

MINUTES
Town of Lexington
Executive Session and
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
September 4, 2012

Town Council held an Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. on September 4, 2012 followed by the Regular Council Meeting which started at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 111 Maiden Lane, Lexington, S.C. The meetings were attended by Mayor Randy Halfacre, Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Livingston, Council Members Kathy Maness, Ted Stambolitis, and Steve MacDougall. Councilmembers Danny Frazier and Todd Shevchik were absent (excused).

Staff members present were: Town Administrator Britt Poole, Assistant Town Administrator Stuart Ford, Town Attorney Brad Cunningham, Police Chief Terrence Green, Director of Planning, Building and Technology John Hanson, Community and Economic Catalyst Johnny Jeffcoat, Utilities and Engineering Director Allen Lutz, Finance Director Kathy Roberts, Director of Parks, Streets and Sanitation Dan Walker, Events and Media Coordinator Jennifer Dowden, IT Manager Josh Emory, and Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand.

There were approximately twenty (20) citizens present and three (3) reporters from the news media.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

Mayor Halfacre reported that the *Executive Session* was called to order at 5:30 p.m. after a motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to go into *Executive Session*. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present. Council adjourned from *Executive Session* at 6:28 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present. Mayor Halfacre reported that Council met in *Executive Session* to discuss: six updates on pending legal issues; two contractual issues regarding economic development, and two personnel matters. No vote was taken. A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston to ratify Mayor Halfacre's *Executive Session* report. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Halfacre introduced the Council Members and welcomed everyone to the Council meeting. He later introduced Bill Banning, Johnny Jeffcoat, Scott Adams and his son-in-law Shawn Bryant. Councilmember Maness gave the invocation. Councilmember Stambolitis led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Halfacre called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

Mayor Halfacre requested the following item be added as New Business Item #3:

A Resolution in Support of the Airport Connector Phase II.

There being no objections from Council, the item was added.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting and Council Work Session both held on August 6, 2012 and the Special Council Meeting held on August 17, 2012. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **Proclamations for 1st Lt. Ryan Rawl and Sgt. John Meador – Councilmember Ted Stambolitis:** Councilmember Stambolitis read each Proclamation in memory of 1st Lt. Ryan Rawl and Sgt. John Meador and presented them to family members.
2. **Proclamation to Lexington County Chronicle – Councilmember Steve MacDougall:** Councilmember MacDougall read the Proclamation honoring the Lexington County Chronicle for their 20th year in business. He presented the Proclamation to Jerry Bellune.
3. **Proclamation to Flight Deck Restaurant – Councilmember Kathy Maness:** Councilmember Maness read the Proclamation honoring the Flight Deck Restaurant for their 20th year in business. She presented the Proclamation to Councilmember and owner of Flight Deck Restaurant, Ted Stambolitis.
4. **Hiring Our Heros Presentation –** Mr. Kyle Caldwell was unable to attend.

VISION PLAN UPDATE

Mayor Halfacre announced that an additional update would now be added to the Council agenda in order to give the citizens an update on the Town's Vision Plan projects. The Vision Plan was passed in May and the plan was jump started with the Town's Farmers Market and the Lexington Square. Mayor Halfacre stated that the Town was working with SCDOT for the Interchange Beautification projects starting at I-20 and Highway 378. The Town would soon start a \$25,000 a year Main Street Façade program.

TRAFFIC UPDATE

Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston provided an update on the Town of Lexington's continuing efforts to improve traffic. (1) SCDOT will award bids within the next week on the Town's Phase I Traffic Plan. (2) Relocation of sewer lines is on-going. (3) Some lanes

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will be closed at night during construction. (4) The Traffic Committee is currently looking at ways to improve Highway 6 from Parker Road to Gibson Road. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston asked if anyone has any traffic issues to please contact 359-1027. The next Traffic Committee meeting will be held on September 18, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in the Eli Mack, Sr. Room at Town Hall.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mayor Halfacre called the Public Hearing to order and requested that those wishing to speak limit their comments to five minutes.

1. An Ordinance Modifying the Local Vendor Preference Program.
2. An Ordinance for the Purchase of Property at 113 South Church Street.
3. An Ordinance Annexing a portion of TMS #4496-02-032 located at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Homeplace Road.
4. An Ordinance Annexing TS #3500-04-067 located at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Darby Ambrose Road.

