

*****August 11, 2008*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, August 11, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. Those present were:

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

Also present were: Town Manager Honna Rogers
 Town Attorney Phillip Noblett
 Town Recorder Mark Johnson
 See attached list for others present

The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance. Reverend Tim Filsten of Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church gave the invocation. The roll call found all Council members present.

Minutes

The minutes for the July 14th regular meeting and August 4th agenda meeting were discussed. Councilmember Robertson noted there were some minor grammatical changes to me made to each set of minutes and handed them in written form to Mr. Johnson. Councilmember Lusk moved, and Councilmember Robertson seconded that the July 14th minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Hendricks requested the following changes be made to the August 4th minutes: 1) that, on page three, in the discussion of applications for Town Boards, the language be amended to indicate that applications are encouraged, but letters from the applicants would be acceptable substitutes, and 2) that on page four, in the discussion of charitable contributions, the phrase *the Council indicated they did not want to be informed* be changed to indicate the Council's general policy is not to make charitable contributions, and asked Ms. Rogers to handle this administratively. Councilmember Robertson moved, and Councilmember Lusk seconded that the August 4th minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

Police Chief Boyd Veal summarized a recent State D.A.R.E. essay contest, noting that Ivey Ervin of the Town was the winner. He then presented Ms. Ervin, who read her essay. The Mayor presented a resolution to Ms. Ervin honoring her achievement. The caption read as follows: "A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING IVEY ERVIN AS THE 2008 STATE OF TENNESSEE D.A.R.E. ESSAY CONTEST WINNER". Councilmember Allen moved, and Councilmember Robertson seconded that the

resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously. Chief Veal presented Ms. Ervin with a certificate for a free pool party. Ms. Rogers commended Officer Greg Hill for his efforts in the D.A.R.E. program.

Citizen Comments

The following citizen comments were made concerning the condition of Grayson Road, (all citizen speakers live along this road):

Jim Cooper said the condition of the road is deteriorating.

David Higgins reiterated what Mr. Cooper said. He also noted the elevation of the road creates a deep ditch. Cars have had to be pulled out on several occasions.

Alix Michel said rainwater tends to erode the shoulders of the road, and the road should not be left as it is.

Jed Cooper, who lives in the upper portion of the road, measured the road width and noted discrepancies as a result of erosion. He also said there are small children who live in the area, and the ditches are a safety issue for them.

Lou Waddey said the road is too small and is essentially disappearing.

Jan Jensen said that since drivers have to roll slightly off the pavement to make room for oncoming traffic, a new "ditch" has been created. He also noted he once towed a UPS driver from the ditch during snowy weather.

Norma Andrews said there isn't as much of a problem near her property; however, there are areas where a large vehicle, such as a fire or sanitation truck, parked on the road would essentially block any emergency vehicles.

David Myers noted most of the residents along this road are long-time residents. He also said there is a drop-off near his driveway due to erosion, and he would appreciate any effort from the Town to correct the problem.

Marilyn Keller said she only wanted to reiterate all of the previous comments.

Pat Taintor said the erosion of road material is obvious in certain parts of the road and cars can't pass each other well.

Councilmember Lusk mentioned he lived on Grayson Road for several years and noticed it has been getting progressively smaller. He also noted the road surface itself seems to be in good shape, but the edges are eroding and consideration for the issue should be given. Councilmember Robertson invited Loretta Hopper, Public Works Director, to address this issue. Ms. Hopper said Town personnel have been monitoring the road; however, this is part of a process of evaluating all roads in the Town to develop a Town-

wide pavement plan. She also noted there are issues with Grayson Road that have to be considered such as how to facilitate proper drainage and the expense associated with cutting through solid rock in the area. Alternatives are being considered such as the use of impervious concrete. The Mayor mentioned the paving "season" typically begins in spring. One citizen asked if there was a sample of impervious concrete that could be examined. Ms. Hopper explained this was a special concrete application used for certain types of projects, such as the parking area for Finley Stadium, but it might be possible to construct a shoulder for Grayson.

Councilmember Robertson asked where storm water flows since the road slopes downhill. Ms. Hopper said it flows into a creek. One citizen asked if a drainpipe could be installed. Ms. Hopper said that it would require cutting through the solid rock. Chuck Gearhiser, Building Inspector, said piping would only accelerate erosion. Ms. Hopper said that upcoming analysis of Town-wide roads would help. Ms. Rogers agreed that such pavement analysis is beneficial. Another citizen asked if, during the process of determining Town road priorities, length of residency could be considered.

Jed Cooper asked if the hierarchy of road repair priorities would be made available online. The Mayor responded by saying the Council has discussed this and would like to make something like that available. Councilmember Lusk said Grayson was really an issue of erosion control. Mr. Gearhiser agreed, saying Town personnel are looking for a way to slow water flow until a permanent solution can be put in place. Councilmember Lusk said Alexian Village uses several small berms to divert water and asked if something similar could be used to divert water along the road into the ditches. Mr. Gearhiser said waterflow in the ditches is what primarily needs to be slowed. Councilmember Robertson asked if methods to stem waterflow could be put in place before spring. Ms. Hopper and Mr. Gearhiser said they are trying to accomplish that.

