

After Agenda

**Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Work Session
Monday, April 17, 2017
10:00 AM
Meeting Room 108, Courthouse Annex
119 E. Solomon Street**

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Work Session in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, April 17, 2017, beginning at 10:00 a.m. with Chairman Bart Miller presiding. Commissioners Rita Johnson, Raymond Ray, Gwen Flowers-Taylor and Donald Hawbaker were present. Also present were County Manager, William P. Wilson Jr., Assistant County Manager, Eric Mosley and Executive Secretary, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes.

A. Call to Order led by Chairman Bart Miller.

Invocation led by Commissioner Rita Johnson.

Pledge to the Flag led by Commissioner Raymond Ray.

B. Agenda Items

1. Discuss 2008 and 2016 SPLOST transportation projects and funding available.

William Wilson, County Manager, then advised that transportation projects that were included in the 2008 SPLOST.

- Rover-Zetella/SR 16 we had budgeted \$50,000 and we used \$12,600.
- Jordan Hill Road Bridge, we had budgeted \$50,000 originally on that project and have spent \$3,500.
- Smoak Road Bridge, we budgeted \$34,000 we spent \$38,000.
- Memorial Drive Intersection Improvements \$675,000.
- Transit Feasibility Study budgeted \$100,000 and spent \$99,000.
- Intersection #2, this item will be on the Agenda this evening for approval along with the culvert over Cabin Creek. We have spent \$905,000 to date on this roundabout. Tonight you will be approving the County's portion which will be a little over \$500,000 to be applied toward the 50/50 project with the City of Griffin. Funding for the bridge will come out of the 2016 SPLOST.
- The 2013 and 2015 LMIG Matches were funded out of the 2008 SPLOST.
- West McIntosh Road Bridge is under construction by the State, we budgeted \$500,000 and have spent approximately \$480,000.
- CTP budget was \$300,000 and we spent approximately \$299,000.
- Most of the funds remaining in the 2008 SPLOST is designated for the North Hill Street Sewer Improvements which is \$2,228,000 and is Water Authority funding.
- We came in under budget on the Senior Citizens' Bus.
- SPLOST paying agent fees we still are incurring these and will have some

next year.

Mr. Wilson added that the County should finish up the 2008 SPLOST this evening with the approval of funding for Intersection #2. The only funds remaining will be for the North Hill Street Sewer improvements.

Commissioner Hawbaker then asked about the Intersection #3 project.

Mr. Wilson advised that the County had only budgeted \$1 million for the Intersection #2 project and it is going to come in around \$1.8 million which will use up any funds that had been assigned to Intersection #3. He advised that he would be addressing this on the 2016 SPLOST because the County has applied for a Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB) grant and it has a grant match requirement of 20% that can be taken out of the 2016 SPLOST should we be awarded that grant.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor expressed her concerns regarding the gas pipe lines that run under Intersection #3 and going through the property of a thriving business when there are two businesses that have been closed for years on the other side of the roadway.

Mr. Wilson stated that three designs had been presented to the Board and the Board had voted on that design; however, he would look up the design options that were presented so the Board can review them again.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked if the money that had been allocated to the North Hill Street Sewer improvements could be reallocated. She stated that the only money utilized had been for studies. If this could get us through our Intersection #3 project, this may be something that we need to explore.

Mr. Wilson advised that he would contact King and Spalding to see if a reallocation of those funds could be accomplished. He stated if the project is declared infeasible then the money could possibly be reallocated.

Mr. Wilson advised that this brings us to the 2016 SPLOST. Originally \$9.4 million had been allocated for Transportation Projects. To date we have committed:

- \$200,000 to the Jordan Hill Road Bridge
- \$1.2 million to the North Hill Street Culvert
- The LMIG match is usually \$700,000 to \$1 million per year. Our road paving programs require a 30% match for the money because we did not pass the TSPLOST when it was voted on years ago. Spalding County has always utilized SPLOST funds for the match on the LMIG.

This leaves undesignated approximately \$4.8 million. These are pay as you go funds and are collected over the 6 year period of the SPLOST.

Mr. Wilson responded to a question from Commissioner Flowers-Taylor with regard to the striping of the roadways. He advised that the striping on the resurfaced roads is not complete, the centerline striping has been completed and the white lines on the sides of the roads should be completed soon. The County

is considering contracting with Two Rivers RC&D to utilize their equipment and our crews to stripe other roads.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor advised that she was not talking about the newly resurfaced roads, she was talking about regular roads that you can no longer see the striping on older roads.

Mr. Wilson advised that this is a road maintenance item and they are currently working on the budget. He stated that striping is very expensive and very time consuming but we are working on renting the equipment to do this in the next few months.

Mr. Wilson stated that we are finished with the LMIG resurfacing projects for 2017.

Mr. Wilson advised that the Atlanta Regional Commission has issued a "Call for projects." The GSATC Board has recommended two projects to move forward, one of which is the relocation of SR155 to McDonough Road. That requires a 20% match on our part. That project is estimated at \$15 million which is \$3 million for the 20% match. It is not committed all at one time, it is committed over several years.

Now, in order for projects to be put on the "TIP" (Transportation Improvement Plan) there has to be a letter from the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners stating that these funds have been designated and where the funds are designated to come from for the match. Essentially these funds would be encumbered for those projects.

The second project is an Interchange Justification Report, currently Spalding County does not have an interchange and the only county road that crosses I-75 is Jenkinsburg Road and we have talked many years about a Jenkinsburg Road interchange.

