

MINUTES
Town of Lexington
Executive Session and
COUNCIL WORK SESSION

September 17, 2012

Town Council held an Executive Session followed by a Council Work Session on September 17, 2012 in the Eli Mack Sr. Room. The meetings were attended by: Mayor Randy Halfacre, Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Livingston, Council Members Kathy Maness, Ted Stambolitis, Todd Shevchik and Steve MacDougall. Councilmember Danny Frazier was absent due to illness. 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, and Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand.

There were approximately twenty (20) citizens present for the Council Work Session. There was one member of the news media present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

Mayor Halfacre reported that the *Executive Session* was called to order at 5:35 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to go into *Executive Session* to discuss several pending legal updates; two contractual issues related to the purchase of real estate; and, one routine personnel matter. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present. Council adjourned from *Executive Session* at 6:09 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Maness. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present. No vote was taken. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember Maness to ratify the Mayor'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 Work Session. Mayor Halfacre gave the invocation. Councilmember Shevchik led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Halfacre called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Shevchik to approve the minutes from Council's Regular Meeting held on May 7, 2012. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **SC Historic Aviation Foundation Memorial – Mr. W. Harold Jones:** Mr. Jones requested a contribution from Council to help fund a new Aviation Memorial Monument to be placed near the Columbia Metro Airport. He stated that 230 aviators, including one WASP (Women’s Airforce Service Pilots) were killed during training from 1942 to 1945 and they should be remembered along with those killed at the front lines. Mr. Jones stated that the monument would cost \$15,000 and they had already received \$2,500 from the City of West Columbia.

Mr. Bill Hanson, a 92 year old World War II photographer, was present and stated that the men and women aviators should not be forgotten. He hoped that the Town would see fit to help with the monument.

Mayor Halfacre thanked both gentlemen for bringing the item to Council’s attention and they would take it under advisement.

2. **Enabling Technologies Project – Mr. Ed Keelen, Project Coordinator, Enabletech:** Mr. Keelen stated that Enabletech is a 501(c)(3) and a free program that provides technology to help people with disabilities. The volunteer staff includes engineers, scientists and fabricators who help design equipment that is not available on the market. He stated that Mr. Phil Atkinson is the President and Founder of Enabletech. To date, they have completed 127 projects. He stated that they receive referrals from government agencies. Mr. Keelen described several projects that had assisted children and adults.

Mayor Halfacre thanked Mr. Keelen for letting the Council know about the service and he encouraged Staff and Council to make referrals to Enabletech. He stated that Staff could look at providing a slide on Channel 2 to let citizens know about the service.

Councilmember Stambolitis stated that he had asked Mr. Keelen to come to a Work Session and educate Council on the services provided by Enabletech. He added that it is a good program and has helped many people. He stated that the Town could also put a notice in water bills and include a link to the company’s web site.

3. (Not present.) **Lexington Soil and Water Conservation District Contribution – Ms. Kathryn Hensley.**
4. **Oktoberfest 2012 – Mr. Lee Pitcovich, Event Management, LLC:** Mr. Pitcovich introduced two of his staff members and stated that he was invited to Council to explain Oktoberfest 2012. He briefly explained the history of FunFest now known as Oktoberfest and how it was turned over to Lexington Young Professionals two years ago from Lexington Festivals, LLC. He added that approximately 2,500 people attended last year. He announced that Oktoberfest 2012 would be held on

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October 27th with the DooDah parade at 11:00. He thanked Chief Green for assisting with the road closing and security. He added that Main Street Café was not going to do Rocktoberfest this year, but German music would be played from 12:00 to 10:00 p.m. He stated that since USC and some other football games would be held that day, Main Street Café may do their own “end zone” event. Arts and craft vendors would be on hand, with limited spacing and businesses could come if they provided a service to the public such as face painting, etc. Admission would be free and tickets could be purchased for German food and beer. Mr. Pitcovich stated that they had taken some of their direction from the Town’s Vision Plan which called for providing more social events for citizens.

Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston asked who was in charge of Oktoberfest, who would receive the proceeds, and how was Town staff used for the event. She also asked about equipment purchased by Lexington Young Professionals. She added that Council has to be responsible to taxpayers when they are contributing \$10,000 to an event, plus paying overtime for Town Staff. She also asked how this event could get out of the “red”. Mr. Pitcovich responded that Lexington Young Professionals were in charge and the proceeds would go to them. He stated that they had hired staff for clean-up and police officers from Lexington Police Department. Mr. Pitcovich stated that some equipment and tents had been purchased as an investment toward the event and this year they would not have that added expense. Mr. Poole clarified that the event had paid for Parks Staff to assist with clean-up, but they did not pay for police coverage.

Councilmember MacDougall asked if Council could receive more detailed information regarding expenses and how much was spent last year. Mr. Pitcovich responded that some expense would be cut out by not having a band. He added that they lost money the second year and hoped to make money this year. Mr. Pitcovich stated that there was approximately \$18,000 in ticket sales last year and the entire event cost \$35,000 to put on. He stated that some of the proceeds would go to the Town’s Adopt-A-Cop program. Councilmember MacDougall stated that it appeared that it cost the event \$20 per person and he would like to see more details of the expenditures.

Councilmember Shevchik stated that the tax returns indicated an \$18,000 balance at the end of the year. He added that in the past when a donation was made, no follow up had been requested. Councilmember Shevchik stated that they were not here to “grill” Mr. Pitcovich, but there is a blurred line between the Town, the Lexington Chamber, and festival management. He added that Council would be looking at an item tonight to help set a policy for handling non-Town sponsored events. Mr. Pitcovich stated that he would be happy to provide whatever information Council requested. He added that Elliott-Davis does their books and he could provide any information requested.

Councilmember Stambolitis stated that the Vision Plan called for added events to help bring life and businesses to revitalize the downtown area with a priority for

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family recreation and entertainment. He added that he would also like to see the group involved with sports tournaments that come to the area because some of the groups come into Town and Council doesn't even know about it. He thought they should be better informed about all events because it has an economic impact on the community. He stated that Mr. Pitcovich had done a good job and his group had lots of ideas and energy. Mr. Pitcovich stated that he understood and was willing to roll up his sleeves and help make it happen, but sometimes it is tough to do good things.

Mayor Halfacre recognized Lori Moroz in the audience and stated that she had run FunFest for many years following Frank Mogan, who started the event. He stated that Lori had approached the Lexington Chamber several years ago about taking over the event because it was about to go under and it needed some new life. Mayor Halfacre stated that at that time the Chamber could not take it as a project and that is when Lexington Young Professionals stepped up to the plate to save something that was special in the community. He wished to personally thanked Mr. Pitcovich for bringing people to downtown Lexington. He added that he was a little perplexed by all the questions since this was something addressed in the Vision Plan and Mr. Pitcovich was somewhat of a savior for the event to continue. Mayor Halfacre stated that Lexington Young Professionals are the next leadership group for Lexington. He added that Columbia had formed a similar core group in order to keep young talent in the region. He added that Lexington has a lot to celebrate and we need young leaders.

Councilmember MacDougall stated that he did not understand why anyone would be perplexed about questions that were their job to ask and it wasn't anything personal.

Mr. Tripp Newsome, Newsome & Company, PC, recommended that the Town blend two events and let Oktoberfest be a fundraiser for the Aviation monument by guaranteeing them a spot at the event to ask for donations.

5. (Not present.) **Ms. Gina McCuen, Columbia City Ballet Board Member – Donation request for pointe shoes for Ms. Regina Willoughby.**

BUSINESS ITEMS: (For Discussion and Recommendation for Council Meeting on October 1, 2012.)

