

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a special agenda meeting on Friday, January 23, 2014 at 12:30 p.m.

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

Others present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal
Town Recorder Carol White
See attached list for others present

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the February 9, 2015 regular meeting.

Minutes

Councilmember Howley made a motion to table approval of the October 13, 2014 minutes to the next meeting when absent Council Members can be present. Councilmember Spalding seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion was approved.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2015 FORD EXPLORER XLT, TENNESSEE STATE BID NUMBER 40034, FROM GOLDEN CIRCLE AUTO GROUP, JACKSON, TENNESSEE, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY EIGHT THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR AND 80/100 (\$28,724.80) DOLLARS TO BE USED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN."

Boyd Veal, Town Manager explained that a 7% prompt payment discount will be applied to this purchase, with \$26,714.06 being the expected cost.

Councilmember Howley asked how the Vehicle Replacement Plan was initiated. Mr. Veal explained that this program was begun by Mr. Lynn Wampler. The Council was provided with a copy of the current fiscal year vehicle replacement plan excel spreadsheet. Councilmember Howley asked for a full vehicle inventory by department to include vehicles not currently included in the vehicle replacement plan. Councilmember Spalding asked if there is a similar plan for facilities maintenance. Mr. Veal explained that a similar plan was recently established but has not yet been fully developed. Councilmember Howley requested a copy of the facilities plan.

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

2. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2015 FORD F-250 XL, TENNESSEE STATE BID NUMBER 40034, FROM GOLDEN CIRCLE AUTO GROUP, JACKSON, TENNESSEE, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY NINE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY NINE AND 62/100 (\$29,829.62) DOLLARS TO BE USED BY THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN."

Mr. Veal explained that the vehicle to be purchased is larger than the one being replaced. This is based on the departments needs to haul heavier loads and the mechanics advice that the current vehicle is not appropriate for the loads being towed.

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

Discussions

Mr. Veal provided the Council with copies of a grant application for the MACC. He explained this grant is through the Historic Preservation Society and that our request is for the repair and replacement of windows. Mr. Veal said that he is requesting the Council approve this project subject to receiving the grant. He stated that the Town portion of this request is \$13,000.00.

Councilmember Howley made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to apply for the grant and to support funding subject to the successful award of the grant. Councilmember Spalding seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion was approved.

Mr. Veal explained that in an attempt to facilitate all the sports and activities for the children, he, Jarred Thompson, Parks & Recreation Director, and Fire Chief Eric Mitchell looked at how the town can better utilize facilities and space. Mr. Veal provided basic drawings of a proposal to take the first steps in that project. He asked the Council if there were support for this direction. If so, staff could begin getting engineering performed and obtain construction cost estimates.

Mr. Thompson explained to the Council that the plan includes taking the two baseball fields from Short Creek Drive and move them to Hedges Field. He said that this will provide a consolidated baseball facility. He said that this will be a quad-plex where the Town can host summer tournaments, which will generate revenue. The property on Short Creek Drive will be turned into a full size football complex. Mr. Thompson stated that this will allow for Lacrosse leagues, Scenic City tackle football league, and the flag league being consolidated there.

Councilmember Howley said that he has recently served on the Parks Board and realizes the need for the Town to find enough space for all sports. He said a plan to consolidate the sport facilities in this manner is something that the Council needs to look at.

Council discussed the fact that it will probably cost around \$8,000.00 to produce the technical specifications which are needed in order to get cost estimates for the project. Councilmember Howley said that he thought it was worth spending the funds to find out if this project can be done. Councilmember Spalding said that this cost is not too expensive to get more information.

Council deferred a motion on this proposal until the next meeting when the absent Council members can have a vote.

Mr. Veal provided the Council with an e-mail from Coach Ryan Reeves. Coach Reeves is a tennis coach who is interested in leasing a portion of the Towns tennis facility. Mr. Thompson explained that Coach Reeves has plans to have summer tournaments to bring children from off the mountain to play and to sell goods and services from the pro shop. Mr. Veal said that the best approach on the front end is to get a formal agreement relative to the regular use and that any tournaments or extended play would have to be separate agreements. He will bring that formal agreement to the Council at a future time.

Councilmember Howley said that the road up the mountain is getting worse and worse. He expressed his concern that the road will require major repairs in the near future and that the Town should have a plan on how to handle that problem. He said that the Town should work with TDOT to get the road repaired within the next two years. Mr. Veal said that the road is on TDOT's plan with encumbered funding for completion by 2020.

Councilmember Spalding said that the Town's website needs to be more interactive and be conducive to streaming video of Council meetings. Mr. Veal said that staff is looking at what will be needed to implement video streaming and in what way will this impact the website. He said that staff is currently gathering information on the streaming process. Chief Mitchell said that once the equipment is installed, the Town will need to have IT support to move to the step. After further discussions, Mr. Veal said that he will have more information for the Council at the February agenda meeting.

Discussions regarding the sign ordinance were tabled until the next meeting.

Councilmember Spalding presented the Council with a draft ordinance to establish a Town conservation policy. Councilmember Spalding asked Mr. Veal how many parks the Town owns that are not encumbered by the conservation easement. Mr. Veal said he would get a list to the Council. Council decided to table any further discussion on this item until the next agenda meeting.

Councilmember Spalding asked what actions were being considered in response to a resident complaint regarding the parking area for Rainbow Lake. Mr. Veal said the Town is considering additional signage. Councilmember Spalding said that he liked the idea of additional signage.

Mr. Veal informed the Council that MTAS traffic consultants will be at the February 27th agenda meeting to discuss speed bumps and traffic calming in general.

Mr. Veal said that he had received a quote on surveying the property for the new fire station. He said that the Town will proceed with that phase of the project, and that once that is complete he will move forward with preliminary clearing. He said that once that is complete, some additional surveys will be required to get elevations and contours.

Mr. Veal stated that Public Works Director Loretta Hopper is close to wrapping up engineering on the public works facility.

Mr. Veal informed the Council that he is looking at a pay and benefits survey and formulating to approach those issues. He said that he will be scheduling a meeting with the Personnel Committee in the next few weeks to discuss the findings of the survey.

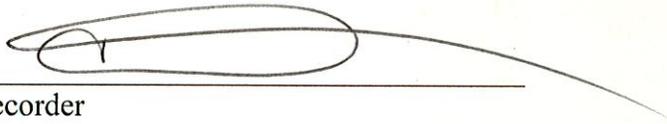
Councilmember Howley asked that the Council get reports from Town boards. Council was informed that they will receive copies of the minutes from the board meetings. These minutes will be included in their monthly packets.

Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Dick Gee, Mayor



Recorder