



Sammy Rich, *City Manager*
Patrick Eidson, *Assistant City Manager*
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES
W. Kirk Milam, P.E., *Manager*
Public Works Division
Chris Jenkins, *Public Works Director*
Water and Sewer Division
Mike Hackett, *Director*
Engineering Services Department
Aaron Carroll, R.L.S., P.E., *Director*
Rome Transit Department
Kathy Shealy, *Director*

PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSIT COMMITTEE
AND
TRAFFIC COMMISSION

November 9, 2016 10:00 a.m.
Sam King Room – 601 Broad Street

PRESENT: Commissioner Sundai Stevenson, Chairwoman
Commissioner Bill Irmscher
Commissioner Sue Lee
Mr. Sammy Rich, City Manager
Mr. Kirk Milam, P.E., Public Services Manager
Mr. Chris Jenkins, Public Works Director
Ms. Sheree Shore, Finance Director
Lt. Danny Story, Rome Police Department
Lt. Richard Penson, Rome Police Department
Ms. Phyllis Lee, Assistant Director, Transit Department

GUEST: Ms. Sue Hiller, Rome-Floyd County Planning Director

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Stevenson called the meeting to order.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the October meeting were approved by common consent.

POLICE REPORTS

October Traffic Accident /DUI Report

Lt. Storey introduced Lt. Penson who will be attending the meetings in the future to replace Capt. Dehart. Lt. Penson presented the October Accident/DUI report. For the month of October accidents were up slightly from 217 last year to 226. Injuries are up from last year. DUI arrests are slightly increased and under 21 DUI arrests were also up. DUI related accidents were up for the month but down for the year-to-date. The highest accident intersections were Shorter Avenue at Redmond Circle with 11. He noted that Turner McCall at Riverside Dr. had the highest number of accidents in September, which decreased in October as a result of increased police presence. The Department will focus its attention on Shorter Avenue and Redmond Circle this month. The highest contributing factors all encompass speed.

TRANSIT OPERATIONS

Financial Report for September 2016

Ms. Shore presented the financial report. She noted the numbers are trending much the same for the month of September as previous months for the year. Fare box receipts are down about 10%. It is believed that lower gas prices contribute to decreased ridership. The DHR supplement has decreased also due to the decreased ridership.

Tripper service is on budget. Paratransit is down slightly. Fare box receipts are down about 12 to 14 percent. Cash grants and reimbursements and operating capital are both pretty much in line. There haven't been any capital purchases for buses this year, but we will probably have a large bus purchase in the first quarter of next year. Commissioner Imscher he would expect advertising revenue to be more consistent. Ms. Shore said it continues to lag behind. Some businesses may purchase less advertising in the summer. Commissioner Imscher asked if the advertisement is removed from the buses when the advertiser fails to renew. Ms. Lee said they do.

Ms. Shore reported labor costs are up 12 to 14%, which has been the trend for the year. *Materials and Supplies* has been down slightly mostly due to reduced fuel costs. The cash balance is slightly over where it was at this time last year.

5303 Grant Application

Ms. Hiller reported that the Planning and the Transit Departments gets a couple of grants each year through the Federal government through the Georgia Department of Transportation for transportation planning activities. The one that applies to Transit is the Section 5303 program. She presented the Section 5303 budget worksheet for 2017. She noted it gets broken down by the sub-elements that we are required to do each year. We must allocate funds based on what we did in previous years. The break down we see there is for Operations and Administration, Environmental Justice and Title VI, Long Range Transportation Planning, and the Transportation and Improvement Program or *TIP* along with any special studies that have taken place. Over the last 2 years we have reviewed transit routes breaking them down by neighborhoods taking into account the City's NEP program, with plans for crosswalks and sidewalks, incorporating safety and security which is primarily related to driver education.

We have to further break down these categories into sub-categories with expense details. Due to the difficulty in predicting specific expenses, we find that it is more applicable for us to put that funding toward salaries and fringes. The budget breaks these expenses further. She noted the funding is broken down into 80% Federal funding, 20% State funding, and 10% is provided locally in-kind, which includes all the work done by RTD and Planning staff. This budget has been submitted to the Federal Highway Authority and the Federal Transit Authority, who has just approved it, so we now have to submit it to the State. She asked for the support of this Committee before forwarding it to the City Commission.

Commissioner Lee moved to approve the budget as presented. Commissioner Stevenson seconded. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Timberlane Terrace Multi-Way Stop Sign Request

Mr. Milam reported that Timberlane Terrace multi-way stop request has been before this committee for a couple of months now. At the last meeting staff was charged with revisiting this request and making a recommendation. He gave a presentation showing the area. He noted that as you enter the subdivision of Mountain Brook West, the sufficiency of sight distance over the hill to the intersection beyond was in question. He noted the driveways closer to the crest

of the hill are more at risk for having an issue than the intersection itself. A good example of what we have done in the recent past concerned traffic on Sherwood Rd. near Shorter College where there is a similar sight distance issue at the crest of a hill. The solution we came up with at that time was a sign advising "Hill Blocks the View - 20 mph" which was placed on both sides of the hill on Sherwood Rd. He added the 20 mph speed limit is not an enforceable speed limit but rather an advisory speed limit.

He recommended this signage be placed on Timberlane Terrace as well, noting that we try to place signs where they will have the least impact on yards. Lt. Storey said an officer went out to Timberlane Terrace and noted the bushes near the Stop sign on Limon Place present a sight distance issue as well. Mr. Milam noted that the evaluation took the bushes into account and that the sight distance for the speed is okay since they do not limit sight distance where the conflict in traffic movement takes place.

Commissioner Irscher moved to install the warning sign as recommended. Commissioner Lee seconded. The motion carried.

Nim Russell Blvd Dedication Date

Mr. Jenkins reported the date has been set for Friday, November 18th, 2016 at 11 AM to dedicate the renaming of that portion of Gibbons St. along the side of Thankful Baptist Church. Commissioner Stevenson will contact Ms. Russell and staff will invite the Commission and the appropriate City staff.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Jenkins reported bids were received on October 27th for improvements on Burnett Ferry Rd. which includes sidewalk and curb and gutter. Seven companies bid on the project and engineering staff recommends Bartow Paving Company, who was the low bidder at \$2,149,775. Commissioner Lee asked the amount of the SPLOST funds for this project. Ms. Shore replied they total \$2,700,000. Commissioner Stevenson asked if we are familiar with Bartow Paving's work. Mr. Milam said we are familiar with their work and are confident they are capable of doing the job. Commissioner Lee asked when the work will begin. Mr. Jenkins replied work will begin this December and the project will take one year. Mr. Milam stated with this committee's recommendation the bid recommendation will go to the City Commission.

Commissioner Lee moved to accept the Bartow Paving bid. Commissioner Irmischer seconded.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Departmental Reports

The monthly reports were distributed for review.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Hollingsworth

Margaret W. Hollingsworth, Secretary