

**MINUTES**  
*Town of Lexington*  
*Executive Session and*  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**October 12, 2015**

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Town Council held an Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Regular Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers on October 12, 2015. This meeting was rescheduled from October 5, 2015 due to floods in the region. The meetings were attended by: Mayor Steve MacDougall, Councilmembers Kathy Maness, Ted Stambolitis, Todd Shevchik (arrived 6:45), Todd Carnes, and Ron Williams. Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Livingston was absent due to illness.

Staff members present were: Town Administrator Britt Poole, Assistant Administrator Stuart Ford, Municipal Attorney Brad Cunningham, Director of Transportation Randy Edwards, Police Chief Terrence Green, Director of Planning, Building and Technology John Hanson, Economic Development Catalyst Johnny Jeffcoat, Utilities and Engineering Director Allen Lutz, Finance Director Kathy Roberts, Director of Parks, Streets and Sanitation Dan Walker, IT Network Administrator Darrell Pritchard, Events and Media Coordinator Jennifer Dowden, Town Engineer Rosemarie Nuzzo, Assistant Municipal Clerk Karen Hanner, and Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand.

There were approximately fifteen (15) citizens present for the Council meeting and one member 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. Reverend Mandy Taylor Young, Faith United Methodist Church, gave the invocation. Councilmember Maness led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor MacDougall called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT**

Mayor MacDougall reported that the *Executive Session* was called to order at 5:30 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Carnes and seconded by Councilmember Williams to go into *Executive Session*. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present (4). (Councilmembers Stambolitis and Shevchik were not present for the vote.) Council adjourned from *Executive Session* at 6:25 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Williams. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present (5). Mayor MacDougall reported that pursuant to SC Code §30-4-70(a)(1) and (2), Council met in *Executive Session* to discuss: one legal issue related to annexation; three routine personnel matters; and, two personnel matters related to the court. Two items were removed: one contractual issue related to sewer service and one legal issue related to the budget. No vote was taken. A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Carnes

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to ratify Mayor MacDougall's *Executive Session* report. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present (5).

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS ON AGENDA**

Mayor MacDougall requested that Presentation #1 (Gateway to the Army Association) be removed from the agenda and to add New Business #4 (Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement). A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Williams to remove/add the items as requested. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present (5).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve the minutes as submitted for Council's Meeting on September 8, 2015; Special Council Meeting on September 17, 2015 and Council's Work Session on September 21, 2015. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present (5).

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. (Deleted.) **Gateway to the Army Association – Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Marty Wells, Major General (Retired) George Goldsmith and Mr. Dan Hennigan.**
2. **Awards to the Lexington Police Department's Team of Technicians for receiving the "Fitting Station of the Year" Award and to Community Action Team (C.A.T.) member Patrolman First Class Steffonie Cockerill as "Law Enforcement Technician of the Year" – Chief Terrence Green:** Chief Green announced that during the 2015 Child Passenger Safety Summit Lexington Police Department was named as the "2015 Fitting Station of the Year" by Safety in South Carolina and the Children's Trust of South Carolina. They were selected for conducting over 500 child safety seats since 2009. The Lexington Police Department offers safety seat checks at Town Hall and at special events. Chief Green announced that Community Action Team member, Patrolman First Class Steffonie Cockerill, was named the "Law Enforcement Technician of the Year" during the summit for her dedication as a Child Passenger Safety Seat Technician and instructor, along with being a tireless advocate for child passenger safety.

Mayor MacDougall, along with Chief Green, presented the awards to Officer Cockerill and other members of the Community Action Team. Officer Cockerill congratulated the Lexington Police Department and the nine dedicated Child Safety Seat Technicians.

3. **Letter of Commendation to Patrolman Johnathan Taylor and Patrolman Todd Zeigler and Life Saving Award to Corporal Paul Walker – Police Chief Terrence Green:** Chief Green stated that on July 31, 2015 officers were

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dispatched to a locked vehicle with an unconscious person inside. Officer Taylor was able to gain access to the vehicle and Corporal Walker immediately began CPR, while Patrolman Zeigler retrieved an automated external Automated External Defibulator (AED) and it was determined that the victim did not have a pulse. The officers continued to work with the victim until Lexington County EMS arrived at which time EMS advised the officers that the victim was now breathing and had a pulse. The victim was released from the hospital and expected make a full recovery.

Mayor MacDougall, along with Chief Green, presented the awards to Patrolman Taylor, Patrolman Zeigler and Corporal Walker. Chief Green thanked Officer Taylor's parents for attending the meeting for the presentations. He added that Mr. Taylor is a retired FBI agent and works well with the Lexington Police Department.

Councilmember Maness commended Corporal Walker for receiving the Life Saving Award for the third time.