Jim Cooper indicated his desire for a solution in the near-term. Another citizen asked if the road could be widened. The Mayor said this might cause other problems, and that we are doing what we can. Mr. Gearhiser mentioned he and other Town staff plan to examine the road for possible temporary waterflow measures in the next few weeks. Councilmember Robertson thanked everyone for coming.

The following are citizen comments regarding other issues:

Lou Oliphant, Alexian Way, mentioned that garbage cans on a piece of property across from the Methodist church are placed prominently so that they can be seen on the street. She asked if something could be done about this, such as requiring them to be placed out of sight or elsewhere on the property. Mr. Gearhiser said they weren't on the street initially. Ms. Oliphant said they are on there now. Mayor Hendricks said this would be monitored.

Ordinances

The following ordinances were presented:

1. "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 1, CHAPTER 1, SECTION 1-101, OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TOWN CODE RELATIVE TO THE TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MONTHLY TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS". Mayor Hendricks summarized the reasoning behind the earlier time of 6:30 p.m. for meetings, noting the earlier time will be more convenient for staff. He asked if the new time would be made effective starting with the October regular meeting. Councilmember Robertson verified it would. Councilmember Allen moved, and Councilmember Robertson seconded the ordinance be approved. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Hendricks noted the October meeting occurs during Fall Break, and asked if the meeting could be moved to an earlier date, preferably October 6th. He made a motion that the meeting be moved to said date. Councilmember Lusk seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 18, CHAPTER 8, SECTION 18-808, OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TOWN CODE RELATIVE TO THE RATE FOR STORMWATER USER FEES WITHIN THE TOWN". Mayor Hendricks briefly recapped the stormwater fee increase as described in previous meetings. Councilmember Robertson moved, and Councilmember Allen seconded that the ordinance be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Discussions

Mayor Hendricks opened a discussion regarding a recent e-mail he received from Mayor Mike Steele of East Ridge. Mayor Steele informed him there is an organized effort to protest a proposed rate increase from Tenn-American Water Co. There will be a press conference on Thursday the 14th at Coolidge Park to protest the increase. Mayor Hendricks made a motion to support this initiative. Councilmember Lusk seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Vice-Mayor Dick indicated he couldn't understand how Tenn-American could ask for another rate increase after the increase last year.

Ms. Rogers informed the Council that Engineering and Research International, Inc. has been contracted for pavement management service; that is, setting the Town's road system up on a pavement plan. She noted this was not bid out because it is a professional service and does not requiring a bid process. The fee is to not exceed \$55,000.00 and it is budgeted for the current year.

Planning Commission Report

Lou Oliphant reported on a work session at the end of July where subdivision regulations were discussed. The regular meeting was held on July 7th, during which the approval of the proposed plans of services for the Fox Run and Windtree subdivisions were discussed. Many people attended and were polite. No decision on the plans was made;

however, a member of the Commission will write a report on the subject and it will be voted on at the September 4th meeting.

Department Reports

Police Department:

Chief Veal reported an open position in the department was filled by Ms. Jane Phipps, who will start on Monday. However, another officer resigned to pursue a Masters degree and Chief Veal is searching for a replacement. In-service training will begin on August 25th and will last for two weeks. This will include firing range time on September 1st and 2nd. The Council was invited to see the training. Mr. Noblett noted the officers have to complete 40 hours of training each year under State law.

Fire:

Fire Chief Vlassis reported the Fire Department's in-service training began today and will last through the fall. They also have a 40-hour requirement. Two promotions were made within the department and two firefighters achieved State certification. Two employees have resigned. The new AED's have been received with the money saved on this purchase from favorable prices from other government agencies; an extra AED was purchased for use at the Town Hall, Pool, and Gym.

MACC:

Karen Shropshire, MACC Director, reported it has been a good summer, with many children attending camps. A new "Coffee House" series will be held during September and October and everyone is invited.

Recreation:

Jarred Thompson reported camps are finished and good feedback has been received. A recent Health Department inspection gave the pool facilities a "98". The Dixie Youth baseball tournament started today. Mr. Thompson thanked the Council for approval of the resolution for a truck purchase. He also thanked William Sanders for the help received from water department staff. Councilmember Robertson asked about the status of the concession stand operations. Mr. Thompson said the owner of the stand had a few personal and staffing problems but the concession stand is still open.

Public Works:

Ms. Hopper reported that public works activities during the month have consisted primarily of brush pickup, garbage can assembly and delivery. Mr. Noblett noted he received cans for his personal residence and found them easy to maneuver. Mayor Hendricks and Ms. Hopper agreed the cost savings from the new automated garbage

service would be significant. Various uses for the old garbage cans were discussed, such as using them for rain barrels, planting, delivery of recyclables to the recycle center, etc. The Mayor noted the City of Chattanooga is now accepting used compact fluorescent light bulbs. Noah Long mentioned ACE Hardware is also accepting these and indicated this may be more convenient for citizens. Councilmember Lusk suggested performing an early review of Orange Grove management of the recycle center as he had noticed some staffing inconsistencies. Ms. Rogers and Ms. Hopper agreed to this.

