<sup>th</sup> meeting of the One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee to order at 3:00 p.m. on October 18, 2012, at the Property Management office on Powder Springs Street. A quorum was present

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2012 meeting. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Diana Belanger, Finance Department, gave the 2011 SPLOST financial update. Receipts for September were \$1.5 million above the monthly projection which gives the program a total of \$8 million over initial projections. There has been \$86 million collected, \$38 million expensed, and \$48 million currently available in the 2011 SPLOST program. This is for actual expenditures and does not include dollars encumbered.

Don Hicks with Croy Engineering gave the City of Smyrna 2005 and 2011 SPLOST updates. Mr. Hicks mentioned the projects Smyrna has completed this year in the 2005 SPLOST program:

- Pedestrian Bridge over CSX at Spring Road
- Campbell Road Bridge
- Atlanta Road Trail Extension

Active Projects in the 2005 SPLOST are:

- Concord Road Improvements– Right-of-way is in the 2005 SPLOST and Construction in the 2011 SPLOST
- Windy Hill Median
- Atlanta Road Median
- Traffic signal Interconnect

Ninety-two percent (92%) of the 2005 program is complete with \$3 million left to finish the remaining projects.

The question was asked if the Smyrna traffic signals are coordinated with the County's – information is shared, there is cooperation and planning with the County but they are separate systems.

Active projects in the Smyrna 2011 SPLOST program include:

- Concord Road Improvements – \$11 million for construction. Project has bid and C.W. Matthews was awarded the contract. Utility relocations have started.
- Windy Hill Road – this is a joint project with the County.
- Belmont Hills Connector Road – new road that will serve the new elementary school that opens in Fall of 2013 and will connect road around the new development at Belmont Hills, also includes 2 roundabouts. Currently under construction to be completed by April 2013.
- Reed Road culvert replacement – design 80% complete
- Ward Street improvements – design 90% complete
- Pedestrian bridge rehabilitation at Spring Road near Argyle Elementary School
- Park Improvements in various parts – is part of the Smyrna Parks Master Plan.

Three percent (3%) of the 2011 funds have been expended, will move forward as cash flow allows.

John Reida, Director, Property Management, gave an update of the 2011 SPLOST Facilities program. Total budget is \$18 million which goes towards: Library, Senior Services, Judicial, Public Health, other Facilities and Public Safety. There are 136 projects total with 22% started. Mr. Reida went through 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (July-September) activities in each area and the activities planned for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter (October-December). His presentation contained before and after photos of various projects.

The question was asked were any of the renovations LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) compliant. The Property management facility was designed as a LEEDS facility. The existing Health Building is not LEEDS but the larger 40,000 square foot area will be designed as such.

Mr. Reida had mentioned they met with an Advisory Committee on projects every 3 months. The question was ask who makes up the Committee. It is compiled of members from each of the facility areas (i.e. judicial, health dept, library, etc.). They meet to get feedback and suggestions on what needs to be included in each project.

A citizen attending the meeting asked several questions about the SPLOST. Why it had become an assumed ongoing tax as opposed to a one-time tax and why these projects were not incorporated into the general budget. He was also confused about the differences in the School SPLOST and the County SPLOST. Mr. Reida explained that with all the budget shortfalls there was no way the renovations and improvements could have been covered in the general budget and when renovations are put off for too long they create larger and more costly projects. Robert Quigley, Cobb Communications explained that the current County SPLOST was a 4-year program and ends December 31, 2015 and it is completely separate from the School SPLOST programs. The Board of Education is completely independent from the County.

Sam Heaton, Fire Chief and Acting Public Safety Director, gave an update to the 2011 SPLOST Public Safety program. Public Safety has a total budget of \$11.4 million to cover projects for 800 MHz./E911 improvements, Police equipment and Fire Department equipment and facilities projects. They are currently on schedule and below budget. Total projects 17 with 8 (or 47%) started with expenditures/encumbrances of \$5.4 million. Chief Heaton went through the activities for the past quarter and the upcoming activities for next quarter. There were discussions about the fire engines, in-house mechanics, air packs and 911 response procedures.

### **Other Business**

Marline Elkins, wanted to confirm that everyone was receiving emails from her. Send her and email if you have not received anything from in the past few weeks.

Lee Berg invited everyone to the Mabry Park – Third Annual Preview on November 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 2:00. Parking is at Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, located at 4495 Sandy Plains Road, Marietta. Cobb County shuttles will be taking residents to the park from the church. Come enjoy walking around the 26 acres of beautiful, passive park lands.

The Mountain View Aquatic Center Ribboncutting is on Monday, October 22, 2012 at 3:30. All are invited to see the renovations to this facility.

The next meeting will be held on January 17, 2013 at 3:00pm. The business portion of the meeting was adjourned and the Committee continued outside to see one of the new fire engines and to tour the new Senior Services Facility located in the complex.