

\*\*\*\*\*December 8, 2014\*\*\*\*\*

The Signal Mountain Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 8, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Dick Gee  
Vice Mayor Bill Wallace  
Councilmember Chris Howley  
Councilmember Bill Lusk  
Councilmember Robert Spalding

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

Mayor Gee named Robert Stilz as Mayor for a Minute.

Mayor for a Minute Robert Stilz led the pledge of allegiance. Stacey Seals, Fire Chaplain, gave the invocation.

Mayor Gee read a proclamation naming Robert Stilz as Mayor for a Minute (proclamation attached).

Mayor Gee recognized audience member Mr. Jim Fields, County Commissioner.

### Minutes

There were no minutes.

### Citizen Comments

Mayor Gee invited comments from the audience.

John Moon, Miles Road, said he was representing the Signal Mountain Lions Club. He explained that the Lions Club has provided service to the Town for 56 years and currently has 80 members. He stated that the Club's objectives are to take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community, to promote the principals of good government and citizenship, and to provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest. Mr. Moon said the Lions Club would like to reach out to the Town government by providing a liaison to open the door to mutual understanding of community needs, so that the Club can be an effective part of the solution to those needs, working in concert with the Town. He said that he has been appointed by the Lions Club to attend all monthly Council meetings. Mayor Gee accepted the Lions Club offer to become a willing partner with the Town in working towards the betterment of the community.

Claire Griesinger, Carriage Hill, informed the Council that she has been on the DRC for almost 6 years during which time she has served as secretary. She explained that her term expires at the end of this month. She said that Councilmember Howley suggested she be replaced by Jeff Wishmyre instead of her being reappointed. Ms. Griesinger said that she has enjoyed being on the DRC. She said she has learned that Mr. Wishmyre is active in the community, has been a realtor for 8-10 years, is a founding member of the MBA, and is a good choice for the DRC.

There being no further comments, the meeting resumed.

### Presentations

Brian Wright, CPA, of Johnson, Murphy & Wright, presented the fiscal year 2013-14 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, 62, and 36.

Mr. Wright explained that all funds maintained a positive cash balance, except for minor amounts in the Drug Fund, which expended \$3,433.00 of fund balance for bullet proof vests for the Police Department, and the State Street Aid Fund, which spent \$8,867.00 from the fund balance for street projects.

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 which he stated is a minor item when you consider the overall number of financial items handled by the Town. Mr. Wright then explained that the town has received a great report with a clean opinion, and the town is doing well. He stated that the internal controls of the Town are excellent and the employees of the Finance Department do a great job of protecting Town assets and making sure everything is recorded and reported correctly.

Mayor Gee read a letter from the Director of the Office of State and Local Finance (copy attached). This letter constitutes approval of the Town's FY 2014-15 fiscal year budget as adopted.

### Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION ANNOUNCING THE RESIGNATION OF MELISSA CONTRELL AND APPOINTING LAURA DUNCAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM AND REAPPOINT ERIN WOODROW AS MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION."

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

Mayor Gee stated that Guy Beatty has resigned, leaving an additional opening on this commission.

2. "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JEFF WISHMYER, RAYMOND BOAZ, AND MICHAEL RICHARDS AS MEMBERS OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION."

Councilmember Lusk stated that he was disappointed that the Council chose to not reappoint Clair Griesinger. He stated that the Town will lose a lot of institutional knowledge and capability on the DRC.

Councilmember Howley motioned to approve the resolution. Councilmember Spalding seconded the motion. A majority being in favor, the motion was approved. Councilmember Lusk voted in opposition

3. "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING BARBARA WOMACK, CLYDE WOMACK, ANNE HAGOOD, KYLE KELLY, BILL WARDLAW, TALMADGE MINCEY, AND JOSHUA ROGERS AS MEMBERS OF A SUB-COMMITTEE FO THE TREE BOARD ENTITLED TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S HEMLOCK CONSERVATION TASK FORCE."

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

### Ordinances

1. "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2014-05, ENTITLED THE "FY 2014-2015 BUDGET ORDINANCE," SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN ADDITIONAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES IN THIS BUDGET YEAR."

