

*****November 12, 2012*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, November 12, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. Those present were:

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

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

Mayor Lusk led the pledge of allegiance. Stacey Seals, Fire Chaplain, gave the invocation.

The Town Attorney, Phillip Noblett, opened the meeting by explaining that the Town's Charter requires Council members to elect a Mayor and Vice Mayor after each general election. Ballots were passed to the Council members. Town Manager Honna Rogers counted the completed ballots and announced the results. Bill Lusk was elected Mayor by a 4 to 1 vote, and Susan Robertson was elected Vice Mayor by a 4 to 1 vote.

Minutes

The minutes for the October 1st regular meeting were presented. One correction was requested by Vice Mayor Robertson: deletion of "Pruett's requested" and addition of the word "for" in the first page, 1st paragraph under the Beer Board, second sentence. This changed the text from two sentences to one which then read: "*...to consider a request by Pruett's Market for approval of a beer tasting.*" The minutes were approved as amended.

The minutes for the October 22nd special agenda meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

Beer Board

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended when the Council convened as the Beer Board.

Ms. Jacqueline Onate requested that Council approve an on-premises beer permit for El Metate Mexican Restaurant. Police Chief Veal stated that all necessary checks have been successfully completed and that the restaurant's location meets zoning setback requirements.

Councilmember Allen motioned to approve an on-premises beer permit for El Metate Mexican Restaurant. Councilmember Gee seconded the motion.

Councilmember Gee asked when the restaurant would be opening. Ms. Onate responded that they have set a November 20th opening date, but that they must still obtain approval from the Liquor by Drink Board and acquire a Certificate of Occupancy.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Lusk called for a vote on the motion. All members being in favor, the motion passed.

The regular meeting was reconvened.

Honorary Resolutions

The following honorary resolutions were presented:

1. "A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL LADIES GOLF TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2012 T.S.S.A.A. CLASS A-AA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP."

Following a reading of the resolution by Mayor Lusk, a motion was made by Councilmember Gee to approve the resolution. Councilmember Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Gee asked if there would be a sign erected to commemorate the championship. Honna Rogers stated that she is currently working on that with Coach Mitchell.

2. "A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO ARE ALSO TOWN EMPLOYEES."

Honna Rogers read the resolution. Three of the honored employees were present: Jane Phipps, Claude Clemons and Stacey Seals.

Mayor Lusk motioned to approve the resolution. Councilmember Gee seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion was approved.

Presentations

Councilmember Gee introduced and welcomed John Niemeyer, Nanci Crewe and her family David Crewe and Allison Phillips and their friends Glenn and Izzy Showalter.

John Niemeyer, secretary of the Lions Club, offered a presentation to the Council to update them on the restoration of the Christmas Train. He explained that 15 different Lions Club members had worked on the restoration project. He introduced those Club members present: Louis Glendenning, Jim Fields, Curtis Hewlett, Ken Abel, Phil Johnson, and John Rose. Mr. Niemeyer recognized Phil Noblett and Mayor Lusk as Lions Club members. Additionally, he thanked Councilmember Gee for the use of his shop for the housing and repair of the train as well as the use of his tools and equipment.

information in that letter. Additionally, Vice Mayor Robertson will also include this information in "Council Notes".

Mayor Lusk inquired as to the number of appointments that are scheduled for December. Ms. Rogers informed him that there are approximately 8 boards that will have members whose terms expire. There are only 3 people who have asked not to be reappointed; however, technically all expired positions are open. Ms. Rogers explained that there is a subdivision coming before the Planning Commission in January and without reappointments, it is possible that there might not be a quorum to address the matter. She felt this was the only board where delaying appointments might be an issue.

Mayor Lusk made a suggestion to postpone any appointments until January to allow residents of Fox Run and Windtree to apply. Councilmember Allen recommended that this be amended to allow appointments to the Planning Commission in December.

Councilmember Gee asked if there are any openings on the Planning Commission. Honna Rogers explained that each member whose term is expiring has requested to be re-appointed. Therefore, if the Council chooses to re-appoint the current members there will be no open position. Councilmember Gee pointed out that the Council is responsible for reconsidering every candidate before reappointments or appointments are decided. Councilmember Allen asked if the Council could make appointments of non-citizens in December for positions that would not begin until January. Mr. Noblett responded in the affirmative.

Councilmember Wallace requested that the Council vote on the motion regarding the Library Board. Mayor Lusk asked if there was any further discussion on the motion. There being none, the vote was taken. All present being in favor, the motion passed.

Councilmember Wallace then made a motion to consider any applicant from Windtree and Fox Run for Town board positions that may come open in December, but that will not become effective until January 1, 2013. Councilmember Gee seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion carried.

3. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR TREE REMOVAL IN THE AMOUNT OF FOURTEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$14,475.00)."

Ms. Rogers explained that each year residents and Town employees identify dead and dangerous trees in Town rights-of-way. The removal of these trees is performed annually. She explained that this expenditure is a budgeted item in the State Street Aid Fund.

Mayor Lusk moved and Vice Mayor Robertson seconded the motion that the resolution be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

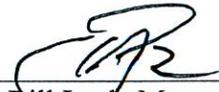
Ordinances

1. "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE III, SECTION 303 OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN ZONING ORDINANCE (SM TOWN CODE AP-A-1) REGARDING THE DEFINITION OF BUILDING HEIGHT AND TO AMEND ARTICLE VI, SECTION 605.02.01 OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN ZONING ORDINANCE TO LIMIT MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT IN THE HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO FORTY (40) FEET ABOVE FINISHED GRADE ELEVATION WITHIN THE TOWN.

Vice Mayor Robertson explained that this Ordinance was recommended by the Planning Commission in order to make the height restriction in High Density Residential zoning districts consistent with the other zoning districts in the town.

Vice Mayor Robertson motioned to approve the Ordinance. Mayor Lusk seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Bill Lusk, Mayor



Recorder