

*****December 9, 2013*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 9, 2013, 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 Chris Dorsey
Town Attorney Phillip Noblett
Town Recorder Carol White
See attached list for others present

Mayor Bill Lusk led the pledge of allegiance. Chris Dorsey, Town Manager, gave the invocation.

Minutes

The minutes for the November 11th regular meeting were presented. There was one minor correction due to a typographical error which did not change the substance of the minutes. The minutes were approved with this correction.

The minutes for the November 22nd special agenda meeting were presented. Vice Mayor Robertson requested one change to the minutes. The correction is on page 2, third paragraph first line so that the correction reads: "...that he had asked Richard Wagner..." All present being in favor, the minutes were approved as amended.

Mayor Lusk welcomed County Commissioner Jim Fields to the meeting.

Citizen Comments

Mayor Lusk invited comments from the audience. There being no comments, the meeting resumed.

Presentation

Brian Wright, CPA, of Johnson, Murphy & Wright, presented the Fiscal Year 2012-13 Town of Signal Mountain audit documents to the Council. Mr. Wright gave a brief explanation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances on pages 20, 34, and 59. All funds maintained a positive cash balance, except a minor amount in the Drug Fund and the State Street Aid Fund which spent \$62,563.00 from its fund balance. Mr. Wright explained that State Street Aid funds are expected to be spent on street projects. They are not intended to build up a substantial fund balance.

Mr. Wright explained to the Council the process whereby General Fund supported programs are converted to reconciliations based on business type activity statements. This conversion is now a federal and state requirement for all governments.

Mr. Wright stated that the auditors were able to give an unqualified opinion on the Town's financial presentation. He explained that this was the best type of opinion to receive. Only one internal control issue was documented. Mr. Wright then explained that the town has received a great report with a clean opinion, and the town is doing well. All funds are running a surplus except for State Street Aid, which reflects money spent on paving, which is great. Mr. Wright stated that the town is in good financial shape and it has a great staff.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ROBERT GRIESINGER AS A MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS."

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

2. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING TIM BURNS AS A MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S ADJUSTMENT AND APPEALS FOR MECHANICAL CODES BOARD."

Mayor Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Gee seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING KAREN RENNICH AS A MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION."

Vice Mayor Robertson made a motion to approve the resolution. Mayor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING RITA IRVIN AS A MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S HISTORICAL COMMITTEE."

Mayor Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Gee seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING LEW WADDEY, SANDY PARTELOW AND LINDA MCGANN AS MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S LIBRARY BOARD."

Vice Mayor Robertson made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Allen seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CATHY PIERCE AS A MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S MOUNTAIN ARTS COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD."

Councilmember Gee made a motion to approve the resolution. Mayor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING WAYNE WILLIAMS AND VAN BUNCH AS MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION."

Councilmember Allen made a motion to approve the resolution. Vice Mayor Robertson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Councilmember Wallace stated that he appreciates the work these and all the volunteers perform, however he wondered how long Mr. Williams and Mr. Bunch had served on the Planning Commission. Planning Commissioner Melissa Cantrell answered that the two gentlemen had served six years each. Councilmember Wallace noted that these members are appointed for 3 year terms and do not have to be elected as do Council members. Vice Mayor Robertson explained that each member was appointed by the Council and the Council is elected by the Town residents. Furthermore, they are required to attend no fewer than 70% of all meetings, to stay current and participate in the Commission's work, and complete 4 hours of training each year. She also explained that there is a learning and experience curve involved for volunteers who serve on the Planning Commission in that the members are required to have particular knowledge of both the Subdivision Regulations and the Zoning Ordinance. She stated that the Council is fortunate to have educated and experienced volunteers, who are willing to give their personal time to the town. She recounted that only a few years ago, when Hale Hamilton, Dan Saieed and Dick Dillender retired from the Planning Commission, they had added up the years each had served and came up with 100.

8. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CHERYL CARICO AND JEFF WISHMYER AS MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S PARKS BOARD."

Mayor Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Gee seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

9. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ART DICKERSON AND TERESA JONES AS MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S PERSONNEL COMMITTEE."

Vice Mayor Robertson made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Allen seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

10. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DON CLOSE AND CHRIS HOWLEY AS MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD."

Councilmember Wallace made a motion to approve the resolution. Mayor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

11. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING BARBARA WOMACK AND JOSEPH HORTON AS MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S TREE BOARD."

Mayor Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Vice Mayor Robertson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

12. "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING CAROL THOMPSON-WHITE FOR HER PARTICIPATION IN AND COMPLETION OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE'S CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICERS."

Mr. Dorsey explained that the State required each municipality to have a CPA or State Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO). This is a one to two year process. Ms. White received her CMFO certificate in September, 2013.

Mayor Lusk made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Wallace seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Bill Lusk, Mayor



Recorder