

Council Notes-April 30, 2014

For questions or information, contact the Town Hall at 886-2177 or council members at signalmountaintn.gov.

- On Tuesday, April 22, Town Manager Boyd Veal presented the proposed FY 2014-15 budget to the council. Mr. Veal explained that he had employed a management prospective in order to achieve efficiency and financial oversight with no tax increase.
- Highlights of the proposed budget include a recommendation to update the town's pay plan to address employee turnover; the establishment a facilities maintenance department and budget to ensure current and future facility repairs and maintenance; a Capital Projects Fund to manage upcoming capital construction projects; an updated Vehicle Replacement Plan including the purchase of a new garbage truck and a ladder truck for the Fire Department; and to meet growing needs, two new positions (a maintenance worker and a codes inspector/deputy fire marshall) and upgraded a finance position to full-time.
- Two major capital projects are upcoming: a new public works facility to replace the 1953 Quonset hut and a fire substation on Shackleford Ridge required by the increase in population. To cover the costs, the council has agreed to borrow up to \$3 million. Mr. Veal reminded the council that it had saved the town over a million dollars in interest by paying ahead on the school loan. He also proposed that the council retire \$.15 of the amount allotted to the school loan and reallocate \$.15 to overall debt service.
- Go to the town website to preview the proposed budget. The council will begin its review at its next regular meeting on Monday, May 9 at 6:30.
- **Correction:** Burning brush is allowed by special permit on approved burning days October-April. No burning is allowed May-September. Contact the Air Pollution Control Bureau at 423-643-5971 or apcb.org for information.