

*****April 7, 2008*****

The Town Council of the Town of Signal Mountain held a special agenda meeting on Monday, April 7, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. in the Town Hall. Those present were:

Mayor Paul Hendricks
Vice-Mayor Hershel Dick
Councilmember Annette Allen
Councilmember Bill Lusk
Councilmember Susan Robertson

Also present were: Town Manager Honna Rogers
 Town Recorder Mark Johnson

Mayor Hendricks called the meeting to order.

General Discussions

Gary Waters of the Hamilton County School Board was present to discuss the current Signal Mountain Middle School building. The Board promoted a "Request for Proposal" (RFP) process that would allow developers to bid on the 15-acre site. A committee will be formed to evaluate the proposals, and the Town will be allowed to appoint a member to this committee. Councilmember Robertson volunteered to serve on the committee. Mayor Hendricks noted there may be zoning and sewer related concerns. Upon inquiry from the Council, Mr. Waters stated the timeline for the RFP process would probably be six to eight months.

Greg Goodgame of the Design Review Committee (DRC) was present to discuss the DRC's proposed memorial policy. The Council discussed items that should be addressed, such as plaque and memorial sign types to be issued for donations and types of donations. He also suggested, and the Council agreed, to produce an ordinance for first reading at the April 14, 2008 regular meeting.

Mr. Goodgame also mentioned the DRC would be meeting to discuss a variance on the sign for the new high school requested by the architectural firm. Mr. Goodgame and others from the DRC were invited to attend the upcoming meeting with Andrew Hausler, the architect working on the school, to discuss the issue. Mayor Hendricks noted there were possible safety concerns regarding electronic messages on the sign that would be discussed.

Councilmember Allen asked Mr. Goodgame if the DRC's regulations permitted them to evaluate if Town signs and other structures were set up in the way that was intended. Mr. Goodgame replied that was being worked on, although the DRC had no real recourse in cases of deviation.

Boyd Veal, Police Chief, was then presented to report on an incident that occurred on the previous Friday, in which County EMT's contacted the Town's police for assistance.

Agenda Discussion

The agenda for the April 14th regular meeting agenda was then discussed. The first item addressed was the following: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF FUEL IN THE AMOUNT OF TEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,420.00) ON MARCH 11, 2008." Ms. Rogers said the Town is purchasing fuel more frequently to avoid this problem in the future. Councilmember Lusk moved and Councilmember Robertson seconded the approval of the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

The second item discussed was the ordinance for special trash pickup in condominium developments. Ms. Rogers noted the Westfield community would widen one road to allow for the automated garbage trucks to maneuver through the majority of the neighborhood. A meeting on April 8th would be held with the residents of Jamestown concerning the issue. The two ordinances, one indicating a fee for all applicable residents and one indicating a fee for only those under the age of 70, will be available for first reading at the April 14th regular meeting.

Ms. Rogers then opened a discussion of whether to create an ordinance regarding service on Town Boards and Committees. She noted there could be a standard application form for citizens interested in such service. The Council agreed to defer this ordinance until further research could be performed.

A traffic study by the Mountain Vision Committee, which will be presented by Noah Long at the April 14th meeting, was then discussed. Councilmember Robertson said the report would basically state there will be no problems that cannot be solved by simple redesign. The Council also discussed whether a separate traffic committee should be formed to handle traffic issues. This will be evaluated further by Councilmember Allen.

Councilmember Robertson then opened a discussion of a new maintenance building location. Ms. Rogers noted she and Loretta Hopper had been looking at maps to locate Town-owned vacant land and public works was working on spreadsheets that detailed what vacant properties were actually parks. Various possible locations were discussed.

Other Business

Ms. Rogers opened discussion for the following items:

The Council was asked about their expectations of the Town Manager's monthly report. Various requests were made such as narratives on monthly changes, financial performance and personnel issues.

Ms. Rogers noted she was working out a plan for website updates. Possibilities included allowing Cathy Campbell in Public Works to continue this or contracting a student to perform the initial design work.

The following was presented: "A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT REPRESENTATIVE FLOYD AND SENATOR WATSON INTRODUCE PROPOSED LEGISLATION REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE PLANNING COMMISSIONS BY LEGISLATIVE BODIES FOR PRIVATE ACT CHARTERS". Ms. Rogers mentioned this was state-annotated resolution language. Mayor Hendricks noted he had received correspondence recently from Tennessee Municipal League (TML) indicating disapproval of this and that he could not recall previous discussions on this proposal. It was later discovered that TML was discussing another request and not the one in question. After significant discussion, Councilmember Robertson moved, and Councilmember Allen seconded, the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms Rogers then inquired of the Council as to whether it was permissible to allow Planning Commission working notes to be placed on the website. All Council members indicated it could.