There being no comments, Mayor Halfacre declared the Public Hearings closed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance for the Issuance of Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes of 2012.** The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.
2. A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance for the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds and BAN's of 2012.** The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.
3. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance Modifying the Local Vendor Preference Program.** Four (4) Councilmembers were in favor of the motion and Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston asked that the item be returned to Council's Work Session for further discussion. Mayor Halfacre stated that he had called for discussion and the item had already been discussed at a Work Session, but he did not have a problem with further discussion. Councilmember Stambolitis withdrew his second to the motion. Councilmember Stambolitis made a motion to send the item back to Council's Work Session. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston seconded the motion which was unanimously carried by all those present.

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4. A motion was made by Councilmember MacDougall and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance for the Purchase of Property at 113 South Church Street**. Mayor Halfacre commented that this was a good purchase. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.
5. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance Annexing TMS #3500-04-067 located at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Darby Ambrose Road**. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.
6. A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance Annexing a Portion of TMS #4496-02-032**. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals:** Mr. Kyle M. Clampitt submitted a Talent Bank application to serve on one of the Town's Boards and Commissions. There is currently one vacancy on the Board of Zoning Appeals to be filled. (See attached application and resume.)

A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember Maness to approve the appointment of Mr. Kyle M. Clampitt to the board of Zoning Appeals. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

2. **Sewer Service for Duffie Drive Baseball Fields:** The Town looked at the cost of extending sewer service to the baseball fields at Duffie Drive. The estimated cost for the extension is approximately \$11,000. The Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission will construct the bathroom facility at the site if the Town will extend the sewer line. (Map attached.)

A motion was made by Councilmember Maness (for discussion purposes) and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis. Mayor Halfacre asked the Town Administrator to speak about the sewer extension. Town Administrator Poole stated that Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission had verified through Utilities Director Lutz that they would build the rest rooms if the Town would extend the sewer line in the location where the building is now located. He added that the County approved the project in December for a cost of \$20,000 for the restroom facilities. He stated that there is an update to the Town's cost to be \$6,000 instead of the original estimate of \$11,000 since it would be a service line, not a trunk line. He confirmed that there are rest rooms at the soccer fields. Mayor Halfacre stated that citizens from West Lexington asked for this improvement and they had been underserved and ignored in that

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area. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston confirmed that a service line would not serve any other property. Councilmember Stambolitis agreed that the restrooms were needed. Mayor Halfacre agreed that the area soccer fields are maxed out and more fields are needed. Councilmember Maness amended her original motion to approve the extension of the sewer line for Duffie Drive Baseball fields in an amount not to exceed \$6,000 to come from authorized CIP and one in-town sewer CCF. Councilmember Stambolitis seconded the amended motion. Councilmember Maness stated that it was her understanding that the baseball leagues asked for this improvement. She encouraged citizens to contact all Councilmembers when they have a request so there would not be any confusion regarding the origin of a request. She stated that prior to making some phone calls today she was ready to send the item back to Council's Work Session. Mayor Halfacre stated that Councilmembers were allowed plenty of time during Work Sessions to asked questions. Councilmember Maness responded that she was aware of that but the answers she received at the Work Session were different than the answers she received today on the phone. Town Administrator Poole stated that he thought the request came from the area citizens. Mayor Halfacre asked Mr. Doug Jones to speak on behalf of the West Lexington area. Mr. Jones stated that the original request came from one of the baseball team managers who lives in the West Lexington area. He stated that playoff games bring over 150 people and the restrooms are needed. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

3. **Resolution in Support of the Airport Connector Phase II (Hardee Expressway):** Council was asked to sign a Resolution in support of the Airport connector Phase II (Hardee Expressway). The connector was agreed to and budgeted by SCDOT and has never been fulfilled. The direct access was promised 16 years ago when UPS located at the Columbia Metropolitan Airport. The connector is critical, not only to live up to a commitment that was made, but to insure improvement for future commerce development in the region. (Copy attached.)

