

*****JANUARY 15, 2001*****

The Town Council of the Town of Signal Mountain held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, January 15, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. Those present were:

Mayor James H. Althaus
 Vice-Mayor Robert E. Steel, Jr.
 Councilmember Rachel Bryant
 Councilmember Stephen Ruffin
 Councilmember William C. Steele, Jr.

Also present were:

Town Manager Hershel Dick
 Town Recorder Diana Campbell
 Attorney Phil Noblett, filling in for the Town
 Attorney
 See list at bottom for additional people present

The Mayor called the meeting to order and offered the prayer. The Recorder called the roll.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Steel to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2000, regular meeting and the December 20, 2000, special called meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and passed unanimously.

The Mayor presented for second and final reading an ordinance titled "AMENDMENT TO TITLE 14, CHAPTER 1-MUNICIPAL SECTION 14-101, OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE, CODE OF ORDINANCES PROVIDING THAT THE NUMBER OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS SHALL BE NOT LESS THAN NINE (9) NOR MORE THAN TEN (10). Councilmember Steele made a motion to approve the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and passed unanimously.

John Clark, Acting President of the Signal Mountain Recreation, Inc. came before the Council and presented the status of the Shackleford recreation fields. During the lengthy discussion that followed, it was noted that Hamilton County built the fields and they have maintained the roads and trails. Signal Mountain Recreation, Inc. has been maintaining the fields through volunteers. They have raised the money to pay water, electricity and maintenance for the fields. Mr. Clark was requesting help with maintenance and operating costs. He stated that the fields would need to be maintained with professional help rather than volunteers. The Council recommended that his organization get together with Scott Cook and the Recreation Advisory Board.

Richard Casavant, citizen of the Town of Signal Mountain and Hamilton County Commissioner, District 2, addressed the Council. He gave a brief update on the proposed high school. He stated that both Hamilton County School Superintendent Dr. Jesse Register and Hamilton County Executive Claude Ramsey have publicly expressed verbal support for the high school. He explained the school is proposed in phase 2 of a school construction plan developed by a panel of about 50 people countywide. Phase 1 is being completed now. He further stated that there would be a bond issued in two years. The new school will be about \$20 million to build. As he explained, whether or not the school will be in the bond issue will depend on the size of the bond issue. He noted the tax base and the maturing bonds would determine the size of the bond issue. He explained that he would ask the School Board this spring to choose an architect and would ask the Hamilton County Commission to approve the payment for the architect so that plans may be drawn for the school. He noted that it would take about a year to get the plans drawn.

Then Commissioner Casavant presented some brief remarks on the 20/20 Growth Plan.

Bill Wilkerson, Chairman of the Design Review Commission, presented the issue of off-sight signs for entities in the Town. He explained that about two months previous the

DRC had a request to place a directional sign at the traffic signal. After checking Town ordinances, they determined the Town did not have any ordinances that addressed this issue. He noted that State law prohibits signs on State right-of-way. The members of the DRC felt that it would be better to have one unified sign rather than multiple signs at one location. He requested that the Council authorize the DRC to study the issue. The study would probably take two to three months. They will 1) pool businesses and non-profits, 2) recommend locations, 3) recommend cost and methods for financing, and 4) recommend a consultant to design the signs. The Council approved the DRC making the study and then making recommendations to the Council.

Mr. J. B. Bailey, a contractor representing BellSouth Telecommunications, presented a request for approval of a cross-box driveway at 1000 Arden Way. He explained the purpose of the equipment, the location and the improvements to the lot that would be necessary. The Council decided to give each member of the Council an opportunity to review the location. If any Councilmember does not approve the request, they should let the Town Manager know. If the Town Manager receives less than three negative responses, then the request is approved.

Mayor Althaus gave a brief update of the 20/20 Growth Plan. He explained that there would be another meeting in Nashville on January 19.

The Town Recorder presented to the Council a bid for tree cutting services. She explained that the original low bid by Brown's Tree Service could not be awarded because they could not complete the insurance requirements. The second lowest bid was by Dehart's Tree Service for \$13,850. One tree was removed from the list reducing their bid to \$11,850. A brief discussion followed regarding the tree at the entrance to Carriage Hill that was removed from the list of trees to be cut. Councilmember Ruffin made a motion to approve the bid from Dehart's Tree Service for \$11,850. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and passed unanimously.

Councilmember Bryant asked about reflectors on Ohio Avenue and at Ault Road. The Town Manager explained the reflectors could only be installed in warm weather but he would check the locations. The Councilmember asked about the easements for the property donated to the Town. Attorney Phil Noblett, filling in for Town Attorney Joe Wagner, said he would check on the easements. Councilmember Bryant asked about the old swimming pool. She acknowledged that the pool would probably not be reopened but wanted to have the Town Manager look into the possibility of adding steps (similar to the steps at the closed pool) to the remaining pool.

Councilmember Ruffin thanked the Town Manager and the employees for the good job they had done in plowing the snow and cleaning the roads. He asked about the Town's supply of salt and a brief discussion followed.

Vice-Mayor Steel noted the article in the Post about the Public Safety Director Larry Eddings and praised his excellent record including his studies at the FBI Academy.

Mayor Althaus noted the Town is pulling for Joe Wagner in his recovery and thanked Phil Noblett for his work for the Town. He informed the Council and citizens that the Town is putting together a stormwater plan which is required by law.

The meeting was adjourned.


 Recorder


 Mayor

Others present at January 15, 2001, meeting

Richard Casavant
Mark and Pril Shartle
Lou Oliphant
Jim Fields
Bill Wilkerson
Cheryl Graham
Jimmy and Jocelyn Bailey
Teresa Hon
Holland Rainy

Terry McElveen
John Clark
Jean Dolan
Joe Lance
Greg Goodgame
Tom Francescon
Joe Brown
Doug Fuston

ORDINANCE NO. 2001-1

AMENDMENT TO TITLE 14, CHAPTER 1-MUNICIPAL
SECTION 14-101, OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN,
TENNESSEE, CODE OF ORDINANCES PROVIDING THAT THE
NUMBER OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS SHALL BE NOT
LESS THAN NINE (9) NOR MORE THAN TEN (10).

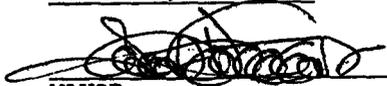
BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Town of Signal
Mountain, Tennessee:

SECTION 1. Creation and Membership. That Title
14, Chapter 1-Municipal Planning Commission,
Section 14-101, of the Town of Signal Mountain,
Tennessee Code of Ordinances is hereby amended so
that Section 14-101 shall read as follows:

Section 14-101. Creation and Membership.
Pursuant to the provisions of Tennessee Code
Annotated section 13-4-101, there is hereby
created a municipal planning commission,
hereinafter referred to as the planning
commission. The planning commission shall consist
of not less than nine (9) members nor more than
ten (10) members; two (2) of these shall be the
mayor and another member of the town council,
selected by the town council; the other eight (8)
members shall be appointed by the mayor. All
members of the planning commission shall serve as
such without compensation. The terms of the eight
(8) members appointed by the mayor shall be of
such length as prescribed by the town council,
provided that they shall be so arranged that the
term of one (1) member will expire each year. The
terms of the mayor and the member selected by the
town council shall run concurrently with their
terms of office.

PASSED ON FIRST READING 12-14-00

PASSED ON SECOND READING 1-15-01


MAYOR


TOWN RECORDER