

DRAFT MINUTES
SPLOST 2016 CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MEETING
W. HAROLD PATE BUILDING
1725 REYNOLDS STREET, 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2019 AT 5:30 PM

Present: Lance Sabbe, Chairman
Philip Graitcer, Vice Chairman
John Dow
Bob Franklin
Jane Fraser
Ronnie Perry
Robert Terjesen

Absent: William Kitts
Ron Maulden

Also Present: Jim Drumm, Brunswick City Manager
Andrew Burroughs, Interim Executive Director, Brunswick-Glynn
County Joint Water and Sewer Commission and Sewer Commission (JWSC)
Dave Austin, Glynn County Public Works Director
Paul Andrews, Glynn County Engineer
Noel Jensen, Chief Operations Officer, Jekyll Island Authority

1. Discuss and approve the minutes of the August 28, 2019, meeting, subject to any necessary corrections

Philip Graitcer made a motion to approve the minutes. Robert Franklin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussion of Glynn County project updates [REPORT](#)

Glynn County Public Works Director, Dave Austin began the update with the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) resurfacing projects. Jane Fraser asked if that money could be used for the animal shelter. Mr. Austin said that they money should stay in the category and that he would ask a lawyer. Ms. Fraser asked about the Demere Road turn lane. Mr. Austin responded that the project is not a SPLOST project, that the money has been collected, that it has to be constructed in an 18-month time frame, and that it will be tied to another major road project.

Glynn County Engineer, Paul Andrews updated the committee on the Canal Road improvement project, stating that land acquisition, title certifications, and design are

underway including a design of the roundabout. John Dow asked about the land acquisition progress and whether it impacts the current commercial developments on the road. Mr. Andrews stated that approval has been given to make offers and that the acquisition is heading North of Gateway Center, but the roadway in the current commercial area will be reconfigured. Ms. Fraser asked why there was such a large discrepancy in the design bids. Mr. Andrews stated that the County purchasing officer handles the bids and that he suspected the higher bids were based on the bidders planning for Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) projects which have more requirements than Glynn County projects. He expressed that the bidders with more experience in the area were those that had the lower bids. Ms. Fraser asked if the design request for proposals (RFP) are available. Mr. Andrews said that it takes a while to get the signed contract back in which the RFPs are included.

Mr. Andrews continued his update with the Dungeness Drive Extension land acquisition problems. He stated that the land was bought by Wagoneer and the plan for the extension has to change. A second option using Candler Road has been examined, but has problems as well.

Mr. Austin updated the committee on the design of Pennick Road, the Sea Island ditch piping design on the West side between Hamilton Road and Epworth Acres, the Sea Island Road and Demere Road sidewalk project that includes a right of way issue, and packaging the Frederica Road and Demere Road roundabout paving project with a future project. Mr. Austin stated that it should be combined on a bid with a larger project in order to get the project done by a company that is used to laying a lot of asphalt.

He continued that the Ocean Boulevard/Mallery Street project will go to the Board of Commissioners in November for approval. Ms. Fraser asked about the status of the bids. Mr. Austin responded that the low bid was \$84,592.50 and the other was close to \$150,000.

John Dow asked about land acquisition and Sea Island's involvement in the Kings Way and Frederica Road intersection. Mr. Austin responded that Sea Island owns the three corners that are not controlled by the airport and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and that Sea Island has presented options for the Board of Commissioners to vote on. Dr. Graitcer said that Commissioner Murphy had presented the intersection options at a town hall.

Mr. Austin continued his update with the near completion of the East Beach Causeway/Ocean Boulevard roundabout including paving to the bridge near the intersection and the future East Beach Causeway/ Demere Road roundabout which he stated would be more difficult than the Ocean Boulevard roundabout because of utilities. Mr. Dow asked about the timeline of the project. Mr. Austin responded that the intent was to complete the Kings Way/Frederica Road intersection first then Demere Road/East Beach Causeway, but the construction timeline has been problematic as he tries to plan around to major events on St. Simons Island and the schedule is ultimately the decision of the Commissioners. Dr. Graitcer asked that notification of construction and detours go

out far ahead of the beginning of construction. Mr. Austin said that they evaluate the detours to find the best route, but the Demere Road/East Beach Causeway construction project may not have a detour although he is still looking into options.

Ms. Fraser asked why the Spur 25/Altama Connector had a \$45,000 increase in the design budget and where the money would come from. Mr. Austin responded that GDOT gave \$250,000 in a LMIG to improve safety by adding turn lanes, but the LMIG cannot be used for design and design will cost \$45,000 of SPLOST.

Mr. Andrews continued the update with the near completion of the Gateway Center sidewalk and the Harry Driggers Boulevard sidewalk right of way acquisition, plans, and next steps with GDOT. Mr. Austin added the design of the Frederica sidewalk and the Arnold Road tide gates replacement which is waiting on the contractor submittal. Mr. Andrews continued with the College Park Drainage improvement project, FLETC coordination on the Chapel Crossing Road drainage improvements, an upcoming meeting on Somersby Point drainage project, the concept design and kickoff meeting with Pittman Engineering on the Golden Isles Parkway Extension drainage improvements, and acquisition and GDOT comments on the Hornet/South Palm drainage improvements.

