

**MINUTES**  
*Town of Lexington*

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**June 2, 2014**

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Town Council held a Regular Council meeting in the Council Chambers on June 2, 2014. The meeting was preceded by an Executive Session and the June Work Session. The meetings were attended by: Mayor Steve MacDougall, Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Livingston and Councilmembers Kathy Maness, Ted Stambolitis, Todd Shevchik, Todd Carnes and Ron Williams.

Staff members present were: Town Administrator Britt Poole, Assistant 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, Special Projects Manager Wesley Crosby, Events and Media Coordinator Jennifer Dowden, IT Manager Josh Emory, Assistant Municipal Clerk Karen Hanner, and Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand.

There were approximately thirty-five (35) citizens present for the Council meeting and two members from the news media.

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**INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor MacDougall welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Council Members. Pastor Kevin Thumpston, Watershed Fellowship Lexington, gave the invocation. Councilmember Carnes led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor MacDougall called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. (*Executive Session and Approval of Minutes were during the Council Work Session.*)

**DELETIONS:** None

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. **Presentation to David McCaskill for 25 Years as a Reserve Officer – Police Chief Terrence Green:** Chief Green gave a brief summary of the work history of volunteer Reserve Officer David McCaskill. He stated that David was certified with West Columbia in 1989; served in South Congaree from 2003 to 2007; and joined the Lexington Police Department in 2007. He added that David started his own commercial business in 1987 and now has offices in Columbia and Charleston. Chief Green stated that David is the unofficial “Mayor of Lake Wateree” where he serves as Chairman of Lake Wateree Association and he is also an active member of First Baptist Church Columbia. Chief Green stated that David is married and has two children. He added that when the Police Memorial had a problem with the bricks, David drove to Augusta to pick up 500 bricks so they would match. Chief

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Green, along with Mayor MacDougall, presented David with a cigar humidor and a pencil sketch of his home on Lake Wateree in appreciation of his 25 years of service. He announced that effective today; David is promoted to Sergeant of Reserve Patrol. Chief Green, on behalf of the Lexington Police Department, thanked Sergeant McCaskill for his dedication over the past 25 years.

Sergeant McCaskill stated that he prefers to be behind the scene, but he was humbled for the recognition. He stated that his love of Police work came from his father who was in law enforcement for 25 years in Camden. He added that his Mom gave him his passion for giving back. He thanked his wife and daughters allowing him to take time to serve the community. Sergeant McCaskill stated that in the early days in West Columbia, you had to buy your own gun and belt and there was no such thing as a bullet proof vest. He added that it has been an honor to serve with the Lexington Police Department, Chief Green, and Major Koon who run a top notch department and provide all the tools to be a successful officer. He stated that excellence is a standard under their watch and he is proud to serve with them.

2. **Lexington Student Painters Day Proclamation – Councilmember Ted Stambolitis:** Councilmember Stambolitis read a proclamation proclaiming June 2, 2014 as Lexington Student Painters Day and recognizing them as young entrepreneurs. Councilmember Stambolitis, along with Mayor MacDougall presented the proclamation to Noah Kramer. (Copy attached.)
3. **Motorcycle Awareness Month Proclamation – Councilmember Ron Williams:** Councilmember Williams read a proclamation proclaiming June as Motorcycle Awareness Month in the Town of Lexington and recognized the International Women’s Motorcycle Club, Leather and Lace, for their commitment to increasing the safe operation of motorcycles. Councilmember Williams presented the proclamation to five members of Leather and Lace. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston thanked the group for the safety awareness they bring to motorcycles because next month will be 29 years ago that she lost a brother and sister-in-law due to a motorcycle wreck. (Copy attached.)
4. **Medal of Honor Recipient and Corporal Kyle Carpenter Day – Councilmember Todd Carnes:** Councilmember Carnes stated that at times proclamations are hard to follow, but he asked everyone to listen intently to this proclamation because they would probably never hear another like it. He read a proclamation recognizing Corporal Kyle Carpenter for being awarded the Medal of Honor and declaring June 19, 2014 as *Kyle Carpenter Day* in the Town of Lexington. Corporal Carpenter was seriously injured in Afghanistan on November 12, 2010 when a grenade landed near him and another U.S. Marine. Corporal Carpenter rushed toward the grenade, shielding his comrade and causing Carpenter to take the majority of the blast. As a result of his actions Corporal Carpenter will be honored at the White House on June 19, 2014 when he is presented with the Medal of Honor. (Proclamation copy attached.) Councilmember Carnes thanked Corporal Carpenter for attending the meeting knowing that his schedule is very busy. He added that the nation is sorely

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missing men of honor and Kyle's example will cause a lot of men to live honorably as he travels on his national circuit. Councilmember Carnes wanted Kyle to know that as he travels the country, to remember that people in his hometown are exceedingly proud to call him one of our own. Councilmember Carnes, along with the Mayor and Council Members, presented the proclamation to Corporal Carpenter.

