

*****April 11, 2016*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on Monday, April 11, 2016, 2015, 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: Asst. Town Manager/Fire Chief Eric Mitchell
Town Attorney Phillip Noblett
Town Recorder Carol White
See attached list for others present

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

Mayor Gee welcomed Walden Ridge Mayor Bill Trohanis to the meeting.

Minutes

The minutes for the March 21st regular meeting were presented. There being no changes, the minutes were approved.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE PRINCIPAL, STAFF AND STUDENTS OF THRASHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND ACHIEVEMENT AS EVIDENCED BY THE SCHOOL'S DESIGNATION AS A STATE OF TENNESSEE REWARD SCHOOL."

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

Citizen Comments

Mayor Gee invited comments from the audience.

Jim Horton, Shoal Creek Falls, expressed concern that the bridge replacement project on Shoal Creek Falls should be closely monitored to assure it does not grow into a larger than needed project.

Melissa Cantrell, South Drive, thanked the Council and staff for their continued efforts regarding Highway 127. She thanked Councilmember Lusk for climbing over the guard rail to take pictures of the road.

Dylan Hull, Palmer Avenue, spoke to the Council regarding his concerns about the Town removing climbing anchors from the Signal Point area. When the Council explained that there is an ordinance prohibiting climbing on public property, Mr. Hull offered to assist the Town with the safe removal of the anchors.

There being no further comments, the meeting resumed.

Public Hearing

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended for the Council to convene a Public Hearing on a request from Alexian Village of Tennessee to pass a resolution approving tax exempt bond financing to be undertaken on their behalf.

Present were Steve Gilmore, Director of Capital Finance at Ascension and Michael Hambley, President and CEO of Alexian Village of Tennessee.

Town Attorney, Phil Noblett explained that this resolution will not obligate the Town in any way. He said this action is mandated by the IRS who require issuance of bonds be approved by the elected representatives having jurisdiction over the area.

Mr. Gilmore explained that this action will reimburse Alexian for past projects and provide funds for refinancing current debt.

Mayor Gee invited comments from the audience.

Councilmember Lusk asked if the sale of these bonds will result in a rate decrease to the residents of Alexian Village. He was informed that it will not.

There being no further comments, the regular meeting resumed.

Resolutions

2. "RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE APPROVING A TAX EXEMPT BOND FINANCING TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE WISCONSIN HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN PROJECTS FO ALEXIAN VILLAGE OF TENNESSEE LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE."

Vice Mayor Wallace motioned to approve the resolution. Councilmember Spalding seconded the motion. The motion to approve the resolution passed with a vote of 4 to 1, with Councilmember Lusk abstaining.

3. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF TENNESSEE GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE MEDICAL, DENTAL AND VISION INSURANCE FOR ALL ELIGIBLE TOWN PERSONNEL FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016."

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

4. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE PORTABLE AND MOBILE DIGITAL RADIOS AND ACCESSORIES, TENNESSEE STATE BID NUMBER 418-45079 FROM MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$20,000.00) DOLLARS TO BE USED THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN."

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

Ordinances

1. "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 2, CHAPTER 1, SECTION 2-103 AND TITLE 2, CHAPTER 3, SECTION 2-302 OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN TOWN CODE TO MODIFY AND CLARIFY CERTAIN SECTIONS RELATING TO TERMS OF APPOINTMENT FOR MEMBERS OF SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND TO ESTABLISH FOUR (4) YEAR TERMS FOR MEMBERS OF SUCH SUBCOMMITTEES AT THE DISCRETION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL."

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

Discussion

Councilmember Spalding announced that Sparkle Day will be held on May 7th with participants meeting at Althouse Park. He said three hours will be dedicated to the clean-up which will end at noon. He said the Lion's Club will be serving hot dogs to the participants.

Councilmember Lusk announced an open house to be held April 14th from 3 to 6 p.m. at the historic house. He said that refreshments will be served.

Mayor Gee announced that Town Manager, Boyd Veal has been asked to consider serving on the Board of Directors for Alexian Village.

Other Business

Councilmember Howley expressed his concern regarding dead underbrush on the highway frontage. He said he was concerned in case of a forest fire and asked if the Town is active in mitigating the danger. During discussion on this topic it was pointed out that the area in question was state right-of-way but Councilmember Lusk pointed out that TDOT has reduced their right-of-way maintenance activities forcing local jurisdictions to take on these duties. Fire Chief Eric

Mitchell also explained that the Town does not currently participate in the wildland urban interface program which advocates the proactive clearing of under growth.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Dick Gee, Mayor



Recorder