

MINUTES
Town of Lexington
Executive Session and
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 4, 2013

Town Council held an Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. followed by a Regular Council meeting in the Council Chambers on November 4, 2013. The meetings were attended by: Mayor Randy Halfacre, Councilmembers Kathy Maness, Ted Stambolitis, Todd Shevchik, and Steve MacDougall. Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Livingston and Councilmember Danny Frazier were absent.

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

There were approximately forty (40) citizens present for the Council meeting and two members 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 Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember Maness to go into *Executive Session*. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present. Council adjourned from *Executive Session* at 6:26 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present. Mayor Halfacre reported that Council met in *Executive Session* to discuss: one routine personnel matter; two contractual issues related to the sale of two municipal properties and Bond Issuance; and, an update on several legal items which were pending. No vote was taken. A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Shevchik 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 welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Council Members. He recognized Boy Scout Troop #221 from Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church. Pastor Kevin Thumpston, Watershed Fellowship Church, gave the invocation. Councilmember Maness led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Halfacre called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **National Hospice Month Proclamation, Ms. Kara Martin of Hospice Care of South Carolina – Councilmember Steve MacDougall:** Councilmember MacDougall read the proclamation declaring November as National Hospice Month. He presented the Proclamation to Ms. Kara Martin and Ms. Sara Cross.
2. **Tree City USA Award Presentation – Mr. Lowe Sharpe, Urban Forester Coordinator:** Mr. Sharpe presented the Town with a Silver Anniversary Flag from Tree City USA. The Town has participated in Tree City USA for 25 consecutive years. In order to qualify a town must be four standards: (1) Must maintain a Tree Board; (2) have a Tree Care Ordinance; (3) have a tree care budget of at least \$2.00 per capita; and (4) conduct an Arbor Day observance and proclamation each year. He commended the Town of Lexington for their dedication and leadership in tree management.
3. (Added.) **Central Midlands Foundation – Mayor Randy Halfacre:** Mayor Halfacre presented a proclamation to Joanne Turner and Scott Adams, recognizing Community Foundation Week. Ms. Turner thanked the Mayor and Council.

VISION PLAN UPDATE

Mayor Halfacre gave a brief review of the Town’s Vision Plan: (1) He announced the full schedule of the Town’s Snowball Festival which will run from December 5 – 8, 2013. (2) The Lexington Paw Park will open this month. Mayor Halfacre thanked the generous donors for the 3.5 acre park. He added that the park is also a place for citizens to meet each other. There will also be a statue in memory of the Town’s first canine officer, “Ice”.

TRAFFIC UPDATE

Mayor Halfacre gave the traffic update as follows: (1) The Phase I Traffic Plan is 65% complete. (2) The Town issued a notice to proceed for the beautification project at I-20 and Highway 378. Construction should begin very soon. (3) The resurfacing project continues throughout Town and crews should be in Mallard Lakes and Corley Woods during the next two weeks. Citizens were asked to call 359-1027 if anyone had any traffic issues. The next Traffic Committee meeting will be held November 19, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. in the Eli Mack, Sr. Room.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

1. Final Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Property at 101 West Main Street.

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2. Final Reading of an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Property at 206 North Church Street.
3. Final Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 1100 West Main Street.
4. Final Reading of an Ordinance to Apply a Historic Special Overlay to Eleven Properties along Creps, Butler and Efird Street.

Ms. Judy Ball, 207 Efird Street, stated that five generations of her family had lived in the home since 1849. She and her husband have lived in the house for 33 years. She requested it to be included in the Overlay District. She stated that the home had been added on to several times. She would like to see more recognition from the Town for the old original neighborhoods. She thought there was some confusion with the neighbors about what effect it would have on their homes and there was further confusion with the Historic Preservation Review Board's public presentation.

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 Shevchik to ***deny Final Reading approval of a Historic Special Overlay District to eleven properties along Creps, Butler and Efird Streets***, with the recommendation that any property owners wishing to obtain the Overlay District begin the process with the Historic Preservation Review Board on an individual basis. Councilmember Maness stated that there was a lot of confusion since the First Reading resulting in citizens requesting to not be included in the Overlay District. She wanted to make sure that citizens understood that if they wanted to be in the Special Overlay District they could apply individually. Councilmember Stambolitis confirmed that individuals could apply separately. He also confirmed the process to apply individually. Mr. Poole stated that the list is up to date and those requesting to be removed from the district had been removed. The motion to deny was carried with a vote of four (4) in favor of the motion to deny and one (1) opposed (Stambolitis) to the motion to deny.
2. A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to ***approve Final Reading of an Ordinance to Annex 1100 West Main Street, Lexington County Tax Map #004326-08-006***. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.
3. A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to ***approve Final Reading of an Ordinance to sell property at 206 North Church Street***. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **First Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 5045 Augusta Road, Lexington County Tax Map #5596-01-051:** Waffle House owns 1.89 acres located at 5045 Augusta Road and has petitioned for annexation. Properties in Town near this property are zoned General Commercial (GC) and Augusta Road is classified as an Arterial Road. The Planning Commission will review this annexation during their November meeting to recommend a zoning and road classification for this property.

A motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to approve First Reading as stated. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

2. **First Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 116 Brickyard Road, Lexington County Tax Map #5596-01-041:** Wilson Trucking Company owns 2.67 acres located at 116 Brickyard Road and petitioned for annexation. Properties in Town near this property are zoned General Commercial (GC) and Brickyard Road has not been classified. The Planning Commission will review this annexation during their November meeting to recommend a zoning and road classification for the property.