Corporal Carpenter thanked the Mayor and Council and stated that getting injured was not a lot of fun but having your own day is pretty cool. He stated that he appreciated their words and that being from Lexington he is very blessed. He added that from the very beginning, as his mom sat by his hospital bed, calls, letters, messages and prayers poured in and it has not stopped. He stated that the community of Lexington has touched his family. He added that it is because of people like that - that people like him make a positive recovery. He stated that this honor means a lot. He encouraged everyone to not take the small things for granted. Corporal Carpenter stated that when he receives the Medal of Honor he will wear it for our community and our State.

Mayor MacDougall thanked Corporal Carpenter for the honor of attending the meeting with his busy schedule. He added that he recently watched his video and if he is just now getting started, he can hardly wait to see what he is going to do.

*(Mayor MacDougall called for a five (5) minute recess at 7:02 p.m.)*

**VISION PLAN UPDATE**

Mayor MacDougall gave a brief review of the Town's Vision Plan: (1) The I-20/Sunset Boulevard Interchange is now open as the first "front porch" into Lexington. He thanked everyone who had participated in the project. He added that the project was a grant from SCDOT and included not only the sign but the other three portions of the interchange. (2) The Farmers Market opens this Saturday, June 7, 2014, at a new location in Lexington Square, 205 East Main Street. It will be open every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. through September 27, 2014, except for July 5, 2014. To become a vendor, call Jennifer Dowden at 356-8238. (3) Project Icehouse, at 111 and 113 South Church Street and 103 and 111 West Main Street, has completed demolition and salvage operation. The former Shirey's Furniture Store will be remodeled. Council has taken the initial steps for the approval of the Downtown Redevelopment Plan and establishment of a TIF District. The area is planned to be redeveloped into a retail center featuring boutique shops and restaurants along with a 500 seat amphitheater and plaza. (4) The 14-Mile Creek Trail, off North Lake Drive and Old Cherokee Road, will officially open soon. The trail includes a boardwalk trail head, sidewalk, call boxes, educational kiosk and outdoor learning center. The trail is 3,500 feet long and will have police call boxes.

**TRAFFIC UPDATE**

Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston gave the traffic update as follows: (1) The Phase I Traffic Plan will have final inspection soon. She added that the hard work has paid off and it looks great. (2) The Adaptive Signal project is in design stage and will go to bid by the end of the year. (3) All four of the Town's projects for The Pennies for Progress made the ballot. She has heard from citizens that the projects need to be for roads. She added that the number one project on the ballot is the relocation of Mineral Springs Road and the improvement of the Hope Ferry intersection. She stated that the other projects included are the medians on Highway 6, the relocation of Dreher Street and sidewalks in Town. Citizens were asked to call 359-1027 if anyone had any traffic issues. The next Traffic Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, June 17, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. in the third floor conference room.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor MacDougall 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 Annexing 105 Corley Mill Road, Lexington County Tax Map #003698-04-001.
2. **Final Reading** of an Ordinance Annexing 247 Parker Street, Lexington County Tax Map #5423-03-001.
3. **Final Reading** of an Ordinance Annexing 912 South Lake Drive, Lexington County Tax Map #5498-05-001.
4. **Final Reading** of an Ordinance Adopting the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget.
5. **Final Reading** of an Ordinance Providing for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Tax Levy.

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

**OLD BUSINESS CONSENT AGENDA:** *(All matters listed within the consent Agenda were distributed to members of Council and are considered routine. Consent Agenda items will be approved by one motion of the Council with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired on any item, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of a Councilmember for action later in the agenda.)*

A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve Final Reading of the following items under Consent Agenda:

- C1. Final Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 105 Corley Mill Road, Lexington County Tax Map #00368-04-001.
- C2. Final Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 247 Parker Street, Lexington County Tax Map #5423-03-001.