A motion was made by Mayor Halfacre and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston to approve a Resolution in support of the Airport Connector Phase II as stated. Councilmember Stambolitis stated that he was not familiar with the connector and would like to see the details of the plan. He asked if the plan would help larger aircraft to come into the area, which he felt was one of the reasons the area lost Southwest airlines. Mayor Halfacre stated that funding was in the budget, but then it was moved to another part of the state. He added that the match for funding was local funds, not Federal. He stated he would be happy to provide the feasibility study and County Councilmembers Bill Banning and Johnny Jeffcoat were present if there were additional questions. County Councilmember Banning agreed that the connector was one of the reasons that Southwest Airlines did not come to the Midlands region, plus it was a promise made to UPS 16 years ago. He stated that the real issue is moving freight in and out of the airport. He added that it is critical to the airport and all the new industries that have moved to that area. Mr. Banning stated that the County will

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soon move forward with Saxe Gotha Phase II by adding several hundred acres. He added that this is one project that is critical to travel in the area and it would be devastating to lose UPS which could result in the loss of the airport. He confirmed that Columbia will not be a strong passenger airport with what is going on in Charleston and Greenville, but Columbia will be a strong freight airport. Mr. Banning confirmed that the SCDOT Commissioners asked him to get the Resolution to all 14 municipalities in the county which will help the Commission move forward. He added that they had come up with the \$13 million match which was not expected, but the region came together to make it happen. Councilmember Stambolitis confirmed that the connector would further help the economy with additional jobs. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

COMMENTS

Mayor Halfacre wished a Happy Birthday to all Town employees celebrating birthdays in September. He expressed his condolences to Margie Jeffcoat (Planning, Building and Technology) in the recent loss of her brother. He congratulated Town Prosecutor Cliff Koon on the birth of his grandson, Caleb Greer Koon. Mayor Halfacre stated that he delivered a Proclamation on Friday honoring Rosenwald High School Football athletes and The Blue Hornets who were honored during Lexington High School football game recently. Mayor Halfacre reminded everyone of the Town's Farmers Market every Saturday at 206 North Church Street. He announced that the 2014 Dixie Youth World Series will be held in Lexington in August. He added that it brings 36 teams and 8,000 to 10,000 people to the community. Mayor Halfacre announced that a memorial would be held at the Columbia Convention Center to commemorate the sacrifices of the Midlands First Responders which also marks the 11th anniversary of 9/11. He announced the 100th Anniversary of the Lexington Library on September 23rd. Mayor Halfacre announced that his weekly radio show would now be on Wednesdays at noon on 107.9 FM and will include various guest speakers to talk about events in the Town.

Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston thanked the citizens that had called her about the Town's Chicken Ordinance and she looked forward to discussing the issue at the next Work Session. She congratulated Mayor Halfacre for being named the SC Chamber Executive of the Year. She encouraged everyone to go by and see the new Lexington Chamber office on Main Street. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston announced that Saluda River Club was sponsoring their first 5-K run on September 29th. She added that a portion of the proceeds, approximately \$1,500.00, would go to the Lexington Beautification Foundation.

Councilmember Kathy Maness wished a Happy 10th Birthday to her son. She congratulated Mayor Halfacre on his award. She encouraged everyone to drive careful since school had started back. She congratulated Councilmember Stambolitis on celebrating 20 years at Flight Deck. Councilmember Maness stated that she enjoys the Farmers Market each week and encouraged everyone to come out and enjoy the market.

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She expressed her condolences to the family of one of her neighbors, Kim Smoak. She added that Kim was a young mother of three and recently lost her battle with cancer.

Councilmember Ted Stambolitis congratulated the Lexington Chronicle on celebrating their 20th Anniversary. He stated it was a wonderful coincidence that he opened his restaurant the same year. He added that it is a great honor to be the owner of Flight Deck. He stated that when they first opened there was not much money and they actually had to do some of the construction work themselves. He added that the many aviation photographs were on the walls to cover up the bad sheetrock work he and his crew had done. He thanked the people of Lexington for giving them such a warm welcome when they opened and for all their help through the years and he will never forget it.

Councilmember Steve MacDougall congratulated the Lexington Chronicle and Flight Deck on celebrating 20 years. He also thanked the Rawl and Meador families for their sacrifices.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Halfacre thanked the Council Members and citizens for attending the Council meeting. He thanked those at home for viewing the Council meeting on Channel 2 and it will also be replayed several times during the week.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to adjourn the Council Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

The Regular Council meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky P. Hildebrand, CMC
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:

T. Randall Halfacre
Mayor

FOIA COMPLIANCE – Public notification of this meeting was published, posted and mailed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Lexington requirements.