

ESPLOST COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: August 9, 2022 8:30 am in Room 136, BOE HQ, 595 Prince Avenue.

Attendees: Alex Sams Andrew Malec Tad MacMillan Linda Davis Niki Jones
Xernona Thomas Garrick Askew John Gilbreath Troy Basset Gerald Arscott

Staff Reports: Copies of the following were distributed prior to the meeting:

- June, 2022 Meeting Summary
- August, 2022 SPLOST Monthly Report
- August, 2022 SPLOST Contingency/Change Order Report
- August, 2022 Construction Schedule
- June, 2022 SPLOST 5 Financials
- June, 2022 SPLOST 5 Budget Projections
- June, 2022 SPLOST 5 Revenue Monthly Trend

West Broad Campus: Dr. Thomas has established a work group to consider other options for the use of the property.

Early Learning at Old Gaines: A further eight classrooms were brought into use for the start of this school year, making a total of 20 classrooms serving 300 children. Two major items, which have been delayed by supply-chain issues, remain to be completed. The playground will be started this month and the bus and car rider canopies in December.

Board HQ: Work on the building is complete. We are waiting for the County’s comments on the planning/re-zoning proposals for the two house. Once this is settled the houses will be offered for sale. The house on Prince Avenue is 4,000 sq. ft and the one on Hill Street about 2,000 sq. ft. Reference was made to the County’s decision to make Prince Avenue 3-lane from Pulaski Street to Milledge Avenue. This will be for an experimental period.

Clarke Middle School: Meetings were held with teachers/staff last week to consider in detail the spaces for each grade level and special subjects. The floor plan is near being finalized and a Local Building Committee will be held in September. This will primarily be to determine finishes and color schemes. There was discussion of several topics including, access to the library, to what extent the building would have an “open” feel, water cistern facility for the garden and access to restrooms for those using the sports fields. The plan is to go out for competitive bids this fall, with work commencing in January, 2023.

School C/Easom: No change. The October student numbers from the DOE will be reviewed for any implications for new developments.

Cedar Shoals Fieldhouse: Work is progressing well with foundation footings being done. The water and sewer connections are complete. The plan is to commence structural steel installation in September. Daily conversations are being held with the Principal and/or Athletics Director to ensure no disruptions to the school’s programs.

HT Edwards Culinary Kitchen: Discussions have continued with Career Academy staff and the design/layout has been completed. The intention is to identify equipment and materials which have a long lead time and bid these in advance, so that they can be ordered and ready for the commencement of building work in May, 2023.

Building work will not be completed in the 2023 summer break and the Career Academy have plans to handle that.

Clarke Central Softball Storage: Work has progressed well. The foundation slab and masonry walls are complete. Roof framing and electrical rough in is complete. Painting is scheduled to be complete by September 1 and lockers are now being ordered.

Facilities Review: We are now in Year 1 of the 5-year plan. After Clarke Middle School the next project if Cedar Shoals renovation and discussions are planned with the school soon to begin the planning.

Transportation & Technology: The five buses ordered, to which ESPLOST 5 was contributing \$500,000, have been delivered. Because the state contributed additional funding only \$104,225 of the ESPLOST 5 funding was required. \$395,775 is therefore available from ESPLOST 5 for the next round of bus purchases together with the allocation of \$1m from ESPLOST 6. Staff computers are on order using the balance of ESPLOST 5 Technology funds (\$777k) and \$2.688m from ESPLOST 6.

COC Membership: Consideration of the application from Greg Davis was deferred, due to the low number of COC members present.

ESPLOST 6: With the bond sale complete, this will now be dropped from the agenda as a specific item.

Sales Tax Revenue: The June collection was \$2.695m. This was the final ESPLOST 5 collection. The total collected under ESPLOST 5 was \$135.127m, slightly exceeding the \$135m cap. The CFO has advised that the small excess may remain in ESPLOST 5 funds. Future financial reports will be for ESPLOST 5 and 6 until ESPLOST 5 funds are exhausted. All accounting and bank accounts maintain a strict separation of the ESPLOST 5 and 6 funds.

Future Meetings

Future meetings are scheduled for:

September 13, 2022

October 11, 2022

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.