

MINUTES
SPLOST 2016 MINUTES
CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
W. HAROLD PATE BUILDING
1725 REYNOLDS STREET, 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2018 AT 5:30 PM

Present: Robert Franklin, Chairman
Ronnie Perry, Vice Chairman
Jane Fraser
Philip Graitcer
William Kitts
Ron Maulden
Lance Sabbe
Robert Terjesen

Absent: Mary Harris

Also Present: Bill Brunson, Glynn County Commission Chairman
Michael Browning, Glynn County Commissioner
Alan Ours, Glynn County Manager
James Drumm, Brunswick City Manager
Jimmy Junkin, Executive Director, Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Water and Sewer Commission (JWSC)
Dave Austin, Glynn County Public Works Director
Garrow Alberson, City of Brunswick Engineer
Pam Thompson, Director, Glynn County Community Development
Paul Andrews, Glynn County Engineer

1. Approve and discuss the minutes of the special called meeting held March 22, 2018, subject to any necessary corrections

Robert Terjesen made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ronnie Perry and was approved unanimously.

7. Receive a projects update from Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Water and Sewer
[This item was moved up the agenda and heard before item number 2]

Jimmy Junkin, Executive Director of Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Water (JWSC), presented an update on the North mainland sewer improvement phases. He advised that the project is on schedule for a December of 2019 completion and needs additional JWSC funding to complete.

2. Discuss possible actions to be taken by a committee member who has been contacted by a citizen regarding an issue

Jane Fraser brought up a concern from a citizen about additional flooding that would be caused by the proposed sidewalks on South Harrington. Donna Livingston Hoh, a Harrington Community member, read a letter that she wrote to the SPLOST 2016 Citizens' Oversight Committee (SCOC) concerning the sidewalks and storm water drainage.

Ms. Fraser referenced a meeting that homeowners had about drainage concerns. Dave Austin, Glynn County Public Works Director rebutted that no homes are in danger of flooding. He spoke about the limited lifespan and the additional maintenance required of pervious sidewalk materials and is currently working on answering a list of concerns for the neighborhood. Ms. Livingston Hoh suggested conducting additional studies on the area and waiting to complete the project.

Robert Terjesen stated he has seen no evidence or study indicating the proposed sidewalk for South Harrington would add to the flooding issue in the neighborhood. We only have conjecture and he opined the SPLOST Oversight Committee mandate does not empower the Committee to become involved in an issue predating the existence of our Committee.

Robert Franklin suggested discussing the project with Peter Murphy, Glynn County District 2 Commissioner. The committee questioned if the problem discussed falls within the SCOC's purview. Ronnie Perry stated that the committee should focus only on project costs and completion.

Ms. Fraser made a motion to contact Commissioner Murphy with concerns about the South Harrington sidewalk project. The motion was seconded by Philip Graitcer. The motion failed 1-7 with Ms. Fraser in favor.

3. South Harrington Neighborhood Association

[This item was discussed in conjunction with item number 2]

4. Thoughts about oversight of SPLOST traffic projects: Presentation by Dr. Jeff Buckholz

Dr. Buckholz presented on traffic and transportation capacity on St. Simons Island. He suggested a solution to capacity issues is to add lanes and that roundabouts are not a solution to the problem. Michael Browning, District 1 Commissioner, and Ms. Fraser had a discussion about leaving decisions about roundabouts to the commissioner that represents the island. Dr. Buckholz continued on to analyze the POND study.

5. Receive a projects update from Glynn County

Commissioner Browning thanked the committee for serving and discussed some of the history behind forming the SCOC and the challenges of SPLOST. Ms. Fraser said that the SCOC has to be accountable to the voters. Commissioner Browning continued that he wants the public to know that the Board of Commissioners did what they said they were going to do and the SCOC's job is to report any problems to County staff, who will bring those issues to the board. Mr. Perry stated that he wanted the projects to be completed within the project budget assigned. Commissioner Browning then discussed the SPLOST funds collection and project progress.

To update the committee, Mr. Austin discussed funding from the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grants (LMIG) that would offset SPLOST funds spent on ongoing paving projects, reconstruction to start on Old Jesup Rd. in Summer 2017, and that all major traffic projects are under design including concepts for roundabouts and additional lanes at intersections. He also discussed the pavement evaluation plan that determines when to pave roads. Bill Brunson, Glynn County Commission Chairman, thanked the committee and spoke about SPLOST being integral to the community and the possibility of a 2020 SPLOST.

6. Receive a projects update from City of Brunswick

James Drumm, Brunswick City Manager, and Garrow Alberson, City of Brunswick Engineer, updated the committee the City of Brunswick SPLOST funds collections and possible problems with the College Park drainage project. Mr. Alberson focused on the Magnolia Park roadway rebuilding project. He advised that they are partnering with JWSC to replace utilities and the project construction would take a year beginning in early 2019. He also addressed the rebuild of L Street and improving drainage with work to begin in late summer.

8. Selection of dates for future meetings

Lance Sabbe made a motion to hold the next meeting August 22, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. Ron Maulden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.