

Spartanburg County Transportation Committee
MINUTES
APRIL 16, 2009
6:00 P.M.
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SPARTANBURG COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING

A public meeting of the Spartanburg County Transportation Committee was held on Thursday, April 16, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in County Council Chambers, Spartanburg County Administrative Office Building. Chairman Billy Painter presided. The following members were present: Tom Arthur, Sam Evatt, Mike Garrett, Steve McAbee, Ed Memmott, Hal Murphy, John Throckmorton, and Hubert Boyd Waldrop.

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notices of this meeting were mailed in advance to county officials, local news media, citizens, and other interested persons.

Item # 1 - Approval of January 15, 2009 meeting minutes

Mr. Sam Evatt moved to approve the January 15, 2009 meeting minutes as printed and mailed. Mr. Steve McAbee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Item # 2 - Financial Report – Mrs. Sabrina Dickens Mason

Mrs. Sabrina Mason reported the total unobligated funds as of March 31, 2009 were \$518,252.55. This includes user fees and interest through February. There is one project that still has not been set up, which is the Overhead Bridge Road bridge replacement at \$733,000.00.

Mr. Painter inquired about recapturing the monies previously approved for the Lake Bowen Dam Road intersection improvement since it is now part of the stimulus program.

Mr. Mike Garrett stated that all work on the project has been terminated. Therefore, action by this committee would be warranted before approved funds would be returned to the general C fund account.

Mr. Steve McAbee moved to return the unused funding to the general C Fund account for consideration of other projects. Mr. Hugh Waldrop seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Item # 3 - Update on active projects – Mr. Eddie Speed

A. T. Sistare is the contractor on the Cherry Hill Road @ Old Converse Road project. Mr. Speed is still waiting on the highway department encroachment permits. Mr. Speed delivered the encroachment permit to the railroad today as the traffic signal will be installed in the railroad right-of-way. The railroad will inform the Mr. Speed of some kind of approval in about thirty days.

The US 29 @ Zion Hill project is about 60 % complete. The weather stopped the contractor from completing the paving on the Zion Hill road side before moving over to Plainview side.

The Highway 9 @ Lake Bowen Dam Road intersection improvement project has been removed from the list of C Fund projects as the project will be completed with stimulus funding by the SC Department of Transportation. Approximately \$60,000 has already been spent on preliminary engineering, right-of-way, etc.

Mr. Garrett and Mr. Speed met with the Chapman family to discuss a drainage easement on the Cannons Campground @ Gossett Road intersection improvement project.

URS is going to have preliminary plans available by the end of next week on the Shoally Creek Road widening.

The bids came back in on 14th for Municipal Paving projects. The initial estimate on the municipal resurfacing was \$190,005. The bid came in at \$165,201.63 which would leave a balance of \$24,803.37 – enough to possibly add a road to the list. The County resurfacing projects initial estimate was \$1,038,000. The bid came in at \$924,426.36 leaving an additional \$113,573.64 for the possibility of adding roadways to the list.

Of the completed projects, the Kent Street right turn lane budget was \$81,065.82. Expenses amounted to \$35,422.82 leaving a balance of \$45,643.00 to turn back into the general C fund account.

The Fairforest Road project budget was \$350,000 with actual expenses of \$258,803.92, leaving a balance of \$91,196.08 to turn back into the general C fund account.

Mr. Garrett recommended the committee approve roads be added to the list for resurfacing using the balance of the approved funding for the municipal and county resurfacing. Roads with the overall condition index (OCI) rating above 50, but no greater than 60 will be considered before roadways are added to the list to be resurfaced. Mr. Tom Arthur moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded and carried.

Item # 4 – Recommended projects from Advisory Committee – Mike Garrett

a. Rep. Keith Kelly set-aside for Town of Woodruff sidewalk replacement - \$28,460

This project is a request from Representative Keith Kelly for the Town of Woodruff to replace sidewalks on Main Street in the Town of Woodruff at \$28,460. The Advisory Committee reviewed the request and recommend approval. Hugh Waldrop moved to approve the funding for the replacement of sidewalks in the Town of Woodruff at \$28,460. Tom Arthur seconded the motion. The motion carried.

b. Construct cul-de-sac on Burnett Drive, City of Spartanburg - \$14,000

This project is a request from the City of Spartanburg to fund \$14,000 to construct a cul-de-sac at the end of Burnett Drive. The Advisory Committee reviewed the project and is recommending approval. Mr. Tom Arthur moved to approve \$14,000 to construct a cul-de-sac at the end of Burnett Drive. Mr. Ed Memmott seconded the motion. The motion carried.

c. Delegation set-aside, Rep. Lanny Littlejohn, Cowpens Streetscape - \$19,500 and Cowpens Streetscape - \$82,293

This project is a delegation set-aside from Representative Lanny Littlejohn for streetscape on Main Street in Cowpens at \$19,500 and also an individual request for additional \$82,293 for the streetscape. This project has an \$84,000 transportation enhancement grant to make a total of \$175,700 to do the streetscape on one side of the street.