A motion was made by Councilmember MacDougall and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve First Reading as stated. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

3. **First Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 468 Old Cherokee Road, Lexington County Tax Map #4300-05-019:** RBAD, LLC owns 1 acre located at 468 Old Cherokee Road and requested to begin the annexation process. Properties in Town near this property are zoned Limited Commercial (LC) and Old Cherokee Road is classified as a Collector Road. The Planning Commission will review this annexation during their November meeting to recommend a zoning and road classification for this property.

A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to approve First Reading as stated. Councilmember Stambolitis confirmed that this is the Dooley CPA office. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

4. **First Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 158 Industrial Drive, Lexington County Tax Map #5496-04-003:** Southern Equipment Company owns 2.81 acres located at 158 Industrial Drive and petitioned for annexation. Properties in Town near this property are zoned Industrial (IND) and Industrial Drive is classified as an Arterial Road. The Planning Commission will review this annexation during

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their November meeting to recommend a zoning and road classification for this property.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to approve First Reading as stated. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

5. **First Reading of Purchase of Real Estate on Methodist Park Road for Meter Station, Lexington County Tax Map #004531-02-016:** The Town reached a tentative agreement to purchase 0.4 acres from Charles R. Jackson. The property is on Methodist Park Road in West Columbia. The intended price is \$20,000, plus incidental closing costs and the Town needs the property for a meter station.

A motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve First Reading as stated. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

COMMENTS

Mayor Halfacre requested to change the order of comments and start with Councilmember MacDougall.

Councilmember Steve MacDougall expressed sympathy to the family of Ike McLeese, President and CEO of the Columbia Chamber, who recently passed away. He stated that Ike was a personal friend of his and when he opened his restaurant in Columbia, Ike was a reason for his success. Councilmember MacDougall thanked Staff for helping with another successful Sertoma Big Thursday. He added that it was his pleasure to help cook at the event as they celebrated the Carolina Gamecocks and the Clemson Tigers. He stated that all the proceeds from the event go to the improvement and additions at Gibson Pond Park. Councilmember MacDougall thanked Councilmember Shevchik for leading the charge for Rocktoberfest. He stated that it was an honor to be in the Veteran's Parade yesterday with his daughters. Councilmember MacDougall stated that he has had the opportunity during the past four months to walk around the Town's neighborhoods. He stated that he was truly impressed with how smart Town residents are in keeping up with current events. He added that tomorrow is a big day and he encouraged everyone to get out and vote.

Councilmember Todd Shevchik thanked everyone that helped him with Rocktoberfest. He also thanked all the citizens that came out to enjoy the music. He added that anytime there is live music downtown it is great. Councilmember Shevchik thanked the Police Department for holding another successful Fall Festival. He announced that the Snowball Festival will be coming up in December. He encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote tomorrow.

Councilmember Kathy Maness thanked Mr. Walker for helping to make the Town a Tree City USA City again for the 25th year. She wished all the candidates running for

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offices in South Carolina tomorrow, including Steve and Randy, good luck tomorrow. She added that it is very important for everyone to get out and vote. Councilmember Maness wished all the Veterans a Happy Veterans Day. She apologized for not being able to be at the parade but she was at her son's soccer game. Councilmember Maness stated that the week of November 18th is American Education Week and she is very thankful for all the teachers in South Carolina, especially Ms. Carter at Midway Elementary. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgivings and she is very thankful to live in such a great community.

Councilmember Ted Stambolitis wished his wife a Happy Birthday. He also wished all the Veterans a Happy Veterans Day and a Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Mayor Randy Halfacre wished Happy Birthday to all employees celebrating birthdays in November. He expressed sympathy to the family of Jamie Fite (Planning Commission) in the recent loss of her mother; to Gregg Hildebrand in the recent loss of his aunt Lorena Taylor; and to the family of Ike McLeese. He added that Ike would be greatly missed and was an unusual leader and a mentor of his. He thanked everyone for coming out to the Veteran's Parade yesterday. He was honored to ride in a 1942 Jeep with the Freedom Foundation. He stated that he, Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and Mr. Poole attended the Urban Land Institute Game Day recently and he was amazed that studies show that 450,000 people will move into the Midlands region, with a large portion moving to Lexington. Mayor Halfacre announced this year's three Historic Preservation Award winners: Mead & Hunt at 307 West Main Street Circa 1830, Craig Reagin Clothiers at 103 East Main Street Circa 1918; and The Needler at 102 East Main Street Circa 1933. Mayor Halfacre stated that he and Councilmember MacDougall were running for Mayor and he encouraged everyone to get out and vote tomorrow since it is their right and duty. He stated that he was running for re-election of his last term as Mayor. He added that he and Council had done a lot and it is his hope to continue to work with them. He stated that they had accomplished a lot through the Vision Plan, Traffic, and expansion of water and sewer and on and on.

NEWS MEDIA

Mr. Tim Flach, The State newspaper, asked who purchased the property on North Church Street. Mr. Poole responded that Wild Smiles would expand to the property. Mr. Flach confirmed that he would cover seven elections tomorrow.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Constance Flemming stated that she works at the polling precincts and it is very important for citizens to come out and vote. She stated that the turnout has been low, so get the word out for people to come vote because every vote is important. She addressed the candidates and stated: "may righteousness prevail and the best man win".

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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 Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to adjourn the Council Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

The Regular Council meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky P. Hildebrand, CMC
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:

Steve MacDougall
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.