4. **Palmetto Pride – First Responders Day:** Mayor MacDougall announced that he would read a Proclamation Thursday night at a district wide school event to proclaim October 15, 2015 as Palmetto Pride – First Responders Day.

**VISION PLAN UPDATE**

Mayor MacDougall wished to thank the community for uniting during the recent storms and historic flooding. He stated that individuals, both career and volunteer, from Police, Fire, Emergency Services, search and rescue, military personnel, Town Staff including Administration, Building Planning and Technology, Parks, Finance, Transportation and Utilities Departments, along with Federal, State, County, Town and school leaders, came together as South Carolinians to aid citizens during the damaging floods. Mayor MacDougall stated that our great State of South Carolina came together with Palmetto Pride as we watched the events of October 3, 2015 and beyond unfold. He stated that we have seen the bravery of our community rise to the occasion to save and preserve Lexington and the Midlands. He added that the Town's thoughts and prayers go out to those impacted by these recent events. He stated that we will overcome because we are South Carolina strong.

Mayor MacDougall gave a brief review of the Town's Vision Plan: (1) Last month the Town hosted the ground breaking for the Amphitheater. Construction on the 900 seat facility is underway and scheduled to take nine months, opening in spring 2016. (2) The Farmers Market just completed its fifth season in September. It was the most successful yet, averaging 30 vendors selling produce, plants, baked goods, gourmet food, crafts, jewelry, woodworking and art. Mayor MacDougall stated that everyone looks forward to the 2016 season as the Farmers Market moves to the new Town amphitheater. The new setting will allow the Farmers Market to expand and be

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incorporated into other Town events such as concerts, creating a destination atmosphere for downtown Lexington.

**TRAFFIC UPDATE**

Councilmember Carnes gave a traffic update: (1) As citizens move forward from last week's flood event, please use caution when traveling in and around Town. There are numerous areas that are in need of repair and will be addressed as soon as practical. (2) Lane restrictions remain in place along Highway 1 near Tarrar Springs Road and at the Old Mill. (3) Taylor Drive remains closed to thru traffic from Highway 1 to Harmon Street. Repairs of the culvert along Taylor Drive are in progress. (4) Work for Phase 1 of the Adaptive Signal Project continues as the contractor installs fiber communications between each signal. (5) Video cameras have been installed at several intersections for use in detecting traffic in a lane. These cameras are not used for traffic enforcement. Councilmember Carnes emphasized that it is against State law to use video cameras to enforce traffic ticketing.

The next Traffic Committee meeting will be on October 20, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room at Town Hall. Citizens were encouraged to call 359-1027 if they were aware of a traffic signal issue, unsafe roadway situation, or a pot hole that needs repair.

**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 Lexington County Tax Map #3500-03-092, 054, 015 and 116 located at the Intersection of Park Place Trail and Darby Ambrose Road. No comments.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. A motion was made Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance** annexing Lexington County Tax Map #3500-03-092, 054, 015 and 116 located at the Intersection of Park Place Trail and Darby Ambrose Road. Councilmember Stambolitis thanked Mr. Hanson for helping Mr. Shuler with this project. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present (6).

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **First Reading of Rezoning for 643 Gibson Road:** Mr. Chris Rozakos requested to rezone 643 Gibson Road from Protected Residential (PR) to Limited

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Commercial (LC). The request was made to allow the property to be used for possible expansion of the convenience store located on the adjacent property. Properties adjacent to this one are zoned General Commercial (GC) and Protected Residential (PR). The Jim Hudson Ford Dealership, which is not in the Town, is located across the street from this property. The Planning Commission reviewed the request during their September meeting and recommended approval of the zoning changes. (Copies attached.)

A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember Carnes to approve First Reading of Rezoning for 643 Gibson Road. Councilmember Williams asked Mr. Hanson to clarify the issue about the shared drive way near the back of the property. He added that he had been by the property and did not see such a drive way. Mr. Hanson stated that is the purpose of the rezoning and for speculative expansion of the convenience store, next to Hardee's on West Main Street. He added that he did not have any submitted plans. He stated that Mr. Rozakos was present for any questions. Councilmember Williams confirmed that the Town did not yet know what would be placed on the property or if it would tie in. The motion carried with a vote of five (5) in favor (Carnes, MacDougall, Maness, Shevchik, Stambolitis) and one (1) opposed (Williams).

2. **First Reading of an Update to the Town's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance:** A recent Community Assistance Contact visit by the South Carolina Department of Resources yielded a recommendation that the Town update its Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance to the recommended model ordinance. The current ordinance was adopted in 1995. Updating the ordinance is required for the Town to continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. (Copy of Ordinance attached.)

A motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Maness to approve First Reading of an Update to the Town's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. Mayor MacDougall stated that this item was placed on the agenda prior to the recent floods. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

3. **Fallen Firemen 5K Donation Request:** The Lexington County Fire Service will host the rescheduled Fallen Firemen 5K on October 17, 2015 to support the Jeff Chavis House near the Joseph M. Still Burn Center at Doctor's Hospital in Augusta, Georgia. Firefighter Antoine Kelly made a presentation at the Council Work Session on September 21, 2015 requesting support. Council proposed a \$200 donation in addition to the in-kind support provided by the Town of Lexington Police Department for 15 officers to assist with the event (\$1,575.00).

A motion was made by Councilmember Carnes and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve a \$200 sponsorship payable to the

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Southeastern Firefighters Burn Foundation in support of the Fallen Firemen 5K. Mayor MacDougall stated that it was important to note that the Police Department is donating \$1,575 of labor to the event in addition to \$200. Councilmember Stambolitis thanked the Town and the Police Department. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

4. **Final Reading of an Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town of Lexington and the City of Columbia:** Chief Green requested Council's approval for Final Reading of an Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town of Lexington and the City of Columbia. (Copy attached.)

A motion was made by Mayor MacDougall and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve Final Reading of an Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town of Lexington's Police Department and the City of Columbia's Police Department. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Councilmember Williams** made the following announcements: (1) He stated that a lot had happened since the death of Officer Alia and on behalf of the Mayor and Council, he extended their deepest sympathy to Mrs. Alia and the family of Forest Acres Police Officer Greg Alia. He added that the Town continues to be saddened by the senseless loss of such a fine police officer. (2) He congratulated the Town's Police Department on the prestigious awards recently received. He thanked all the men and women for all the work they did during the recent storm and for the example they set for others in the state and the country. He added that they also did an excellent job communicating to the citizens through Facebook and Twitter. (3) As the Mayor stated in the Vision Plan Update – we are all very fortunate to live in such a caring community. During the recent storms First Responders came to aid of citizens and even more important we saw scouts, students and citizens come to the aid of fellow citizens. Even though there were issues in Town, Council was very proud that so many extended help to other areas in the Midlands. (4) Council will meet again next week on October 19<sup>th</sup> for the regular scheduled Work Session at 6:00 p.m. in the Eli Mack Room. (5) Mark your calendars for October 20<sup>th</sup> for Lexington Police Department Fall Festival at the Lexington Municipal Complex from 5:30 to 8:30. Councilmember Williams stated that he understands that there will be appearances from USC's mascot Cocky, the LES Wildcat, McGruff the Crime Dog, and King Arthur. The cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per immediate family. Proceeds will go to the "Adopt-a-Cop" program. (6) The Traffic Committee will meet October 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. in the third floor conference room. (7) The Planning Commission will meet October 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers. (8) "*So the Story Goes...*" will be presented by the Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission, the Lexington County Public Library, and the Town of Lexington on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Virginia Hylton Park. (9) The Haunted House Halloween Program will be presented by the Lexington County Museum on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> and Friday October 30<sup>th</sup>. Tours will be held at 7:00 p.m. and

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8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. (10) The Town received word today that Lexington School District One will operate on a regular schedule tomorrow so buses will run at the normal time. Councilmember Williams asked everyone to be careful and to look out for the buses and the students.

Councilmember Williams wished everyone a happy and safe Halloween. He thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting.

**Councilmember Stambolitis** wished his daughter a Happy Birthday.

**Mayor MacDougall** wished to take a moment to let Town Administrator Poole know what a wonderful job his staff did during the recent floods. He stated that every one of his employees responded and reacted the way they expected them to react. He added that citizens don't see all the employees when they are out and about, but Utilities Director Lutz had employees out in chest high water trying to find pipes to make sure they were intact and not leaking in order to keep the Town's water and sewer flowing. Mayor MacDougall stated that Chief Green had officers standing at road blocks for hours on end and he could not tell them just how much he appreciated it. He added that they kept the community safe, alive, and informed. He stated that Events and Media Coordinator Dowden was stranded in her home, but she was in constant contact with the Police Department and kept everyone up to date. Mayor MacDougall thanked Parks Foreman Dillard for taking it upon himself to clear a road so when SCDOT gave the green light to open the road it could be immediately opened. He also thanked Parks Director Walker for having his crew out all weekend long and fixing problems as they popped. He added that he was very proud of everyone for what they did and how they reacted.

**NEWS MEDIA QUESTIONS:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**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.

Mayor MacDougall called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Shevchik to adjourn the Council meeting.

The Regular Council meeting was adjourned at 7:05 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.*