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- C3. Final Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 912 South Lake Drive, Lexington County Tax Map #5498-05-001.

Councilmember Stambolitis confirmed what would be located on each property. The motion to approve Final Reading of Old Business Consent Agenda items C1 through C3 was unanimously carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston for **Final Reading of an Ordinance Adopting the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget**. The motion was unanimously carried.
2. A motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Carnes for **Final Reading of an Ordinance providing for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Tax Levy**. Councilmember Maness stated that this was the 28<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that taxes had not been increased. The motion was unanimously carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **First Reading Approval of an Annexation at 5449 Sunset Boulevard, Lexington County Tax Map #4300-03-015 and a Portion of #4300-03-031:** Eddy A. Huckabee and Eugenia M. Huckabee own approximately 21 acres on two parcels located at 5449 Sunset Boulevard and petitioned to annex 1.41 acres of the property. A small commercial center is planned for the property. Properties in Town near this property are zoned General Commercial (GC) and Protected Residential (PR). Sunset Boulevard is classified as an Arterial Road. The Planning Commission reviewed this annexation during their May meeting and recommended General Commercial zoning for the property and Arterial Road classification for Sunset Boulevard.

A motion was made by Councilmember Carnes and seconded by Councilmember Williams for First Reading approval. Councilmember Shevchik asked if multi-family housing would be allowed on the property. Town Administrator Poole responded that multi-family housing would not be allowed, just commercial. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston asked if there were plans for the remaining property. Town Administrator Poole responded that the subject property of 1.4 acres is planned for a small commercial strip center and no plans had been submitted for the remaining property. Councilmember Stambolitis asked how ingress and egress would be handled. Town Administrator Poole responded that it does combine some curb cuts and moves the access on 378 further away from the intersection. He added that the biggest difference from the previous development is less traffic so it was felt that it would be a smaller impact and reasonable use of the property.

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He stated that the developer had discussed connectivity with the bank regarding their parking lot and Summer Duck Trail, but could not get it worked out at this time. Mr. Keith Frost, Planning Commission Chair, stated that a three to four unit commercial center would generate less traffic and would not make a significant impact. He added that they had strongly encouraged the owner to plan connectivity when they do development the remaining property. Councilmember Maness stated that the earlier development for an apartment complex was a traffic concern. She added that this 1.4 acres was looked at very hard by the Planning Commission, remembering how Council had previous concerns. Councilmember Stambolitis asked if the development would be allowed water and sewer. Town Administrator Poole stated that it is a presumed right to receive water and sewer if annexed. The motion was unanimously carried.

2. **First Reading of an Annexation of Property Located near the Intersection of Sunset Boulevard and Hope Ferry Road, Portions of Lexington County Tax Map #4496-01-003 and 4496-01-021:** The Cromer/Sale Partnership owns approximately 26.4 acres on four parcels that have two tax map numbers located near the intersection of Sunset Boulevard and Hope Ferry Road. The Partnership requested to annex the remaining portions that are not already in the Town. A commercial center is planned for a portion of the property. Properties in Town near this site are zoned General Commercial (GC) and Protected Residential (PR). Sunset Boulevard is classified as an Arterial Road and Hope Ferry Road is classified as a Collector Road. The Planning Commission reviewed this annexation during their May meeting. At that time there was limited information available on the proposed detention pond that will be located at the rear of the commercial center. With this in mind, the Commission recommended General Commercial zoning for the property associated with the commercial center including the two outparcels, the detention pond and the buffer areas. The Commission also recommended Protected Residential (PR) zoning for the remaining 7 acres that is adjacent to Hope Ferry Plantation and requested that the item be brought back to them next month when additional information is available on the size of the commercial center's detention pond. Finally, the Commission recommended Arterial Road classification for Sunset Boulevard and Collector Road classification for Hope Ferry Road.

