

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a worksession on Friday, March 24, 2017 at 12:30 p.m.

Those present were: Mayor Chris J. Howley  
Councilmember Dick Gee  
Councilmember Dan Landrum  
Councilmember Robert Spalding

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

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

### Discussion

a. School System Viability Committee Update (SSVC)

Dr. John Friedl, Chairman of the SSVC presented the Council with an update of the progress to-date of the Committee (copy attached). The Council thanked Dr. Friedl and requested monthly updates from the Committee.

b. Centennial Committee Update

Kyra Howell provided an update on activities of the Centennial Celebration Committee (CCC). She said the Committee had met with the Mountain Business Association (MBA) and that the MBA is excited to be part of this celebration. Ms. Howell said that the CCC will concentrate on the parade and activities of Founders Week and seek events during the rest of the year from other entities. She said the CCC is working on a budget and logo. Following discussions, the Council asked for a detailed budget request in conjunction with a calendar of the Committees planned activities prior to the next worksession. Ms. Howell said the Committee has discussed seeking donations and placing funds with the Chattanooga Community Foundation. The Council directed Ms. Howell to have the appropriate Committee members meet with Town staff to get guidance on what is required for a budget submission, how to make purchases that meet the Town's legal requirements, how financing is handled, etc. The Council again discussed the need for Town staff to review the proposed logo.

c. Fire Station Project Update

Town Manager, Boyd Veal informed the Council that staff continue to work on the design of the fire station. Mr. Veal explained that construction cost estimates had risen from an original estimate of \$1.5 million several years ago to a current estimate of \$3 million. He said this estimate is based on the design and pricing provided by architects Allen & Hoshall. Mr. Veal stated that he and Fire Chief, Eric Mitchell have worked with the architects to re-design the structure to find economies while meeting the needs of the Fire Department. He said the revised construction cost estimate based on this new plan is closer to \$2 million. Following discussions with David Bryant, AIA, Senior Architect for Allen & Hoshall, the Council asked Allen & Hoshall provide a design with a construction cost of \$2 million. Mr. Bryant assured the Council that there would not be any additional costs for the re-design. Council asked Chief Mitchell to provide a budget for apparatus costs at the next worksession.

## **Board Liaison Reports**

Vice Mayor Gee asked Linda Kelly from the Beautification Committee to give a progress report to the Council. Ms. Kelly suggested the Council consider adding Rita Smith-Irvin to the committee. She said the committee is researching grants and said they were in contact with the Audubon Society to establish a bluebird trail. Vice Mayor Gee asked the Beautification Committee to take charge of improvements on Shoal Creek at the Coolidge Monument. Ms. Kelly spoke about numerous beautification suggestions currently under discussion by the Committee. Ms. Kelly asked for permission to put a mushroom log in Shoal Creek to provide a natural water purification method. Mr. Veal asked her to get with Ms. Hopper to coordinate through the Stormwater Program.

Vice Mayor Gee said the Mountain Arts Community Center (MACC) Board will meet next Tuesday.

Councilmember Landrum said the Library Board will meet this week.

## **Manager's Report**

Mr. Veal said that the MACC Director, Barb Storm had obtained quotes for remediation and that the clean-up would begin next week. He said that he had met with Jeff Westbrook of March Adams, the firm that did the engineering to repair the rear wall and floor in the auditorium, the floor under the bathroom, and the sprinkler and alarm system. He said that they sent a quote on the civil engineering for the site drainage, alleyway and sidewalk work and Mr. Veal felt it was reasonable.

He said he has also met with Ed Garbee about doing the design of the fire separation between the two portions of the building and to look at options to ensure there is sufficient restroom access.

Mr. Veal said there will be additional professional costs associated with the overall project.

Mr. Veal said Chief Mitchell has had discussions with the Fire Marshall who agreed to do a walk through of the building prior to any substantial repairs. Mr. Veal stated that the Fire Marshall has confirmed that once the work is completed, the rear of the facility that is not sprinkled will be unusable and must be closed to all uses.

Mr. Veal said the issues have been resolved regarding obtaining easements for the Shoal Creek bridge project. He said there need to be some acquisitions of right-of-way but now the design can move forward.

He said there have been preliminary meetings on the water projects and that materials are to be delivered soon.

Mr. Veal said he has met with most of the department heads about the budget and reminded the Council that the April 28<sup>th</sup> worksession will be full day budget review meeting.

He informed the Council that he will be at the City Manager's Conference Wednesday through Friday of the next week, in addition to being out of the office the following Monday and Tuesday.

He said he has contacted the TML Bond Fund staff to begin preliminary estimates for funding of the fire station.

## Tentative Agenda

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the April 10, 2017 regular meeting.

## Other Business

Vice Mayor Gee said that the Signal Mountain High School Mock Trial Team is doing well. He asked that a Resolution to honor the team's performance be prepared for the next meeting. The Council agreed to wait until the trials are completed.

Councilmember Spalding thanked Lt. Lewis and Lt. Coulter for attending David McCann's funeral.

Councilmember Landrum asked the other Council Members how best to involve the community in the efforts to repair the MACC facility. He suggested seeking residents to implement fund raising for capital improvements. Councilmember Landrum proposed a future Council meeting at the MACC building to allow residents and Council to walk around the facility while they discuss strategic long term planning ideas to move forward. The Council agreed that it is a good idea.

Mayor Howley said that he, Vice Mayor Gee, and Mr. Veal met with the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) on March 3. He said they discussed the de-annexation legislation, who the Town might meet with to discuss funding for improvements and repairs to the road up the mountain, the proposed charter changes and the proposed changes to the Town's court, etc.

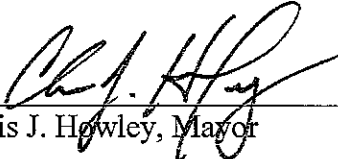
Mayor Howley said that he, Vice Mayor Gee, Councilmember Landrum, and Mr. Veal attended the TML conference on Monday and Tuesday. He said they met with Patsy Hazelwood and Bo Watson as well as representatives from Bartlett.

Mayor Howley said that the Council is invited to the Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. He said this meeting will be held at the Tennessee Aquarium auditorium where Commissioner Bob Roth will be introduced.

Mayor Howley said that he and Mr. Veal met with Gary Lowder and Ken Able of the Lion's Club. He said the Lion's Club would like to have a liaison with the Council. He said the Club would prefer to have their annual fireworks display out near the high school.

Mayor Howley asked that Mr. Veal prepare revisions to the Debt Policy to bring it more in line with the actual borrowing activities of the Town.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
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Chris J. Howley, Mayor

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Recorder