Mr. Austin concluded with the Veterans Memorial construction and the estimates for the new Animal Control Facility. Ms. Fraser asked about sewage at the proposed Public Safety complex and Mr. Austin responded that the County and JWSC have agreed to a split. Bob Terjesen asked how many square feet the new facility is designed to be. Mr. Austin replied that it's about 15,000 square feet. Mr. Terjesen responded that at \$3.8 million the shelter would be \$253 per square foot and in his research they are typically \$450 per square foot to build. Mr. Dow asked if there is SPLOST money elsewhere that could be applied to the Animal Shelter. Mr. Austin responded that he didn't think so and for instance the Veteran's memorial used the capital fund balance to fund the difference, but that is the decision of the Commissioners. Ms. Fraser said that she thinks the public would support using capital fund balance on the Animal Shelter.

3. Discussion of City of Brunswick project updates [REPORT](#)

Brunswick City Manager, Jim Drumm began his update with the paving of L Street on track to be completed in April of 2020, other LMIG road paving, the repair collapsed of pipes and paving on Lanier Boulevard, sidewalk projects, College Park and Magnolia Park drainage, and the Mary Ross Park playground, bathrooms, enclosing the pavilion and splash pad which will be placed in the Southeast corner after the Stewbilee. Mr. Drumm continued with the Highway 17 beatification at Fourth Avenue and Wayfinding signage. Lance Sabbe asked if the signage has been purchased and if there is a planned rollout time and Mr. Drumm responded that it has not and locations and timing for placement are being determined.

Mr. Drumm continued with the MLK Trail from Prince Street to Inez Williams Park, an aluminum bridge over the creek for Glynn Middle School, the Phase 2 cemetery fencing restoration, and the next phases for street paving within the cemetery.

Bob Franklin said that he remembered 25 cars in the SPLOST originally and Mr. Drumm responded that in negotiations the number of cars was reduced to 15. Mr. Dow asked about the surplus for the police vehicles and if more vehicles could be bought. Mr. Drumm stated that the excess would be used to make up shortfalls and that because the SPLOST item only specified 15 cars they can't purchase any more. The SCOC discussed how the excess money on projects could be used for other projects in SPLOST. Mr. Sabbe asked that the next meeting agenda include an item clarifying regarding allocation of extra funds. Mr. Terjesen stated that the surplus must to go back to the tax payers.

Mr. Drumm continued his update that the fire station one additions should be under construction soon, that tentative approval to close George Street and combine Wright Square was given by Brunswick Commissioners, that Palmetto and Orange Square park planning has begun, and that Liberty Ship Park restrooms are under construction, but may be delayed due to staging for the Golden Ray incident response. Mr. Sabbe asked if Brunswick approved the use of Liberty Ship Park and Mr. Drumm responded that the state owns the park and can use it for any purpose. Ms. Fraser asked who is building the restrooms. Mr. Drumm responded that they used a state contract and it includes 2-3 toilets and storage for around \$100,000. Mr. Drumm concluded with Overlook park, new concepts for Howard Coffin Park, and the Roosevelt-Harris Senior Center construction that is underway.

4. Discussion of Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Water and Sewer project updates [REPORT](#)

Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Water and Sewer Interim Director Andrew Burroughs, updated the committee on phase 2 construction of the North Mainland Sewer project to include pipe lining and the B&W Grade Road pump station reroute design that is underway to begin after the beginning of the year. He stated that the 4003 lift station Brunswick project is 60% designed and is due to be underway in the Spring. Ms. Fraser asked about upgrading the lift station at the proposed animal shelter location. Mr. Burroughs replied that JWSC would pay for force main improvements if the County paid for the lift station.

5. Discussion of Jekyll Island Authority project updates [REPORT](#)

Jekyll Island Authority Chief Operations Officer, Noel Jensen updated the committee on The completed paving phases 1 through 4 of paving and the creation of the Corsair Beach Parking Lot. Mr. Jensen said that in order to make the most of paving projects, Jekyll Island saves the money until they can pave many roads at one time and that all residential roads, with the exception of one street, are repaved. He stated that Phase 5 will include marking, parking lot paving, and using the money that is left efficiently. Dr. Graitcer asked if any of the paving impacted drainage and Mr. Jensen responded that the pitch on the roads has not been changed and that he doesn't get many complaints about residential flooding because Jekyll Island is much like an upside down bowl.

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

Ronnie Perry made a suggestion to hold a meeting every 90 days because the projects are moving slowly and that overspending won't be noticed until after the project is under construction. Ms. Fraser stated that year end is particularly important and that people voted for the SPLOST because of the committee. Dr. Graitcer stated that land acquisition is slow moving and that the reporting is better from the entities.

Ms. Fraser made a motion to hold the next meeting on December 11, 2019. Mr. Franklin seconded the motion. The motion failed by a vote of 3-4 with Ms. Fraser, Mr. Franklin, and Mr. Dow in favor.

Mr. Sabbe made a motion to hold the next meeting on January 22, 2020. Mr. Perry seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 4-3 with Mr. Sabbe, Mr. Perry, Mr. Terjesen, Dr. Graitcer in favor.

Mr. Perry made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Graitcer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.