

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a worksession on Friday, September 30, 2016 at 12:30 p.m.

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

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

Mayor Gee led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JAN M. EVANS AS A MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE, CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION SUBCOMMITTEE."

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

2. "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING KIM FOOKES, JUDY NOWLIN AND EDNA CLEMONS AS MEMBERS OF THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN BEAUTIFICATION SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN'S CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE."

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

Discussion

Patrick Emanuel, Chair of the Centennial Celebration Committee, provided a written update to the Council regarding the activities of the committee. He explained that the committee has been meeting since November 2015. Mr. Emanuel stated that the committee has developed a Mission Statement and discussed a variety of methods to celebrate the centennial. He explained that the committee will be reviewing a budget at their November meeting. The Council provided some suggestions regarding the celebration.

Town Manager, Boyd Veal, explained that the Parks Board has recommended re-stating the park rules outlined in Chapter 5. He explained that the current version is too informal and that the rules need to be clear and enforceable. The Board is not recommending any other changes at this time, but they are considering topics like camping, fires, and rock climbing. After discussion, Councilmember Spalding made a motion to approve the proposed changes. Councilmember Howley seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion passed. Mr. Veal said he will have an Ordinance ready for the next regular meeting.

Mr. Veal explained to the Council that the individual that he wanted to engage to provide cost estimates for construction of various MACC facility scenarios has declined since his company is interested in bidding on the project if it should be placed out for bid. The Council discussed various methods to determine the costs of construction for current proposed projects. Mr. Veal proposed using square foot construction costs of other recent similar construction. The Council agreed to this method, with Councilmember Howley requesting estimates for worst, middle, and best case scenarios.

Councilmember Howley proposed a special worksession to discuss the needs of the MACC building and the other proposed projects. He also informed the Council that he had met with the MACC Patrons and asked them if they would be interested in assuming the operations of the MACC. He proposed to them that the Town would provide full financial support for the first year. He said he told them that the Town would decrease its financial support by \$30,000 each year until the MACC Patrons had responsibility for financing the full operation. Councilmember Howley said the group did not think they could raise the \$30,000.00 for the second year's operations and would not be interested in this proposal.

Board Liaison Reports

Councilmember Spalding said the DRC met on Tuesday where he proposed that they would have a design award to recognize rehabilitation or remodeling projects for residential and/or commercial construction. He said this would give some recognition for community improvements.

Vice Mayor Wallace said the BZA has not met. He said the Planning Commission will meet next Thursday, and the Shackelford Ridge project is not on agenda.

Councilmember Spalding reminded all present that Arbor Day will be celebrated on October 7th at Nolan Elementary School at 9:00 a.m. He asked that the event be promoted on the Town's web site.

Manager's Report

Mr. Veal said that Police Chief, Mike Williams, will meet next week with Sheriff Hammond regarding the County's financial support of the SRO Officer position. Mr. Veal said the Sheriff is anticipating hearing about the grant award today and that if awarded an SRO will be placed at the Signal Mountain High School. He said that the County cannot fund our SRO Officer as the grant can only be utilized for a county employee.

Mr. Veal informed the Council that the engineer on the James Boulevard project is going back to the State to protest the last minute change which requires a change in the base materials. Mr. Veal said the engineer for the water line portion of the project is preparing the documents necessary to put the project out for bid.

Mr. Veal said he met with the architectural firm of Allen & Hoshall regarding changes and modification to the design of the new fire station. He anticipates receiving the revised plans today or early next week. He said the site layout has been completed, which allows boring and site evaluations to proceed.

Mr. Veal said he and staff have reviewed all the preliminary plans for the MACC and Town Hall projects, provided input and the plans are being revised. He anticipates having working documents by the next worksession.

Tentative Agenda

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the October 10, 2016 regular meeting.

Other Business

Mr. Veal said he had met with two members of the Beautification Committee and that a member of the Centennial Celebration Committee joined them. He said that when he had some of the view shed cleaned out and reclaimed between Shoal Creek and CVS last year, there was a tremendous positive response from the public. Mr. Veal said he discussed with the board members picking that area up during the fall season when the leaves are falling to improve the impact of this section. He said that recognition of the committees will occur once the public has seen the results of their activities.

Mr. Veal said he met with TDOT about the signage in that area. He said that it is a very complicated process to get permission to construct a historic marker within the right-of-way. Coolidge Park, which is adjacent to this right-of-way, is named for a town resident who is a Medal of Honor recipient. Mr. Veal said that stamped engineering drawing are required. He said he hopes the Signal Mountain military history group has a member who is an engineer.

Councilmember Howley informed the Council that the MACC Patrons had submitted a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for fund raising activities. He stated that, as proposed, the Town would not be able to agree to the terms.

Councilmember Howley said he has met with Frank Groves regarding the property on the brow offered for sale to the town. Councilmember Howley indicated that he did not feel the owner was interested in negotiating, and therefore he recommends the Town not pursue the purchase.

Councilmember Howley said he sent a letter to Senator Tracy who is State Chairman of the Transportation Safety Committee regarding the road up the mountain. He said he shared that letter with Patsy Hazelwood and Bo Watson. Ms. Hazelwood has assured him that she is aware of the matter, but there is no immediate plan to address the issue. He said he will continue to press to have this road project moved up the list from its current position with 2020 projects.

Councilmember Spalding asked the status of a new lease with the Country Club. Mr. Veal said he and Town Attorney, Phil Noblett, have met with the County Club and the Town is currently awaiting a draft for a new lease agreement from Mr. Noblett. Councilmember Howley said that all parties have agreed to general terms.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Dick Gee, Mayor



Recorder