An agreement had been reached with Andrew Hausler and Gary Waters on the high school's fire access road, and Mr. Hausler submitted a proposal for the road over the past weekend.

The use of Shoal Creek Road was then discussed. It was decided it would generally be closed every Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for pedestrian walks.

Ms. Rogers then reported that representatives from the Community News had contacted the Town with an offer to sell an ad in a commemorative magazine that will showcase the newly constructed high school. Mayor Hendricks suggested the Town contact the town of Walden to see if they would share the ad.

An update was given on Regional Planning Association (RPA) assistance with the subdivision regulations project. Ms. Rogers noted the RPA may not be able to help due to workload, but Local State Planning could possibly be used. Mayor Hendricks stated it would be better to have a separate organization focus on the details of regulations while the Planning Commission handles larger, more comprehensive issues.

An update was given on a recent fire department study performed by the Town. Fire Chief John Vlasis would be working on further updates.

A request was made by playhouse representatives that the entrance road to the playhouse be designated under the name Stan Crewe Way. It was agreed that a resolution would be prepared for the April 14th meeting.

Insurance brokerage service was reviewed. There were interviews scheduled with three different brokers and some members from the Personnel Committee will be present.

The life insurance coverage cap for employees would be increased from \$120,000.00 to \$150,000.00.

The Town had been communicating with Local Government Data Processing Corporation regarding the advantages of automatic bank draft for utilities payments. The Council approved of the idea.

An upcoming conference sponsored by the National League of Cities (NLC) was researched by Ms. Rogers, who noted the cost would be about \$1,200.00 per person. The Council agreed that its members would not attend this year's conference, but would instead attend one offered by TML.

Mayor Hendricks spoke about the possibility of having a school resource officer. A resolution will be prepared for the April 14 Council meeting to request the County Commission fund a school resource officer at the new Signal Mountain High School.

Frank Powell and Charlie Pruett had been contacted about joining the retail team; Mr. Pruett's willingness to serve is uncertain.

A spreadsheet detailing four options for the operation of the recycling center were presented, which reflected the costs of each option. This will be reviewed further with Loretta Hopper, Public Works Director, and presented to the Council again at a later date.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Recorder



Dr. Paul Hendricks, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-32

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF FUEL IN THE AMOUNT OF TEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,420.00) ON MARCH 11, 2008.

WHEREAS, the Town Public Works Director received quotes for fuel purchase for the month of March from three separate vendors; and

WHEREAS, fuel prices for the March 2008 purchase exceeded \$10,000; and

WHEREAS, fuel was needed in order to operate town vehicles and the Town was unable to have the purchase approved by Council prior to the purchase of the fuel; and

WHEREAS, the Town Manager and Town Public Works Director reviewed all quotes submitted and selected Dupree as the lowest and best company for the purchase.

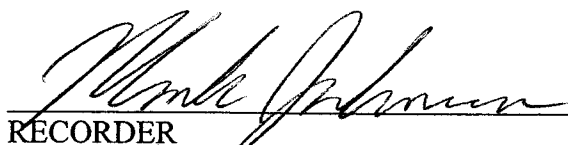
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE, That there be and is hereby authorized the emergency purchase of fuel for the month of March in the amount of Ten Thousand Four Hundred Twenty and 00/100 (\$10,420.00).



MAYOR

4/7/08

DATE



RECORDER

4/7/08

DATE

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-32³

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT REPRESENTATIVE FLOYD AND SENATOR WATSON INTRODUCE PROPOSED LEGISLATION REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF THE PLANNING COMMISSIONS BY LEGISLATIVE BODIES FOR PRIVATE ACT CHARTERS.

WHEREAS, TCA 13-4-101 currently states that all members of the Planning Commission are appointed by the mayor of the local legislative body; and

WHEREAS, the Signal Mountain Planning Commission serves an important role in the operations of the local government by overseeing zoning regulations, subdivision decisions, land use planning, among other duties; and

WHEREAS, this council believes that in order to better represent the views of more citizens, the legislative body as a whole should vote on the appointment of the Signal Mountain Planning Commission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Signal Mountain, Tennessee hereby requests that Representative Floyd and Senator Watson introduce legislation in the 2008 legislative session that will ask for a change in TCA 13-4-101 to allow communities under private act charters to appoint their planning commission members by a majority vote of the local legislative body rather than by appointment of the mayor alone.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN that the Town of Signal Mountain, Tennessee will send this resolution to all members of the 105th Tennessee General Assembly encouraging them to support such legislation if they are so inclined.

Paul M. Kuehnle
MAYOR

Mark Johnson
RECORDER

7 April, 2008
DATE

4/7/08
DATE