

MINUTES
SPLOST 2016 CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MEETING
W. HAROLD PATE BUILDING
1725 REYNOLDS STREET, 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 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: Alan Ours, Glynn County Manager
Jimmy Junkin, Executive Director, Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Water
and Sewer Commission (JWSC)
Dave Austin, Glynn County Public Works Director
Paul Andrews, Glynn County Engineer

1. Approve and discuss the minutes of the May 23, 2018, meeting, subject to any necessary corrections

~~Lance Sabbe made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ron Maulden. The minutes were approved unanimously~~

2. Discuss the idea of a transcript of meetings in addition to minutes

Robert Franklin spoke about using a court reporter to transcribe the minutes from the May 23, 2018, meeting of the SPLOST 2016 Citizen's Oversight Committee (SCOC) in order to be more transparent to the public. He stated that it would be cost prohibitive and there is no available local reporter to fill the role. Ms. Fraser stated that the minutes are superficial and she would pay for the service. Robert Terjesen pointed out that the Glynn County Board of Commissioners (BOC) do not transcribe their meetings. Ms. Fraser rebutted that the meeting video serves the purpose for the BOC meetings, but that the SCOC meeting video and audio are inadequate. Lance Sabbe recommended making sure that the sound quality is adequate instead of transcribing meetings.

3. Presentation by the Jekyll Island Authority on use of SPLOST funds

A representative from Jekyll Island Authority was not at the meeting and Jones Hooks is requested to be at the October 24, 2018 meeting to update the SCOC on a letter that was sent earlier in the year.

4. Receive a projects update from Glynn County

Dave Austin, Public Works Director, updated the SCOC on the Frederica Road and Kings Way intersection. He stated that the County has decided to go with the traditional lane improvements and that the roundabout did not fit due to the restrictions of McKinnon St. Simons Airport. He also stated that the cost would be about the same due to the installation of mast arms for the lights instead of string lights.

Ms. Fraser asked about the moving of a Georgia Power pole at Frederica Road and Sea Island Road. Mr. Austin responded that there are plans for intersections along Sea Island Road, but the only improvement to that intersection would be to the Harris Teeter entrance.

Philip Graitcer inquired about the Brunswick Area Transportation Study (BATS) grant for a new St. Simons Island traffic study and how it would affect the 2016 SPLOST. Mr. Austin replied most 2016 SPLOST projects would be in progress before the new traffic study is finished and that it would be a more comprehensive look at all of St. Simons Island. The POND study was only for a portion of the island and some of the improvements suggested are minimal.

Mr. Sabbe asked if the new study would take into account the current projects in the SPLOST 2016 list. Mr. Austin explained the process of getting the funding for the new BATS traffic study, how they plan to implement it if the money is awarded to Glynn County, and that they would like to get more public involvement into the next study. Mr. Austin updated that Demere Road would also be undergoing resurfacing, drainage corrections, and add a turn lane at the Reserve at Demere. He also commented the Sea Island Road and Frederica Road resurfacing projects would be underway soon.

Ronnie Perry asked about the difference between the POND study and the BATS study and the effectiveness of it in the future. Paul Andrews, Glynn County Engineer, answered that the POND study was a corridor study and that the BATS study is meant to study the traffic flow from the corridors in the POND study. Mr. Andrews suggested that because conditions on St. Simons are changing the study would be a snapshot of what is currently happening and not an accurate look into the future. Mr. Perry stated that there is no place to construct expand the road system on St. Simons Island.

Ms. Fraser asked about a drainage project at The Reserve at Demere and stated that the taxpayers should not have to finance drainage for developers. Mr. Austin responded the

turn lane at The Reserve at Demere caused Public Works to bring piping for water across the road and that funding to put in the turn lane is from the developer, the funding for the drainage is from the general fund, and SPLOST 2016 money is used for the resurfacing. Ms. Fraser also asked about the drainage and culverts at Plumbroke development. Mr. Andrews responded that Plumbroke drains into the marsh and that the developer paid for sewer work at the entrance.

Mr. Terjesen asked about the Spur 25 at Altama Connector concept meeting. Mr. Austin responded that the meeting occurred with engineers and spoke about the concept design, lane changes, turn restrictions, safety, and presentations to the BOC in the September 20, 2018 meeting. He spoke about possible funding sources and suggested safety improvements may persuade the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) may contribute funds. He added that the changes would improve the intersection from a grade of F to a C and that there is no ideal time to work on this intersection.

Ms. Fraser asked about the funds for the Gateway project. Mr. Austin replied that the current Gateway project is trying to fix the ditch at the entrance to St. Simons Island. The committee then spoke about future stop light synchronization on the island. Mr. Austin also discussed stop light loops and that Demere Road will have new stop light loops during the resurfacing.

Mr. Graitcer asked for final completion dates on the County projects outlines. Mr. Austin responded that his focus is on a quality job within budget, but can add estimated end dates back to the spreadsheet. The SCOC then discussed project expiration dates and project completion. Mr. Austin stated that the Norwich Street resurfacing was completed under budget, that the sidewalks on 341 would be finished soon, and that more projects are soon to be under construction. The SCOC asked to see drone footage of projects and that completed projects be highlighted in red.

5. Receive a projects update from City of Brunswick

A representative from the city was not available at the meeting.

Mr. Graitcer made a motion the City of Brunswick provide updated information on progress from June through August 2018 within 14 days. Ms. Fraser seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Graitcer amended the motion to include the Jekyll Island Authority and Jane Fraser seconded. The amendment was approved unanimously.

6. Receive a projects update from Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Water and Sewer Commission

Jimmy Junkin, Executive Director of the Brunswick – Glynn County Joint Water and Sewer Commission (JWSC) updated the SCOC on the finalization of the conceptual design and routing on the North Mainland system. Phase 2 of the North Mainland project is expected to be completed in January 2020 and an estimated completion of Phase 3 in August 2020.

Selection of an engineer for the City of Brunswick Collection system upgrade is underway, but a completion date of August 2019 is expected. Ms. Fraser inquired whether the treatment plant on the mainland has capacity and Mr. Junkin responded that there is capacity even if a large industry were to come to Brunswick.

7. Discuss first annual report and appoint sub-committee to draft

Mr. Franklin suggested William Kitts, Philip Graitcer, and Mary Harris as members to a subcommittee to develop an oversight committee report. Mr. Graitcer expressed concerns about his availability during the months of September and October 2018. Mr. Sabbe said that he would be happy to help out as necessary. Mr. Franklin then appointed Lance Sabbe along with William Kitts and Mary Harris to the subcommittee, noting that Ms. Harris has not made the last two meetings.

Mr. Sabbe asked that the overall collections be included in the SCOC meeting packet.

8. Selection of dates for future meetings to be held every 60 days

The SCOC selected October 24, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. and December 12, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. as the next meeting dates.

Mr. Perry made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Ron Maulden. It was approved unanimously.