1. **Modification to the Local Vendor Preference Program – Assistant Town Administrator Stuart Ford:** The Town expanded the Local Vendor Preference Program in 2011 to enhance opportunities of subcontractors, widen the areas covered by the preference and increase the limits of the preference. In recent months the Town considered whether to further increase the various limits of the preference. In determining the suggested increases to the dollar limits, the Town considered what would be the maximum amount that the in-town limit could reach.

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The resulting percentage increases of 50% were then applied to other preference limits. Council directed that the in-region preference percentage be increased to 4% and that the dollar limit be appropriately adjusted prior to Final Reading. The following summarizes the resulting adjusted limits:

- (1) Increase the in-town preference limit from 7%/\$10,000 to 7%/\$15,000.
- (2) Increase the in-county preference limit from 5%/\$8,000 to 5%/\$12,000.
- (3) Increase the in-region preference for Newberry, Richland, Fairfield and Kershaw counties from 3%/\$4,000 to 4%/\$8,000.
- (4) Increase the in-state credit from 2%/\$2,500 to 2%/\$3,750.

As discussed in Work Session and Regular Council meetings, the goal is to provide a reasonable, defensible preference while recognizing the interest of tax and rate payers in getting a competitive price. As a reminder, the local preference credits do not change the actual contract award amount for any vendor. The credits are applied to qualifying vendors when determining ranking of lowest bid amounts. In addition to the preference credits, for contracts exceeding \$100,000 proposers are required to document attempts to utilize qualifying local vendors as subcontractors.

A motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to place the item on Council's October 1, 2012 agenda for consideration. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston confirmed that no other city has a similar policy. Mr. Ford stated that the Town needed a policy that provided the Council's goal and was defensible. He added that the recommended policy gives the most benefit to Town of Lexington citizens and businesses and an in-state company would have a preference over an out-of-state company. Councilmember Stambolitis provided background history in that previously the low bidder would get the job regardless of location. He added that now local companies would receive a preference. Mayor Halfacre stated that it is a balancing act and the Town can only do so much or you penalize the tax payers. He added that other towns are in envy of our preference policy and Columbia is looking at changing their policy. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

2. **Request for Water Line Extension on Dogwood Trail – Director of Utilities, Engineering and Planning Allen Lutz:** Mr. David Coleman and Robert Coleman requested water service to their property on Dogwood Trail. In order for the Town to service their homes, a 6 inch water line would have to be extended for a distance of 500 feet at an estimated cost of \$29,000.00. Mr. Coleman states that there are six homes past the existing waterline, which could connect, but at this time, only two have shown interest. The Town would have to collect 14 CCF fees at the out-of-town rate of \$2,050.00 to come close to breaking even on the cost. It was Staff's recommendation that it would not be economical for the Town to extend the line to serve their property at this time.

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Mayor Halfacre stated that he agreed with Staff's recommendation. Councilmember Stambolitis asked if they could receive the 25% discount. Mayor Halfacre responded that was used primarily for developments. Mr. Poole stated that it could be used but it would take another 14 homes on the line.

The applicants were not present. No action was taken.

- 3. Keeping Domestic Chickens in Residential Areas – Director of Planning, Building and Technology John Hanson:** Council requested the development of a proposal for an ordinance authorizing the keeping of domestic chickens in Town. Currently, keeping chicken houses within five hundred (500) feet of a residence is prohibited in Town. A spreadsheet was presented to which showing several elements that were considered in ordinances recently adopted in other South Carolina cities as well as a proposal for how the elements can be developed into an ordinance for Lexington. Should Council wish to pursue these regulations, an ordinance would be prepared for First Reading at the next Council meeting. (Copy attached.)

