

ESPLOST COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: October 11, 2022 8:30 am in Room 136, BOE HQ, 595 Prince Avenue.

Attendees: Alex Sams Mike Waldrip Andrew Malec Tad MacMillan
Patricia Yager Allison Wright Robbie Hooker Garrick Askew
John Gilbreath Troy Basset Gerald Arscott

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

- September, 2022 Meeting Summary
- October, 2022 ESPLOST Monthly Report
- October, 2022 ESPLOST Contingency/Change Order Report
- October, 2022 ESPLOST Construction Schedule
- August, 2022 ESPLOST 5 Financials
- August, 2022 ESPLOST 5 Budget Projections
- July, 2022 ESPLOST 5 Revenue Monthly Trend
- August, 2022 ESPLOST 6 Financials
- August, 2022 ESPLOST 6 Budget Projections

Superintendent Robbie Hooker was welcomed to his first COC meeting.

West Broad Campus: No further information was available regarding the work group which is considering options for the use of the property

Early Learning at Old Gaines: Two major items, which have been delayed by supply-chain issues, remain to be completed. The playground is currently being installed and when that is complete a final section of fencing will be installed; the footings for the canopies will be set during the week of November 21 and the canopies installed over the Christmas break. Every student space at the location is filled and they now have 200+ children. There was comment on using the name Easom for the facility, but the name is for an elementary school

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 houses. Once that is settled, and the plat sizes determined, fences will be erected and the houses will be offered for sale. Sale of the houses was agreed by the BOE when the decision was taken to purchase the Piedmont campus, but it was suggested that the BOE may now have a different view. The Superintendent will examine the houses and brief the BOE. Reference was made to the Prince Avenue pilot traffic scheme and the opportunity to fill out an on-line survey regarding it. The school district was not consulted on the scheme and had no prior notice of it being implemented.

Clarke Middle School: A Local Building Committee (LBC) meeting is planned for October 19 at 5:30pm in the Media Center. This will consider the internal finishes and color scheme and the landscaping. All COC members will be sent an invitation to the meeting. An invitation for contractors to pre-qualify will be issued shortly. Pre-qualified contractors will then be invited to bid on November 1, with bids due December 1. The outcome of bids will be reported to the December BOE meeting. The work will be scheduled for Phase 1, comprising the main new build, to run until August, 2024 and Phase 2, comprising demolition of the old building and the remaining new build, to run until August, 2025. Meeting these deadlines will be critical to enabling certain work to be done during the summer breaks.

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

Cedar Shoals Fieldhouse: A beam signing ceremony was held last week. Steel erection should be completed by the end of this week. A problem has been discovered with a sink hole around a storm manhole. It is not directly related to the fieldhouse project but it would be appropriate for it to be remedied now, before it gets worse, and with contractors already on site. Further investigation is needed, but a change order will have to be issued to do this work.

HT Edwards Culinary Kitchen: The design is complete. A meeting will be held with the previous HT Edwards Heritage Committee, although no changes are being made to the externals of the building or the Buzz Café. Bids for the work will be invited January 1. The intention is to identify equipment and materials which have a long lead time and bid these in advance if necessary, so that they can be ordered and ready for the commencement of building work in May, 2023. Building work will not be fully completed in the 2023 summer break and the Career Academy have plans to handle that.

Clarke Central Softball Storage: This project is complete. The item will be removed from the agenda.

Facilities Review: After Clarke Middle School the next project is Cedar Shoals renovation and discussions are planned with the school soon to begin the planning.

Transportation & Technology: Staff computers were ordered in April using the balance of ESPLOST 5 Technology funds (\$777k) and \$2.688m from ESPLOST 6. Delivery is understood to be imminent. The Transportation Department is beginning to consider their bus replacement requirements for next year. They have \$396k remaining from their ESPLOST 5 allocation and \$1m in ESPLOST 6.

COC Membership: – Alex Sams encouraged members to seek out candidates to join the Committee.

Sales Tax Revenue: The August collection was \$2.98m. This was the highest monthly collection ever but it was noted that, although revenues continue to be at a high level, costs have also risen significantly.

Future Meetings

It was decided to move the next meeting from November 8 (Election Day), to Wednesday November 9.

Future meetings are scheduled for:
November 9, 2022
December 13, 2022

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 am.