He advised that the State is planning on installing truck lanes only from Macon to McDonough which is a fast lane project for GDOT that will be done within the next 3 to 5 years. These changes already in the works will help us to justify an interchange at that location. He then advised that he does not know what an Interchange Justification Report costs today, but approximately 10 years ago it was \$500,000.

If either of these projects are accepted as TIP projects 20% of the total cost will have to be paid by the County.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked if the City of Griffin and the Development Authority should also be assisting in the cost for these projects because it is not just about the County, it is about economic development.

Mr. Wilson stated that he feels that the City of Griffin should share in the cost of relocation for SR155 because that is a huge benefit to the City and they should share in those costs. This was brought up at the last GSATC meeting and the City representatives didn't seem receptive at the time.

Commissioner Hawbaker stated that he has had subsequent conversations with a representative from the City and he has a high degree of confidence that they will go along with sharing the costs at 50%.

Mr. Wilson advised that if this were to happen it would free up approximately \$1.5 million for other projects. He further stated that this would leave approximately \$2.5 - \$3 million that would remain undesignated should the Board choose to support those projects.

Mr. Wilson advised that he had asked Brian Upson from Paragon Consulting to be present today and give an update on dirt roads, right of way requirements and the cost of paving roads. Mr. Wilson stated that for a TSPLOST there will need to be details regarding each project and we will need to work with Paragon on developing cost estimates that are up to date on any roads, bridges or intersections that we choose to put on a TSPLOST.

Mr. Upson provided everyone with information on right of ways and cost estimates for paving dirt roads. Mr. Upson stated that in the past we have accepted right of way widths that the County felt that citizens were willing to give and worked within those right of ways which has created issues as far as maintenance and utilities. He reviewed the standard right of way sections for Spalding County one is a 60' right of way with a ditch and a 10' utility easement the second is an 80' right of way which provides for space within the right of way for placement of utilities.

Mr. Upson advised that a minimum of 60' should be required; however, due to the topography of the road bed this could cause problems with the slope needed in some areas for the ditches. His recommendation is that an 80' right of way be acquired so that there is enough room to accommodate the problems that may occur on a roadway. The 80' right of way would be the long term solution for the paving of roads. He then stated that other Counties have typically gone with an 80' standard right of way to make sure that they have enough room in the future to maintain the right of way.

Mr. Wilson added that when the County paves a road we are responsible for relocating all utilities at our expense. He stated that staff is recommending an 80' right of way for all future dirt road paving.

Mr. Wilson then advised that he would ask that the Board pick several projects that they would like to see on a TSPLOST and allow Paragon to work up estimates on those projects and these studies can be paid for with SPLOST dollars.

Commissioner Hawbaker asked if we will need to go by the Projects listed in the CTP when considering projects for a TSPLOST.

Mr. Wilson advised that if we wanted to fund our match on ARC projects from TSPLOST the projects would have to be in the CTP.

Mr. Wilson then asked what roads, intersections, bridges and resurfacing projects the Board would like estimates on for a possible TSPLOST.

Projects per CTP:

- LCI Intersection #3 - \$1.5 million
- Orchard Hill Intersection Improvements – Johnson, Macon, McDonough and Swint - \$2 million
- Tri County Crossing – Moreland Road Extension to Zebulon Road - \$5.3 million

SUBTOTAL \$8.8 million

Paving of Dirt Roads:

• Pineview Road	0.8 miles	District 1
• Minter Road “A”	1.1	District 5
• Sam Solomon Road	0.5	District 5
• Cecil Jackson Road	0.5	District 5
• Apple Road	0.4	District 5
• Parham Road “B”	0.8	District 5
• Yarbrough Mill Road	1.7	District 4
• West Williamson Road	1.4	District 4
• East Maddox Road	1.2	District 2
• Rawls Road	1.3	District 4
• Riveree Road	0.9	District 4
• Candler Road	0.9	District 4
• Trestle Road	1.4	District 4
• Parham Road “A”	0.7	District 5
• Amelia Road	0.9	District 5
TOTAL	14.5 miles	\$21,750,000

SUBTOTAL \$30.5 million

Resurfacing Roads:

\$10 million for resurfacing of approximately 90 miles of roadway. To be taken by priority according to the Paser/LMIG list.

Mr. Wilson advised that this would be approximately \$40 million in projects for the TSPLOST to get engineering estimates on for review. He then asked if consideration would be given to bike/ped projects or rails to trails projects.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that the City does have some bike trails; however, the County doesn't have any roadways that accommodate bicycle traffic. It would be good to connect it to the City so that we would have continuity to the project.

Commissioner Johnson added that although conversations regarding the aquatic center have not been conducted, it would only make sense to insure that the trails provide access to this center.

T. J. Imberger advised that we already have an extensive study that has been

done on the Roosevelt Railroad Corridor which would connect from the Henry County Line into a possible location for the aquatic center and to the City of Griffin.

The total cost for the Roosevelt Railroad Rail with Trail project is estimated at \$7.2 million for all phases: Phase I-\$2.4 million, Phase II-\$2 million, Phase III-\$1.7 million and Phase IV \$1.1 million.

He added that the City is amenable for us to partner on sewer right of ways coming out of the City and going to Orchard Hill which would provide a north/south corridor that would tie into downtown Griffin and provide an opportunity for development of other east/west corridors. He added that these are amenities that people and industries are looking for when relocating to an area.

Mr. Imberger added that it is an attractive alternative for residential growth to utilize bike/peds and trails to travel to and from work, this is something that is done elsewhere so when you are looking at industry relocate here, they are also looking for those opportunities.

Mr. Wilson stated that were no costs included in the CTP for Bike/Ped but a good estimate would be approximately \$2.5 million.

C. Adjournment

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to adjourn at 12:27 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.