



Tupelo Major Thoroughfare Program Minutes

Date: 6/12/2023 **Time:** 4:30 PM **Call to Order:** Greg Pirkle **Meeting Adjourned:** 5:16 PM

ROLL CALL: Jennifer Roberson

In Attendance

MAJOR THOROUGHFARE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robin Haire Raphael Henry (Zoom) Terry Bullard Jon Milstead (Zoom) Drew Robertson (Zoom)
Stuart Johnson Greg Pirkle Danny Riley George Jones Ernie Joyner Charlotte Loden

MAJOR THOROUGHFARE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

C W Jackson Bill Cleveland Ted Roach Dan Rupert

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brent Spears Jennifer Roberson Kim Hanna Don Lewis Janet Gaston John White
Luke Burleson Tyler Hathcock

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Greg Pirkle asked the Committee to review and approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023 Major Thoroughfare Program regular meeting. Ernie Joyner made a motion to accept the minutes. Robin Haire seconded the motion.

Minutes were approved unanimously by Committee.

Budget Report

Kim Hanna reviewed the Major Thoroughfare Phase VII Budget Report for the month ending May 31, 2023. Beginning Cash Balance was \$7,882,037. Total Revenue from Interest Earned was \$21,520. Total Expenditures for May was \$428,424. Payments included \$8,652 for Personnel Cost, \$83,608 for Maintenance Cost and \$336,164 for Veterans – Reese to Hamm St. Ending Cash Balance for Phase VII is \$7,563,957.

Current Projects

Brent Spears reviewed updates on the current projects

- Maintenance Work
 - Mill & overlay update
- Eason Blvd (Veterans to Briar Ridge)
 - Currently working on widening Hwy 6 and Briar Ridge Intersection and paving;
 - Finishing all paving on Monday, June 19th;
 - Contract time expires at the end of June;
 - Way ahead of schedule on Veterans.
- Update on Main Street Safety Improvements Project
 - Rescoped the project and will handle in-house;
 - Contractor with the bank is tearing island out within a few weeks & Public Works will come in to do their part.
- Veterans (Main to Hamm)
 - All the lane widening has been completed to the top of base pavement;
 - Most of the sidewalk construction has been completed on both sides of the road;
 - The retaining wall has been constructed next to the lake;
 - Ahead of schedule and may be through by the end of July.
- Thomas St to Lumpkin Ave
 - Work on this project has been suspended.
 - George Jones asked why we are using the turn lane the whole way.
 - Greg Pirkle stated that if it wasn't for the turn lane, it wouldn't be a Major Thoroughfare Project. The whole point of the entire Jackson improvement has been to create a way to get from east to west other than Main Street.
- MDOT Projects
 - Work wrapping up on McCullough Blvd job (Mr. Vernon to I-22).

Open Discussion

1. Greg Pirkle opened a discussion that was brought up to him by community members regarding Veterans and why we did not make that a three-lane all the way to I-22.
2. Janet Gaston asked if a traffic count was done on Veterans to justify the three-lane and how do we get to the point to determination that that's a viable project? Greg Pirkle said there are traffic counts on everything that's done and approved by voters. Anything on the Phase 6 projects, there were traffic studies and traffic counts. They do not get on the list of projects until we have done that.
3. Greg Pirkle asked John White if there are any savings we can make, if the N. Hamm to I-22 project goes through. The committee discussed this project. Greg recommended everyone talk to their neighbors to get feedback on this possible project.
4. Drew Robertson and Greg Pirkle discussed the protocol for a project that has not yet been approved by voters.
5. Major Thoroughfare members and those present discussed the underground electrical in the Jackson (Madison to Front) area. Jon Milstead asked to revisit this discussion at the next meeting.
6. Major Thoroughfare members and those present discussed the cost of the current projects and the funds that are still available.

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

Chairman Greg Pirkle

Recorded by Jennifer Roberson

Submitted by Stephen Reed