

*****August 24, 2026*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a Work Session on Monday, August 24, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Those present were: Mayor Elizabeth Baker
Vice Mayor Clay Crumbliss
Councilmember Andrew Gardner
Councilmember Miles Jorgensen
Councilmember Charles Poss

Also present were: Town Manager Matthew Justice
Finance Director John Harr
Town Attorney Harry Cash
Public Works Director Wesley Stokes
See attached list for others present

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

Roll Call

All Council members were present.

Minutes

August 10, 2026 – all Council members in attendance

Councilmember Jorgensen made a motion to approve the August 10, 2026 minutes.
Councilmember Poss seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion passed.

Citizens' Opportunity to Address Council

Mayor Baker asked if anyone present wished to address Council. There were no requests to address Council.

Finance Report

Finance Director John Harr presented the July financial results and reported that the Town is generally tracking as anticipated. General Fund expenditures were approximately in line with the expected point in the fiscal year, and the Library and MACC funds were also tracking well. He reported that cash flow remains on track and that transfers due from the Stormwater and Water

funds are expected to support operations into the fall. Council requested that a report on the pool's season results be presented after the pool closes.

Resolutions

R2026-39 "A TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF \$16,959.22 FOR THE ANNUAL PAYMENT OF THE FIRST DUE FIRE DEPARTMENT RECORDS MANAGEMENT APPLICATION"

Councilmember Gardner made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Jorgensen seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion passed.

R2026-32 "A TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A NEW GARBAGE TRUCK"

Council discussed the need to replace the existing garbage truck, the amount accumulated in the Vehicle Replacement Fund, the earlier-than-anticipated replacement, and the specifications and expected service life of the proposed vehicle. Public Works Director Wesley Stokes explained the operational and maintenance advantages of the recommended truck and noted that the unit is readily available. The additional amount above the budgeted replacement funding will require a budget amendment.

Councilmember Gardner made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Poss seconded the motion. All present being in favor, the motion passed.

Ordinances

There were no ordinances for consideration.

Discussion

1. **Pool Sun Deck and Canopy Rebuild** – Town Manager Justice reviewed the proposed deck replacement, roof maintenance, and covered chemical storage. Public Works Director Stokes confirmed the deck structure is sound. Council reached consensus to move the project forward for consideration at the next meeting.
2. **Purchase of F550s for Public Works** – Town Manager Justice reported that two replacement F550s would cost approximately \$134,000, below the \$180,000 budgeted amount. One existing truck is out of service due to significant engine damage. Council reached consensus to apply the savings toward the garbage truck purchase and consider the F550 purchases at a Special Called Meeting.

3. **Police Vehicle Purchase** – Town Manager Justice reported that the budgeted administrative police vehicle is expected to come in below budget and that the quoted price includes outfitting. Council reached consensus to consider the purchase at the Special Called Meeting.
4. **Purchasing Ordinance Revision [Lease]** – Council discussed revising the purchasing ordinance to allow leasing or lease-purchase financing for vehicles and equipment. Council reached consensus to continue the discussion and requested additional information regarding accounting requirements and appropriate parameters before proceeding.
5. **Communications and Reports from the Mayor/Council** – Vice Mayor Crumbliss expressed support for Town staff, particularly Fire Department employees during a period of transition, and encouraged residents to communicate concerns respectfully. Mayor Baker and other Council members echoed support for staff and expressed appreciation for the Town Manager’s handling of a recent personnel matter.
6. **Manager’s Report** – Town Manager Justice had no report.
7. **Reports from Boards and Commissions** – Vice Mayor Crumbliss noted upcoming Tree Board and Planning Commission meetings. Mayor Baker reported that the Library Board is working toward greater involvement in and understanding of both the Library Memorial Fund and the Library’s General Fund budget. Councilmember Poss noted an upcoming Design Review Commission meeting regarding a proposed coffee shop at the former McDonald’s property.

Council scheduled a Special Called Meeting for Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. at Town Hall. Mayor Baker announced that the next Regular Meeting would be Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

With no further business, Councilmember Jorgensen made a motion to adjourn. Vice Mayor Crumbliss seconded the motion. With all present being in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Elizabeth Baker, Mayor

John Harr, Recorder

Date

Date