A motion was made by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Maness for First Reading approval. Councilmember Maness stated that this is next to her neighborhood and they have been concerned about what was going in on the property. She thanked Mr. Poole and Mr. Hanson who came out to her neighborhood on a Sunday afternoon to address their concerns. She added that the Planning Commission did a great job protecting the citizens of Lexington. She stated that it is a beautiful piece of property between Walgreens and Hope Ferry Plantation and they knew it could not stay trees forever because

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they know the need for development. She thanked her neighbors for coming out tonight and to the Planning Commission meeting. Councilmember Stambolitis asked what type of store was going to be on the property. Town Administrator Poole responded that Hobby Lobby was planned for the location. He added that they have not received any plans for the back portion or for the outparcels. The motion was unanimously carried.

3. **Appointments to Boards and Commissions:** The terms for the following Boards and Commissions members will expire June 30, 2014. Council is required to approve reappointments.

Advisory Committee	Albert Keck, Ginny Kurtz, Robert Suggs
Board of Zoning Appeals	Kyle Clampitt
Building Code Board of Appeals	Michael Summer, James Snell
Planning Commission	Keith Frost, Jamie Fite, Lisa Gibson

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember Shevchik to approve the reappointments as stated. The motion was unanimously carried.

4. **Appointments to Planning Commission:** There are two vacancies on the Planning Commission. Several Talent Bank Applications were reviewed during Council's May 5, 2014 Work Session. Council made the following recommendations for appointments: Sammy Hendrix and Jeannie Michaels

A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston to approve the two appointments to the Planning Commission as stated. Mayor MacDougall thanked Mr. Hendrix for taking leave to serve on the County's One-Cent Commission and welcomed him back to the Planning Commission. The motion was unanimously carried.

5. **Boards and Commissions Liaison Appointments:** Following a Town election, Council reviews Council Liaison and Board Member appointments for two year terms. Listed below are the Councilmember appointments to various Boards and Commissions recommended by Council at the May 5, 2014 Work Session:

<u>Boards</u>	<u>Council Liaison</u>
Central Midlands COG Board	Mayor MacDougall Alternate: Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston
Lex Joint Water & Sewer Comm Board	Mayor MacDougall Alternate: Councilmember Shevchik
Lexington Chamber Board (Ex-Officio)	Councilmember Ron Williams Alternate: Councilmember Carnes

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Accommodations Committee Liaison	Councilmember Shevchik
Advisory Committee Liaison	Councilmember Stambolitis
Board of Appearance Review Liaison	Councilmember Stambolitis
Board of Zoning Appeals Liaison	Councilmember Shevchik
Building Codes Board of Appeals	Councilmember Maness
Historic Preservation Review Board	Councilmember Maness
Planning Commission Liaison	Councilmember Maness
	Alternate: Councilmember Shevchik
Traffic Committee Liaison	Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston
	Alternate: Councilmember Carnes
Vision Plan Committee Liaison	Councilmember Stambolitis
	Alternate: Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston

A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember Williams to approve the Council Liaison appointments as stated. Councilmember Shevchik made an amended motion to appoint himself as the Alternate on the Lexington Chamber Board instead of Councilmember Carnes. He added that he and Councilmember Carnes had discussed it. Mayor MacDougall confirmed that all other appointments would remain the same as stated. The amended motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and unanimously carried.

6. **Accommodations Tax 65% Fund Committee Award Recommendations:** The Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee (Marvin Robinson, Chair) met on April 28, 2014 to review and make recommendations regarding the allocation of FY2013 Town of Lexington Accommodations Tax funding. Following is a listing of the applicants, the Accommodations Tax Committee's award recommendations; and the Council's recommendations: (Complete copy attached.)

30% Balance Fund Lex Chamber		\$28,656.08	
5% to General Fund		\$ 4,776.02	
	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>Council</u>
		<u>Recommended</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
Capital City Lake Murray Country	\$ 5,000	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Columbia Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau	\$ 6,000	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Columbia Regional Sports Council	\$ 5,000	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Crossover Athletics/Topspin Adult	\$ 2,500	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Crossover Athletics/Topspin Junior	\$ 3,000	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Lexington County Arts Asso.	\$10,000	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Lexington Cty Choral Society	\$ 3,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Lexington County Museum	\$ 6,000	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Lexington Dixie Baseball	\$50,000	\$30,000.00	\$36,000.00
Town of Lex Snowball Festival	\$ 3,000	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
White Knoll High/Red Bank Baseball	\$ 2,500	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
(*)Lexington Chamber/Visitor Center	\$30,000	<u>\$29,741.32</u>	<u>(*)\$23,741.32</u>
<b>Total Funds Available</b>		<b>\$87,741.32</b>	<b>\$87,741.32</b>

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(\*) Councilmember Shevchik stated that the funding to Lexington Chamber/Visitor Center in the amount of \$23,741.32 would have the following contingencies: (1) A quarterly report of activities submitted to the Town; (2) Identification of Chamber Staff and Town Staff liaisons who work together to achieve marketing synergies; (3) new initiative to advertise and market Town events outside the Town in a meeting between Town Council and the full Chamber Executive Board to discuss future partnership opportunities and an agreed upon matrix for evaluating the Visitor Center's mission and effectiveness.

A motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Carnes to approve funding as stated above under "Council's Recommendations" to include the three contingencies as stated for the Lexington Chamber's funding. Councilmember Stambolitis asked where the additional \$10,000 came from for the Chamber. Councilmember Shevchik stated that those were the funds that Council designated to hold until next year. The motion was unanimously carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Councilmember Maness** made the following announcements: (1) She hoped everyone enjoyed the Lexington Wine Walk in May. She enjoyed seeing such a big crowd and it looked like everyone had a wonderful time. She thanked all the Staff, sponsors, volunteers, and the Lexington Beautification Foundation for another great event. She added that if you were not able to come this year, to please put it on your calendar for next year. (2) She announced that it is Farmers Market time again. The Town of Lexington's Farmers Market will open the season this Saturday from 9:00 to 12:00 at a new location – Lexington Square Park at 205 East Main Street. She added that the Farmers Market will be held every Saturday through September 27<sup>th</sup>, except for Saturday July 5<sup>th</sup>. She and her son look forward to the Market and boiled peanuts every year and she encouraged everyone to come out. (3) She announced that she will represent Municipal Elected Officials at Palmetto Girls State this Sunday at Presbyterian College. She added that this is the 9<sup>th</sup> year she has attended and she looks forward to it and all the energy in the room. (4) She stated that Council has returned to their summer schedule combining Work Sessions and Regular Council meetings. The next meeting dates are: July 21<sup>st</sup>, August 18<sup>th</sup> and September 15<sup>th</sup>. The dates will also be posted on the Town's web page. (5) She wished a Happy Father's Day to all the Dads on June 15<sup>th</sup>. (6) She stated that before Council meets again we will celebrate Independence Day. She encouraged everyone to enjoy the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, be safe, and take a moment to remember our country's freedom and the soldiers, like Corporal Kyle Carpenter, who have made it possible. She wished everyone a great summer.

**Councilmember Stambolitis** thanked Sergeant McCaskill and Corporal Carpenter for attending the meeting tonight and their service to the community and to the country. He added that it is people like them that make this such a great country.

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**Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston** stated that she will be meeting with the Beautification Foundation this week and they will come back before Council to give a report about all the projects moving forward. She wished her grandson a Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday.

**NEWS MEDIA QUESTIONS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Ms. Shelley Metropol**, 201 Muirfield Way, Realtor and Ambassador Chair for Lexington Chamber, stated that they gave an hour and ten minutes of their lives tonight to the tedious process of running civil government and she appreciated everything Council does for the Town, this being their job. She was humbled to see the service member here tonight and stated that the inconvenience they are feeling by serving, she was ashamed for even considering not coming to the meeting. She thanked Council for the reconsideration for the Visitors Center. She added that she is a realtor, owns a real estate company in this town, and in real estate for 14 years and we are privileged for what we surround ourselves with. She could not tell them how many times people come to her to buy homes and ask for information. She refers them to the Visitors Center and they usually respond that they have already been there. She is working with a couple from Canada who are opening a plant in Orangeburg, but are moving to Lexington. She added that they had been to the Visitors Center before she even talked to them. She is proud of what they have going on at the Visitors Center and she knows that the Council has regulations and accountability to look at, but she is looking at the people who are walking in and out of the door at the Visitors Center and coming to the community to buy homes because we have it going on in Lexington. She stated that she appreciates the job that is done at the Visitors Center and she works with them every day.

Mayor MacDougall stated that Council shares the feelings with Ms. Metropol. He added that they appreciate everything the Chamber does and we are here to work together as a team because alone we cannot do a whole lot, but together nothing can stop us.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor MacDougall 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 Williams to adjourn the Council Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

The Regular Council meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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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.*