Town Manager, Boyd Veal gave a brief explanation of the changes requested through this ordinance.

Councilmember Lusk motioned to approve the second reading of the ordinance. Councilmember Spalding seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion was approved.

2. "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TOWN CODE BY DELETING AND REPLACING TITLE 18, CHAPTER 7, ENTITLED STORMWATER RUNOFF REGULATION AND CONTROL."

Mr. Veal explained that this ordinance must be updated in order to remain in compliance with the Town's Stormwater Permit and that passage is required by the end of December. He stated that this ordinance is an MTAS model and that staff has thoroughly reviewed this document for compliance to the Town's policies and procedures.

Vice Mayor Wallace motioned to approve the second reading of the ordinance. Councilmember Lusk seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion was approved.

### Discussions

Mr. Veal explained that he had been asked to update the Council and residents of the status of the SRO position. He reminded the Council that at their last meeting they had moved to free up funds that were previously frozen for the SRO position. He said that the Town has since engaged the former SRO, who had returned as a Patrol Officer, to fill the vacant SRO position for the duration of this school year. He said that the department is back filling his patrol position through overtime by other Patrol Officers.

Mayor Gee stated that this support from the Town for the SRO position ends with this budget year. He said that the Town does not intend to pick up the additional costs for the SRO position in the next fiscal year. Mayor Gee explained to County Commissioner Jim Fields that the Town would do what needed to be done to work with the County and the Department of Education to make sure there is a seamless transition to the County's budget.

Mayor Gee explained that the Council has been discussing video streaming with the intent to use technology to substitute for written communication through the newspaper. Chief Mitchell informed the Council that he has been looking at video streaming and uploading to You Tube, including equipment requirements. He explained that other concerns include the fact that video information must be archived and utilizes server space, along with the fact that video streaming software must also be put on a computer system, and in addition, there is the question of how to capture all the audio and assure the video quality. Chief Mitchell stated that he expects to have firm cost estimates for the Council at the next agenda session.

### Other Business

Mayor Gee distributed a collection of e-mails, which included a rendering of the entrance to Wild Ridge subdivision. He explained that representatives from Wild Ridge had requested a variance relative to the sign ordinance. Mayor Gee informed the Council that they are the ones to authorize variance requests. He asked the Council to review the information and be prepared to address the variance request at the next meeting.

Mayor Gee recognized MACC Director Barb Storm and asked for an update about the tree lighting. Ms. Storm informed the Council that, including staff, sponsors, 110 performers, 50 volunteers, and vendors, along with community members, there were an estimated 800 attendees. She said she is putting together a video of the event which should be ready in a few months. Mayor Gee stated that she and the staff deserve a lot of credit for the successful event.

Mayor Gee said that this event highlighted the need for additional parking at the MACC. Mr. Veal said that this issue is already a discussion item for the agenda session.

Councilmember Wallace commended Mr. Veal and Finance Director/Recorder Carol White for the success of the audit. Ms. White stated that it is always a group effort and that every person contributes.

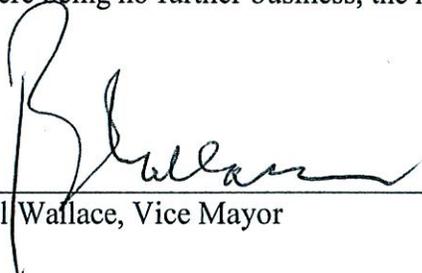
Councilmember Howley thanked Mr. Veal and Public Works Director Loretta Hopper for signs placed in Hidden Brook in advance of speed bumps being placed near Timberlinks.

Councilmember Howley asked if there have been any further burglaries since the agenda meeting. Acting Chief Ogrodowczyk said there had not.

Councilmember Spalding asked when the speed bumps were to be installed. Ms. Hopper replied that they should be installed by the end of the week. Mr. Veal said that it could be the first of next week due to the need to get letters sent to the affected homeowners.

Mayor Gee reminded the Council that the Town has a centennial celebration coming up in 4 years. He asked the Council to begin discussions to form a committee to plan for the event.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



---

Bill Wallace, Vice Mayor



---

Recorder