

*****January 3, 2011*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a special agenda meeting on Monday, January 3, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the Town Hall. Those present were:

Mayor Bill Lusk
Vice Mayor Susan Robertson
Councilmember Annette Allen
Councilmember Dick Gee
Councilmember Bill Wallace

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

The Council first discussed the pending Alexian Village beer permit request. The definition of a "chapel" vs. a "church" was discussed, as well as variance and zoning options, etc. The Council agreed to have Mr. Noblett contact Karen Rennich of the RPA about rezoning the Alexian as a potential solution, since its original zoning (R3) no longer encompasses all that the Village has become. It houses a town hall, a post office, a bank, a store, professional offices, a hospital and other amenities that are not covered under a simple "high density residential" designation.

Councilmember Allen opened a discussion about the possibility of placing a conservation easement on Rainbow Lake and other town properties, an idea supported by the Parks Board and Sam Powell that the Council had discussed previously and considered viable. The Council reviewed a map of the property and other lots which the Parks Board suggested for conservation. The binding effect of an easement on present and future property uses and how an easement would affect future councils was discussed. The Council agreed to invite public comment at either the February or March regular meeting. Mr. Noblett exited the meeting.

The following resolutions were presented:

1. "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING BOB GRAY AS A MEMBER OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TREE BOARD." Mayor Lusk moved and Vice Mayor Robertson seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously.
2. "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TAMMY RARDIN AND BUFFY HARPER AS MEMBERS OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN MOUNTAIN ARTS COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD." Councilmember Gee moved and Councilmember Wallace seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

The agenda for the January 10, 2011 regular meeting was discussed as follows:

- A resolution honoring the State Champion SMHS Football Team.
- A resolution honoring the service of former Vice Mayor and Councilmember Hershel Dick.
- Presentation of the FY 2009-2010 audit.
- A resolution recognizing and celebrating Arbor Day.
- Resolutions approving truck purchases for the Recreation and Water Departments.
- A possible first ordinance reading to rezone the Alexian Village.

Ms. Rogers noted that approving a salary study proposal will not be on the January 10th agenda because recently received bids were much higher than expected, creating a need for the Town to re-evaluate its exact needs and perhaps negotiate a partial study of 10-12 positions instead of all 63.

Loretta Hopper, Public Works Director, arrived and presented an assessment of her department's handling of recent inclement weather. She said that her staff did a very good job and that there are salt reserves on hand, but more has been ordered. Ms. Rogers explained the method and scheduling of salt treatment, saying that main thoroughfares are treated first, followed by collector streets then side streets. Ms. Hopper also described how pre-treating streets with brine can be useful and explained that she is researching it for possible future use.

Ms. Hopper also updated the Council on the issue of detached street markers noted in the December 17, 2010 regular meeting. She said one of the plows had a defective blade cover. The problem has been corrected. .

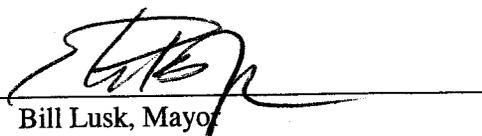
Councilmember Gee asked whether leaf pickup was a year-round service. Ms. Hopper explained that a few rounds are performed each year, with the last of the minor "cleanup" rounds typically ending in March.

Ms. Rogers informed the Council that TML will be hosting a district meeting on January 21st and asked that any interested Council member let her know if he/she wishes to attend.

Councilmember Allen asked about the status of the letter to Orange Grove commending the recycle center's new manager. Ms. Rogers said she would send it soon.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Recorder


Bill Lusk, Mayor