

*****December 1, 2009*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a special agenda meeting on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Town Hall. Those present were:

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

Others present were: Town Manager Honna Rogers
Town Recorder Mark Johnson
Others (as noted)

Ms. Rogers introduced Cody Gardino, a new water department employee to the Council.

Ms. Rogers opened a discussion of bicycle helmet requirements. She noted that Police Chief Veal said that bicyclists meeting certain age and weight specifications must wear helmets by law. Enforcement procedures were discussed. The formation of a campaign to promote head injury prevention was also discussed. Ms. Rogers agreed to contact state representatives concerning bicycle helmet safety enforcement issues as well.

Ms. Rogers noted that she had spoken with a representative of the Tennessee River Gorge Trust and her plan to meet with the Trust regarding the creation of a conservation easement at Rainbow Lake before the next agenda session.

Ms. Rogers said she had spoken with Town attorney Phil Noblett about detention/retention pond fence requirements, noting that he said the best place for any requirement additions/revisions is within the subdivision regulations. Vice Mayor Robertson said she felt the requirements should apply to all building development, including those not subject to the subdivision regulations; i.e., they should be dictated by ordinance. The Council agreed to discuss this further at the next agenda session.

Public Works Director Loretta Hopper was present and participated in a discussion of a proposed a monthly service fee for any citizen who purchases or has purchased a second garbage can. Citizen compliance with garbage pickup requirements and recycling issues were also discussed. Ms. Rogers agreed to research what extra cans cost the town above the average cost per citizen for a single can, which is included in property taxes. She agreed to formulate an appropriate service fee for the Council to discuss at the next regular meeting.

Ms. Rogers opened a discussion of building guardrails along a steep section of Palisades Drive to fulfill the terms of a grant that received several years ago. Ms. Hopper noted that letters were mailed to all Palisades Drive residents to ask whether they would be willing to pay more for a more aesthetically pleasing rail style, which was of interest at

the time of the original rail request. There were only four responses, all of which indicated no desire to bear additional cost; therefore, Ms. Hopper suggested the standard rail be used. The history of the grant and related request for guardrails was discussed. The Council agreed to proceed with procuring engineering services.

Ms. Rogers summarized a proposal by Kennedy Coulter Rushing & Watson, LLC, to facilitate a town plan for future commercial development, based on a series of public meetings to secure an overall design concept as well as supporting design guidelines. It was noted that the Town's existing commercial design standards date to 1972. Ms. Rogers noted that Ann Coulter is familiar with the Town. Commercial opportunity limitations, costs and design considerations were discussed as well as potential involvement of the RPA and the DRC in the planning process. The Council directed Ms. Rogers to ask Ms. Coulter to narrow the scope of the proposal to a single public meeting and help in developing the guidelines, rather than developing an entire commercial plan. The Council agreed that the Town could conduct some of the meetings itself to save money.

Ms. Rogers noted she had spoken with the Planning Director of Glendale, Arizona, concerning Glendale's Citizen Participation Plan Ordinance, which addresses the inclusion of neighbors as well as the community as part of the development application process. He said their plan is probably too broad in that it requires participation for any applications that require a public hearing, which has proved burdensome in simple cases. The Council discussed how practical such a plan would be for the Town. The Council agreed to have Mr. Noblett write a memo reflecting his observations and to discuss the issue at the next regular meeting.

Finally, Ms. Rogers led the Council in a discussion of various board applicants to fill vacancies beginning in January 2010.

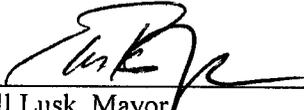
The agenda for the December 14, 2009 regular meeting was discussed as follows:

- Approval of the November 9th regular meeting and December 1st agenda meeting minutes.
- Presentation of the 2008-2009 audit report, if finalized.
- A resolution honoring Marilyn Garner for her service on the Historical Committee, and a resolution recognizing the tenth anniversary of the Thrasher Elementary Environmental Club.
- A resolution authorizing the purchase of a police car.
- A resolution to transfer title of property at 1701 Suck Creek Road to the WWTA.
- Resolutions appointing/reappointing various board members.
- An ordinance approving a franchise agreement with EPB. Issues with the currently proposed contract were discussed, including term limits, indemnification clauses, tree trimming, timing of fee payments to the Town, resident fee rates, etc.
- An ordinance to approve park rules as approved by the Parks Board and revised by the Council.
- Second reading of an ordinance authorizing court cost collections.

- Approval of the Board ordinance, including revisions suggested since the last agenda session regarding participation and procedures.
- Discussion of a possible garbage fee for extra cans, as noted above.

MACC Director Barbara Storm was present and participated in a discussion of MACC repairs. Ms. Rogers said the estimated cost of repairs is \$250,000 to \$300,000. She noted that the Town has contacted TML for an estimate of insurance coverage to help defray part of the costs. The Town is looking for grants to help cover some of the cost too. Until that information is available, Ms. Rogers suggested the Town delay a request for bids. Other funding possibilities were discussed, including a capital fund-raising campaign and loans. The Council agreed to read a resolution that it supports efforts to repair the MACC as expeditiously and as cost effectively as possible.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Bill Lusk, Mayor



Recorder