Building Inspection:

Mr. Gearhiser reported the High School project is winding down, is ahead of schedule, and that most of the building will be in use on August 12th. There have been many building renovations and additions, particularly in residential construction. He said he appreciated the stormwater fee increase passed earlier. The stormwater function has been slowed recently due to the dry weather.

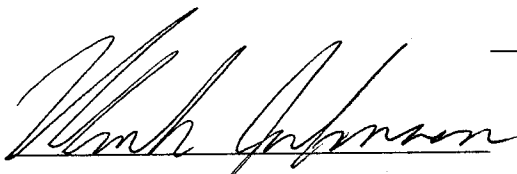
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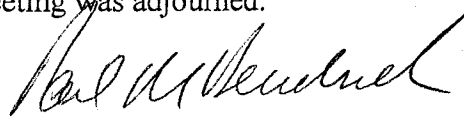
Karin Glendenning reported there were 265 participants in the summer reading program. On August 28th there will be a book signing. There will be a half-price book sale fundraiser on Labor Day.

Other Business

Chief Vlassis mentioned the Tri-State mutual aide aid/event dinner will be held on August 18th. He also mentioned the renovation underway at the fire station is about 75% complete.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Recorder



Dr. Paul Hendricks, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. R2008-67

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING IVEY ERVIN AS THE 2008 STATE OF TENNESSEE D.A.R.E. ESSAY CONTEST WINNER.

WHEREAS, D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) is a highly acclaimed program that gives children the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs, and violence and is taught in the elementary and middle schools of Signal Mountain; and

WHEREAS, each year D.A.R.E. holds a state-wide essay contest for all D.A.R.E. participants in the fifth grade; and

WHEREAS, Ivey Ervin was chosen as the 2008 State of Tennessee D.A.R.E. essay contest winner; and

WHEREAS, Ivey Ervin admirably represented the Town of Signal Mountain and the Signal Mountain Police Department when she presented her essay to the Tennessee D.A.R.E. Officers Association 2008 Annual Conference in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TENNESSEE, that Ivey Ervin is hereby recognized as the 2008 State of Tennessee D.A.R.E. Essay Contest Winner and that the Town Council appreciates her model representation of the Town of Signal Mountain, Tennessee.

Paul M. Bevelick Mark Johnson
MAYOR RECORDER

August 11, 2008
DATE

August 11, 2008
DATE

ORDINANCE NO. 2008-10

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 1, CHAPTER 1, SECTION 1-101, OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TOWN CODE RELATIVE TO THE TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MONTHLY TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE, That Title 1, Chapter 1, Section 1-101, of the Signal Mountain Town Code is deleted in its entirety and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

Sec. 1-101. Time and Place of Regular Meetings. The Town Council shall hold regular monthly meetings at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the Town Hall.

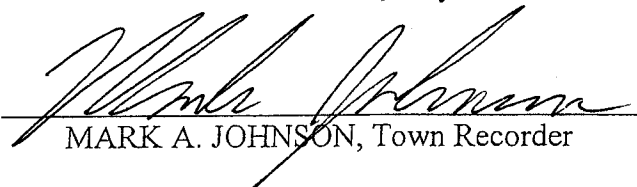
SECTION 2. That this Ordinance shall become effective immediately after its Final passage as provided by law.

Passed First Reading July 14, 2008.

Passed Second Reading August 11, 2008.



PAUL M. HENDRICKS, Mayor



MARK A. JOHNSON, Town Recorder

PAN/kac

ORDINANCE NO. 2008-11

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 18, CHAPTER 8, SECTION 18-808, OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TOWN CODE RELATIVE TO THE RATE FOR STORMWATER USER FEES WITHIN THE TOWN.

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE, That Title 18, Chapter 8, Section 18-808, of the Signal Mountain Town Code is deleted in its entirety and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

Sec. 18-808. Rate. The Stormwater Management Board shall establish the rate for the stormwater user's fee applicable in the Town by ordinance. The rate of the stormwater user's fee shall be calculated to insure adequate revenues to fund the costs of stormwater management and to provide for the operation, maintenance, and capital improvements of the stormwater system in the Town. The minimum stormwater user's fee shall be established at \$39.60 per year for an impervious area of 3,960 square feet or less. The established fee for parcels with impervious areas over 3,960 square feet shall be \$.0165 per square foot. Undeveloped, vegetated land will not be charged a stormwater fee within the Town.

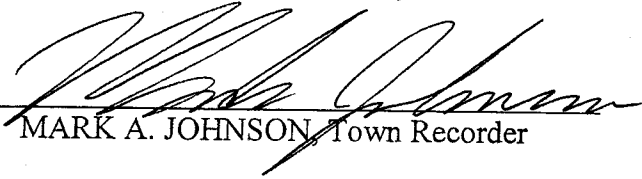
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