

*****February 14, 2011*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 14, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. Those present were:

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

Also present were:

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

Mayor Lusk led the pledge of allegiance. Stacey Seals, Fire Chaplain, gave the invocation. The roll was called.

SMHS Football Team Honorary Resolution

The following resolution was presented: "A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2010 T.S.S.A.A. CLASS AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP." Councilmember Gee moved and Councilmember Allen seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was temporarily relocated to the gymnasium for the presentation of the award to the team.

Minutes

Upon returning to the Council chamber, the minutes for the December 17th regular meeting and January 31st agenda meeting were discussed. Vice Mayor Robertson noted two minor grammatical errors in the December 17th minutes and requested their amendment. The minutes were approved as so amended. With no additions, deletions, or corrections, the January 31st minutes were also approved.

Honorary Resolutions

The following resolutions were presented:

1. "A RESOLUTION HONORING HERSHEL DICK FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN." Councilmember Gee moved and Councilmember Allen seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Dick was presented the resolution and a street sign, naming the street that curves through the Town Hall complex as Hershel Dick Drive. Both an appreciative Council and audience gave Mr. Dick a standing ovation.

2. "A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING JEFF SIMMONS FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE DISCOVERY OF A NEW SPECIES OF CRAWFISH, *BARBICAMBARUS SIMMONSI*, NAMED IN HIS HONOR." Mayor Lusk moved and Councilmember Gee seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Simmons was presented the resolution. He then summarized his work and discovery.
3. "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING NORMA WITHERSPOON FOR HER SERVICE ON THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN MACC BOARD." Councilmember Gee moved and Vice Mayor Robertson seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously.
4. "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MICHAEL HUSEMAN FOR HIS SERVICE ON THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN MACC BOARD."
5. "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING OLIVER BENTON FOR HIS SERVICE ON THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN LIBRARY BOARD."
6. "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING CORINNE GIAGNORIO FOR HER SERVICE ON THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TREE BOARD."
7. "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING BILL WALLACE FOR HIS SERVICE ON THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN MACC BOARD."
8. "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING STEVE BULLARD FOR HIS SERVICE ON THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN BZA BOARD."

Mayor Lusk moved and Councilmember Wallace seconded that resolutions 4-8 be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

9. "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MARK JOHNSON FOR HIS PARTICIPATION IN AND GRADUATION FROM THE STATE OF TENNESSEE'S INAUGURAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICERS." The Council congratulated Mr. Johnson. Vice Mayor Robertson moved and Councilmember Allen seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Audit Presentation

Brian Wright of Johnson, Murphy & Wright, P.C., the Town's audit firm, presented the fiscal year 2009-2010 audit report. He noted that the Town received an unqualified, or "clean", opinion on its financial statements. He reviewed key points within the report, including the net increase in fund balance per the traditional fund financial statements for the general fund of approximately \$133,000. He briefly reviewed the same key figures in the other governmental funds and enterprise funds. The Water Fund and Stormwater

Fund had approximate surpluses of \$90,000 and \$84,000, respectively. He also noted that there were no procedural control issues discovered during the audit. Finally, he noted that the summary page that reflected all opinions given in the report indicated there were no issues.

Allied Arts Presentation

Sally Robinson, Allied Arts Board member and Chattanooga City Council member, and Dan Bowers, President of Allied Arts, gave a presentation on Allied Arts. They reviewed the mission of Allied Arts—to provide every student in Hamilton County with experience in art its funding, and the value of the programs it supports. Ms. Robinson noted that Hamilton County funding has decreased and that Allied Arts is now asking municipalities in the county to supplement its funding with contributions.

Mayor Lusk asked Mr. Bowers how much Allied Arts had spent on Signal Mountain school students in the last five years. He replied, \$3,400. Mr. Lusk asked Ms. Robinson if she anticipated that Signal Mountain would contribute a similar amount, and if Allied Arts also expected significant contributions from Signal Mountain citizens. Ms. Robinson said participation should get better each year. Councilmember Allen asked how much funding is received from the Department of Education. Ms. Robinson said she wasn't sure.

Citizen Comments

Mayor Lusk invited comments from the audience.

Tom Baird, Corral Road, representing Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church, said that a church committee was formed to study creating and building a memorial garden and columbarium. He said it was his understanding that there must first be a zoning ordinance change to allow this. He mentioned that the church would like to begin work in July and that he looked forward to working with the Town. Mayor Lusk asked if the garden would be located on church property. Mr. Baird said it would be a 2,400 square foot area behind the sanctuary. Vice Mayor Robertson asked what the difference is between a memorial garden and columbarium. Mr. Baird explained that a columbarium was a structure in which urns containing cremated ashes would be placed. In a memorial garden, ashes are placed in the soil and commemorated with a marker. Mr. Noblett said that other churches in the community are interested in memorial gardens too, and this might be an opportune time to address it. He suggested, however, that the Council consider the future use of the property in that it would contain human remains much like a cemetery. As such, it would not be easily converted to another use in the future.

Resolutions

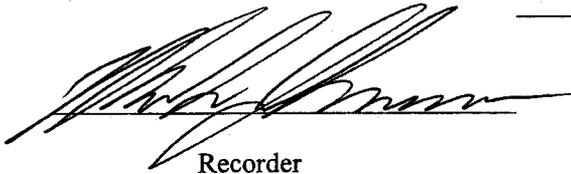
1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH FRANKLIN ARCHITECTS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SEVENTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND 0/100 (\$17,500)

DOLLARS TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR BID PACKET PREPARATION CONCERNING ATTIC INSULATION AND WINDOW REPLACEMENT AT THE MOUNTAIN ARTS COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN.” Ms. Rogers explained that the architects would help draft bid specifications for MACC repairs, but not the rest of the bid packet. The cost for this service will be paid for by ARRA grant funds. Mayor Lusk moved and Councilmember Gee seconded that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

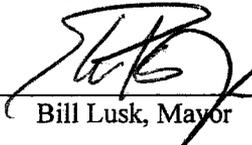
Discussions

Mr. Noblett summarized a recent beer permit request by Alexian Village, reiterating the issue that the establishment where the Alexian wants to serve alcohol is not 500 feet from a chapel as required by ordinance. He noted that the Town is currently looking at how the Village is zoned and said the issue will need further Council review and discussion. Mayor Lusk asked if there were any state statutes that would prohibit a variance to the 500 foot distance requirement. Mr. Noblett explained that the state leaves zoning and distance restrictions concerning alcohol to the municipalities. He said that the zoning ordinance could be amended, but it should be done in such a way that that it remains consistent throughout the entire Town. He also said that special permitting might be allowed if the Village qualifies as a “Continuing Care Retirement Community” or “Planned Unit Development.” He has requested a site plan from Alexian personnel. Ms. Rogers and Mr. Noblett will meet with Mr. Fox, CEO of Alexian Village, to determine the next step. Ms. Rogers said she would request that the Planning Commission place this on its March meeting agenda if it is determined a zoning change will need to take place.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Recorder



Bill Lusk, Mayor