



## Tupelo Major Thoroughfare Program Minutes September 12, 2022

Members present: Terry Bullard, C W Jackson, George Jones, Ernie Joyner, Stuart Johnson, Charlotte Loden, John Milstead, Greg Pirkle, Ted Roach, Drew Robertson, and Dan Rupert.

Members not present: Bill Cleveland, Robin Haire, Raphael Henry, and Danny Riley.

Others present: Rosalind Barr, Dennis Bonds, Scott Costello, Janet Gaston, Kim Hana, Tyler Hathcock, Don Lewis, Caleb McCluskey, Tanner Newman, Renee Newton, Buddy Palmer, Lucia Randle, Jenny Savely, Johnny Timmons, and Chuck Williams.

Chairman Pirkle called meeting to order.

Renee Newton called roll.

Chairman Pirkle asked the Committee to review and approve the minutes of the August 8, 2022, Major Thoroughfare Program regular meeting. Correction request to minutes to change Terry Bullard from absent to present submitted. Dan Rupert made motion to accept minutes with correction. Charlotte Loden seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously by Committee.

Kim Hann reviewed the Major Thoroughfare Phase VI Budget Report for the month ending August 31, 2022. Beginning cash balance was \$1,031,678. Total Revenue from Interest Earned was \$55. No Expenditures recorded for August. Ending cash balance for Phase VI Budget was \$1,031,733.

Mrs. Hanna also reviewed the Major Thoroughfare Phase VII Budget Report for the month ending August 31, 2022. Beginning Cash Balance was \$4,146,439. Total Revenue from Property Tax and Interest Earned was \$93,391. Total Expenditures for August were \$8,291 for Personnel Cost. Ending cash balance for Phase VII was \$4,231,339.

Dennis Bonds reviewed updates on the current projects.

### **W JACKSON STREET (CLAYTON TO MADISON)**

Final payment to be issued upon final review.

### **EASON BLVD (S VETERANS TO BRIAR RIDGE)**

Clearing and widening is going well. Drainage boxes, pipe, and rock installed almost to White Hill Church. Projected completion date in March 2023. Should be 75% complete by start of winter shut down.

### **W JACKSON ST (N THOMAS ST TO LUMPKIN)**

Outreach to property owners continues for right-of-way requests. Contact attempted by mail and phone.

## MDOT NEWS

MDOT Partner Project at McCullough/Hwy 45/Hilda Ave - MDOT requests to attend MTP October meeting for project update.

Greg Pirkle asked for questions and/or concerns about proposed projects for the remainder of Phase VII. A recap of estimates for projects was given. W Jackson St from N Thomas St to Lumpkin Ave is estimated at \$4.8 million, E Jackson St from N Madison St to N Front St is estimated at \$7.1 million, and N Veterans Memorial Blvd from E Main St to Hamm St is estimated at \$1.6 million. Kim Hanna advised the Committee that those estimates are two (2) years old, and prices have gone up. She warned members to be prepared for sticker shock when construction costs are submitted.

### New Business

Dennis Bonds informed the Committee of the work being done for the City to submit applications for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant and the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant. Part of the plan is an overpass bridge on Eason Blvd over the KCS track between Hwy 45 and S Green St.

Dennis Bonds also gave an update on the Main Street redesign. Multiple accidents have occurred with vehicles trying to turn onto Main St from side streets and site lines are impaired by on street parking. Plans include bulb outs at intersections along E Main St between Elizabeth St and the KSC track at Front St and long parking bays for on street parking. The estimated cost of the project is \$531,004. Discussion was held about MTP contributing funds to the project. Greg Pirkle explained that MTP did not contribute to the narrowing of E Main St when the current design was constructed. MTP funds were used east of Hwy 45. Committee requested more information about the project be provided.

Dennis Bonds asked for discussion about the improvement of W Jackson St from Clayton Ave to Joyner Ave. This portion of W Jackson was not included in Phase VII as it was to be a City and Neighborhood Development Corporation (NDC) improvement project with the creation of a boulevard. NDC has decided a boulevard is not wanted in that area, and the City would like MTP to fund improvements in this area in Phase VII. Greg Pirkle asked the Committee to think about this request and be prepared to discuss at the October MTP meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.



Chairman Greg Pirkle



Recorded by Renee Newton