This project request was submitted before a streetscape policy was created and approved. Cowpens originally requested approximately \$380,000. Cowpens retooled their request to something the C Fund Committee could possibly consider. The town also made an adjustment in the their set-aside request as originally they requested set-aside for their Main street sidewalk project, but opted to put the money on the streetscape project. Since the project was submitted prior to adoption of the policy, the Advisory Committee felt it was a worthy project and the committee voted to recommend it to the full committee.

This project would enhance the main thoroughfare in Cowpens which is critical to economic development of the downtown area.

Mr. Tom Arthur moved to accept the committee recommendation of the streetscape project request. Mr. Ed Memmott seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Steve McAbee voting no.

d. Delegation set-aside, Rep. Lanny Littlejohn, pave walkway in Pacolet - \$19,500

This is another delegation set-aside from Representative Lanny Littlejohn to pave a walkway in the Town of Pacolet. This walkway is relative to Sunny Acres Road. It runs from the back of the school cross county along a sewer easement and back on Sunny Acres Road near the city park/amphitheater area. Part of the walkway is already paved, but this portion is still gravel. This project would pave the balance of the walkway five foot wide. The Advisory Committee debated this project for several months and after obtaining information, the committee ultimately voted to approve the project for recommendation.

Two issues the committee struggled with were whether or not it was an eligible project to be funded by C Funds since it was not in a road right-of-way and whether or not the town had the authority to construct the walkway on private property. Mr. Garrett consulted with SCDOT C Fund Administrative office, Mr. Herb Cooper. Mr. Cooper sent an e-mail saying the project was eligible for C Funds. The test is that C Funds are for transportation projects on public property and must be accessible to the public. Mr. Cooper referenced state code § 12-28-2740 section C establishing the C Fund program. Mr. Cooper advised that other counties were approving similar projects and they wouldn't have any difficulty in Spartanburg approving the project. Mayor Harris provided the committee with the agreement the Town of Pacolet has with Milliken which permits them to utilize the area for public use. The agreement expires this year, but the agreement is a year-by-year contract.

After the committee received the information, the committee felt comfortable in recommending the project. It is a valid project eligible for C funds. Mr. Garrett is recommending the project for approval. Once the project is completed the walkway will meet ADA standards.

Mayor Harris explained that this project is a part of the community master plan. With this project and another project on Hillbrook Circle complete, Pacolet will have a six mile link through the town. This will be the only community in Spartanburg County that is totally walkable. This stretch provides a safe connective route for pedestrians. The road route is not safe. This is the alternative route for pedestrians.

Mr. John Throckmorton moved to approve the \$19,500 for paving the walkway in the Town of Pacolet. Sam Evatt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

e. Add Folk Road (S 136) and Sanders Road (S 72) to SCDOT 2009 C fund Resurfacing list

This is a resurfacing request from SCDOT. At the last CTC meeting, the committee approved funding for resurfacing roads in the county under the annual resurfacing program. \$709,906 was approved to resurface state roads. \$192,000 of the \$709,906 was to cover an overrun from a previous

year project. This means that a little over \$500,000 remains to resurface state roadways in Spartanburg County. The state wanted to pave Archibald Road with the funds and they have provided an estimate. They have determined that the cost to resurface Archibald Road was going to be less than originally estimated. The new cost estimate is \$325,000; therefore, SCDOT is requesting to add Sanders Road which is 3/5 of a mile at a resurfacing cost estimate of \$74,800 and Folk Road, which is a half mile, at a cost estimate of \$115,000. Both roads are located in the northern part of Spartanburg County leading up to the North Carolina state line. The Advisory committee reviewed the request. The roads are in need of resurfacing. The committee is recommending approval. No new funding would need to be approved.

Mr. Tom Arthur moved to approve adding Sanders and Folk Road to the SCDOT 2009 annual resurfacing list. Mr. Steve McAbee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

f. Windmill Hill Road @ US 176 – add turn lanes on US 176 - \$350,000

This is an intersection improvement project. Compton Bridge Road/Windmill Hill Road connects Highway 176 near the new Chapman High School. The high school has generated additional traffic and congestion. SCDOT has looked at the project and compiled a cost estimate. The plan is to construct a left and right turn lanes on Windmill Hill Road.

There is also a fire station located at the intersection. The fire station has difficulty accessing the roadway due to traffic backing up and blocking their driveway. The Advisory Committee reviewed the project and ranked it according to the project ranking system. The project scored a 48. The project ranked fifth of fifty-one projects. The committee recommended the project be approved. A traffic signal was added to the original cost estimate.

Mr. Hugh Waldrop moved to approve the project at \$350,000. Mr. Tom Arthur seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Item # 6 - Old Business

No old business was discussed.

Item # 7 - New Business

Representative Parker commented on the intersection improvement project located at Highway 9 and Lake Bowen Dam Road asking if there would be a way to recoup the \$60,000 the C Fund committee has already spent on preliminary right-of-way, etc since the SCDOT has included the project into the stimulus funding package. The committee will check into the matter.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Mr. Billy Painter, Chairman

Carol Crowe, Attested