

**Minutes – One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee  
Thursday, May 17, 2018**

**Members Present:**

Alice Summerour  
Bill Carver  
Frank Wigington  
Kenneth Jones  
Lindsay Edwards  
Marline Elkins  
Ray Higginbotham  
Roger Sandbothe  
Susan Tucker  
Sally Riddle

**Members Present Cont:**

James Brock  
Jay Cunningham

**Absent:**

Dee Gay  
Johnny Brown

**Cobb County & Other Officials Present:**

Dr. Jackie McMorris, Deputy County Manager  
Tom Bills, PARKS, Program Manager  
Jimmy Gisi, PARKS, Director  
Erica Parish, Interim Director, DOT  
Meagean Diaz, Admin, DOT  
Wade Kelly, SPLOST Program Manager, DOT  
Bill Volckmann, Director, Finance

**City of Austell:**

Jim Graham, Director, Community Affairs  
Bo Garrison, Director, Public Works

Chairperson Alice Summerour called the One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee to order at 3:00 PM on May 17, 2018.

As there was a quorum present, a motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2018, meeting. Motion was made and seconded; minutes were approved unanimously.

Bill Volckmann, Director, Finance Department, gave the monthly financial report regarding the 2016 SPLOST Summary. As of now, the collections are going very well and the County will begin to look at paying off Capital leases to save on interest cost.

**Q.** What percent of the SPLOST collections are distributed to the cities?

**A.** Roughly 25% of the overall collections is given to the cities.

**Q.** Anything saved in the SPLOST program, does it have to go back into the SPLOST program?

**A.** Yes.

Jim Graham, Community Affairs Director, City of Austell, gave an update on the City's PARKS and Public Safety SPLOST programs. The 2011 SPLOST projects highlighted were Threadmill Complex Roof Replacements, Threadmill Elevator Upgrades, City Parks Upgrades, multiple purchases of PARKS equipment and the purchase of a new fire truck.

Bo Garrison, Public Works Director, City of Austell, gave an update on the City's SPLOST program pertaining to Transportation. The 2016 SPLOST projects highlighted were various resurfacing projects, and the purchase of maintenance equipment.

Tom Bills, Program Manager, PARKS, provided an update on the 2011 and 2016 SPLOST projects. The 2011 program is 97% complete, 1% in construction, 2% in design and the 2016 program is 32% complete. He highlighted the turf field conversion project is complete, the Jim R. Miller Park Event Center is in construction and completion is expected in August, the PARKS Headquarters Building is currently under construction and completion is expected in October and the Mabry Park project is expected to be completed in January 2019.

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**Questions/Answers for PARKS:**

**Q.** Is there anything happening to the Ebenezer Road Park?

**A.** The County now owns it but there is no specific funding identified at this moment to do any development.

**Q.** The event center at Jim R Miller Park, will the County put it out there to have it named by someone? There is a potential to make money with a company sponsoring and obtaining naming rights.

**A.** Not at this moment but the County is considering a program that would work towards this. The County would need someone specifically on staff to work this program or contract out to work this program.

**Q. Rubber Walking Track Surfaces:** The Sweetwater Park and Hurt Road Park projects have the same length track, what causes one to have almost double the cost?

**A.** One was 8 feet wide and the other was only 5 feet wide. There is a square foot pricing.

**Q. SPLOST Report:** Is Moreland tasked with putting this information together?

**A.** Yes. They are our Program Manager. We do not have the task or expertise to work on our SPLOST programs alone.

Wade Kelly, SPLOST Program Manager, DOT, provided a quarterly update on the 2011 and 2016 SPLOST program. The 2011 SPLOST projects are 92.7% complete. There are currently 7 projects in design and 8 projects in construction. Some highlights for the 2011 SPLOST program include Riverview Road, Woodlawn Drive Sidewalks, Irwin Road Sidewalks, South Barrett Reliever, Phase 2 and Wesley Chapel Road Sidewalks. In the 2016 SPLOST program there are 72 projects in design and 21 projects in construction. Some highlights for the 2016 SPLOST program include Brookwood Drive Bridge over Clay Branch, Post Oak Tritt Road at Hembree Road, Cumberland Boulevard and John Ward Road at Irwin Road (Cheatham Hill Elementary School).

**Questions/Answers for DOT:**

**Q. Pope Roundabout:** Can anything be done about the heights of the speed bumps entering the school parking lot?

**A.** The speed bumps within the school parking lot are the responsibility of the school. We can have a discussion with them regarding this. The County utilizes speed humps that are standard.

**Q.** Are all contracts Unit Price Contracts?

**A.** The majority of resurfacing are UPC but it varies.

**Q. Old 41 CSX Bridge Replacement:** What is being considered with this project?

**A.** This project is still in design and there are multiple concepts as of now but nothing is final.

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The Committee discussed a post made on social media that raised concern suggesting doing away with Tier 2 projects to free up funds for other general spending within the County. The Committee is aware that SPLOST dollars cannot be reallocated to anything other than SPLOST projects and have decided to put together a FAQ document to better educate the public on the SPLOST program.

A response will be provided by the Committee and reviewed by the County prior to posting on social media.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.