



## Joint Services Committee Meeting

**Tuesday, February 7, 2023**  
**Caucus Room, 12 East 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. 9:30 AM**

### Minutes

**Staff Present:** Allison Watters, *Chair, Floyd County Board of Commissioners*  
Larry Maxey, *Vice Chair, Floyd County Board of Commissioners*  
Jamie McCord, *Floyd County Manager*  
Susie Gass, *Administrative Services Division Director, Floyd County*  
Amy Dawkins, *Assistant County Clerk, Floyd County*  
Sundai Stevenson, *Mayor, City of Rome*  
Bill Collins, *Commissioner, City of Rome*  
Sammy Rich, *City Manager, City of Rome*  
Meredith Ulmer, *Assistant City Manager, City of Rome*  
Joe Smith, *Clerk, City of Rome*  
Doug Walker, *PIO, City of Rome*  
Ben Winkelman, *Rome-Floyd ECO Center*  
Hannah Bagley, *Keep Rome-Floyd Beautiful*  
Adam Carey, *Rome News-Tribune*

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Watters called the meeting to order.

#### **II. Approve minutes from the November 8, 2022 Joint Services meeting.**

Commissioner Stevenson made a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Commissioner Maxey. All were in favor. The motion carried.

#### **III. SPLOST**

Mr. McCord stated fifteen (15) applications submitted from citizens mostly consisting of infrastructure. He stated they will solicit applicants for the committee through the end of the month, and City and County can appoint at their March 13 and 14 Board meetings. He stated the SPLOST project application deadline is March 30, and meetings will begin in April. Chair Watters asked that the City, County, and Cave Spring coordinate to send out the same message on social media. Mr. McCord stated the welcome meeting is scheduled for April 20. He stated the Committee is comprised of six (6) County citizens, four (4) City, and one (1) Cave Spring. He stated this does not include alternates.

Mr. Rich stated they should discuss the rules of engagement and expectations of the SPLOST Committee. Mr. McCord stated they should stick to the LOST distribution as close as they can. Chair Watters stated it is important that they understand the operational

costs of the projects. Mr. Rich stated if any changes in building code, they will need to build in some escalation in cost. Mr. McCord stated a 10-15% contingency can be placed on building construction to buffer, but it cannot be doubled. He stated SPLOST signage is printing and will be placed at project locations. He stated the County website will be updated with SPLOST history, and dates for upcoming meetings will be emailed. Mayor Stevenson asked if the deadline for SPLOST Committee applicants could be extended to March 15. Commissioner Watters stated this allows for a good pool of applicants.

Ms. Gass stated SPLOST was up 3.8%, and she has emailed the Department of Revenue. Mr. McCord stated there will be an increase on projections. Mr. Rich stated the City has reached the maximum SPLOST distribution, and with the intergovernmental agreement, they had a maximum percentage split. Mr. McCord stated they have never gone past five (5) years, and as long as they think they can go forward with an intergovernmental agreement, they may be able to go six (6) years. He asked for all to consider year six (6) being 100% transportation projects.

Mayor Stevenson stated we should do more to put together something for TSPLOST. Commissioner Watters stated they should evaluate to see where it has been done well. Mr. Rich stated the Transportation Planner can do the research. Commissioner Watters stated everyone needs to understand what TSPLOST is, and how it is beneficial. Mr. McCord stated they can show the amount of money they have missed out on without TSPLOST. Commissioner Watters stated she would not want to lose SPLOST to gain TSPLOST. She stated she likes the idea of introducing through 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> year. Mr. McCord stated they can put a team together before next Joint Services Committee meeting and give feedback on transportation plan.

#### **IV. Date for Parks and Recreation Annual Meeting**

Mr. McCord stated per the agreement, they are supposed to have an annual meeting. He stated they hit the pause button on the master plan last year. Mr. Rich stated last January's meeting was at the Fire Training building. Mr. McCord stated Erin and Joe can coordinate by the end of the month, and they do need to talk more about the master plan.

#### **V. Other Business**

Mr. McCord stated he and Mr. Rich are transitioning on some of the building. He stated he has a checklist for Town Green and the parking deck. Mr. McCord stated it is depending on the City's move to start renovations on Judicial. Mr. Rich stated they are preparing, and being diligent in research. Mr. McCord stated they have someone running the Forum, but did not budget for staff in 2023. He stated Lisa Smith is looking to have events at the Forum, but they are still having court in the building. Mr. McCord stated they are moving forward with Ag Center development, and they are ready to make recommendation on architect. Mr. Rich stated this will be good for the mall property. Mr. McCord stated they are looking to get additional right of way on Three Mile, and it will be a joint venture since it is the main entrance to the Ag Center and part is owned by the City, and part owned by the City.

#### **VI. Adjourn**

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned by common consent.