



Tupelo Major Thoroughfare Program Minutes

Date: 2/13/2023 **Time:** 4:30 PM **Call to Order:** Greg Pirkle **Meeting Adjourned:** 5:07 PM

ROLL CALL: Jennifer Roberson

In Attendance

MAJOR THOROUGHFARE MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MAJOR THOROUGHFARE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Bill Cleveland CW Jackson Dan Rupert Drew Robertson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dennis Bonds Jennifer Roberson Kim Hanna Caleb McCluskey Janet Gaston
Johnny Timmons

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Greg Pirkle asked the Committee to review and approve the minutes of the January 9, 2023 Major Thoroughfare Program regular meeting. Danny Riley made a motion to accept the minutes. Ernie Joyner 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 January 31, 2023. Beginning Cash Balance was \$3,573,974. Total Revenue from Interest Earned was \$179. Total Expenditures for January was \$181,915. Payments included \$8,662 for Personnel Cost, \$173,253 for Eason – Veterans to Briar Ridge. Ending Cash Balance for Phase VII is \$4,225,355.

Current Projects

Dennis Bonds reviewed updates on the current projects

- Maintenance Work
 - Main Street safety improvements should go to bid by mid-March
 - Money comes from the Maintenance Fund
 - \$750,000 estimated for maintenance budget
- Eason Blvd (Veterans to Briar Ridge)
 - Contractor continues working on North and South sides to form and pour driveways
 - Other than an intersection at Briar Ridge and Eason Blvd, the curb and gutters are in place and they are now working on the roads and driveways on both sides.
 - Estimated time of completion – end of April
- Thomas St to Lumpkin Ave
 - Dennis reached out to the owners requesting ROW donations and have received some responses so far.
 - All property owners have received two hard copy mail outs of requests
 - Received back and recorded 3 requests of ROW
- Update on Main Street Safety Improvements Project
 - This will soon go to bid. The exact date is not yet determined.
- Veterans (Main to Hamm)
 - Advertised for bid. Bid opens on February 28, 2023.
 - Estimated bid – around \$2,000,000.
 - No ROWs needed
- MDOT Projects
 - Work has begun on their McCullough Blvd job (Mt. Vernon to I-22)
 - Has MDOT given updates on Luke 45, Front and Martin Luther King?
 - Next step from MDOT
 - Has to make it into a planning document (5 year plan)
 - Begin to work on funding sources
 - Priority Project for John Caldwell (Transportation Commissioner)

Open Discussion

Greg Pirkle wanted to discuss the letter from ICM Construction regarding the Acquisition of Easements Proposal.

- Dennis Bonds stated the City has a lot of internal construction projects that are not part of the Tupelo Major Thoroughfare Program, and one of the things we are working with ICM Construction to do, is manage those projects because there are so many of them.
 - A letter was sent to ICM Construction for a price, if we needed their help for the ROWs on Jackson St.
 - \$95/HR with a not to exceed amount of \$5,000
 - Agreement there if we need to utilize that

- Greg Pirkle said this would be necessary if we can't get the donations, but in the meantime he would like for us to go door to door and/or make appointments to talk to people and save money.

Greg Pirkle discussed the three options he has in mind regarding the ROWs and obtaining the property on Jackson Street.

- Get with committee members who are willing to go door to door to speak with property owners about what is involved and what it means for them.
 - Have deeds ready when they meet with the property owners.
 - Show how the property value can increase
- Let ICM Construction go out and negotiate with the property owners.
- "Quick Take"
 - The City can say we are just going to take the right of way since the City has the power and authority to do that.
 - If we take the "Quick Take" route, we would still have to pay for the right of way.
 - Most expensive option

Greg Pirkle would like for the committee to be prepared next month to decide if they are abandoning this section of Jackson St, if they are doing a quick take or if they are going with ICM Construction.

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



Chairman Greg Pirkle



Recorded by Jennifer Roberson

Submitted by Dennis Bonds