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember MacDougall to ask Staff to prepare the ordinance and place the item on Council's October 1, 2012 agenda for consideration. Mayor Halfacre stated that the spreadsheet shows various numbers of chickens and he would like for the ordinance to just state "4 chickens", no roosters and be done. He stated that he had laughed at first, but there is a trend of going back to natural foods. Councilmember Stambolitis stated that this is a growing trend. Mr. Poole stated that he has chickens and they produce three to four eggs a day. He added that the American Planning magazine featured an article about the growing trend. Mr. Poole stated that the Town's ordinance would in no way override a neighborhood's HOA (Home Owners Association) covenants. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

- 4. South Carolina Virtual charter School Rental Fee Waiver – Events and Media Coordinator Jennifer Dowden:** The South Carolina Virtual Charter School, part of the public school system, is required by State Law to perform annual test for students. The organization asked for a fee waiver for the following dates and facilities to ensure that all students are properly tested.

March 19	Conference Center, Eli Mack Room, Boardroom C
May 7 – 10	Conference Center, Eli Mack Room, Boardroom C
May 22 – 23	Conference Center, Boardrooms A, B, C

Following is the value for the South Carolina Virtual Charter School events: (One deposit for Conference Center (\$250) and Eli Mack (\$100) would still be required.)

Conference Room: \$600 (in town) or \$1000 (out of town) = max waiver \$3,000

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Eli Mack Room: \$150 (in town) or \$200 (out of town) = max waiver \$600
Boardrooms: \$ 25 (in town) or \$50 (out of town) per day = max waiver \$250

A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to place the item on Council's October 1, 2012 agenda for consideration. Councilmember Maness stated that she had received the request letter and added that the SCVCS has a growing number of students. Ms. Dowden confirmed that the dates are on hold pending Council's approval. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

5. **South Carolina Adoption Coalition for Education and Support (ACES) Rental Fee – Events and Media Coordinator Jennifer Dowden:** The South Carolina Adoption Coalition for Education and Support (ACES) and the South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division annually hosts the Families Forever Fair and are looking to bring the event to Lexington in 2013. The free event focuses on adoption consultations, awareness, and foster care. The organization asked for a fee waiver for the Conference Center and Eli Mack Room for Saturday, March 2, 2013. Council was provided a copy of a press release for the 2012 event hosted in Greenville and North Charleston. Following is the value for the ACES event: (Deposit for Conference Center (\$250) and Eli Mack (\$100) would still be required.)

Conference Center: \$600 (in town) or \$1000 (out of town)
Eli Mack Room: \$150 (in town) or \$200 (out of town)

A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Shevchik to place the item on Council's October 1, 2012 agenda for consideration. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston stated that she would have to recuse herself from the vote in that a family member is associated with the organization. (Copy of Recusal Form and request letter attached.) The motion carried with a vote of five (5) in favor and one (1) recused (Livingston).

6. **Speed Humps Berly Street – Director of Parks, Streets and Sanitation Dan Walker:** The residents of Berly Street requested another speed bump. They were denied by Staff and requested that it be placed before Council. Mr. Walker confirmed that there are already two speed bumps on Berly Street.

Council discussed the item and took no action. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston suggested that the street be closed. Councilmember Maness confirmed that the placement of a third speed bump would not allow adequate deceleration as required by SCDOT. The existing speed bumps are spaced at 323 feet, 293 feet and 250 feet and SCDOT requires 350 feet. Councilmember Stambolitis suggested an additional sign to help slow traffic in the area, possibly with a flashing light on it. Mr. Poole responded that the residents did not like flashing lights in their area. Chief Green confirmed that a 24 hour traffic study was

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conducted in September on Berly Street which indicated that the average speed of vehicles on Berly Street is 18 miles per hour.

Council asked Mr. Chuck Corley to speak on the issue. Mr. Corley stated that traffic still flies down Berly Street at all hours of the day, especially those cars leaving Bi-Lo. He added that they sometimes bottom out on the speed bumps. Mr. Corley stated that a neighbor has a small child and they were concerned for her safety. He added that neighbors have almost been run over by people trying to drive around the speed bumps and maybe they should put a cement block at the end of each one. He stated that he was shocked by the average speed limit of 18 mph stated by Chief Green.

Mayor Halfacre requested that the Town's Traffic Committee review the request.

- 7. Discussion of How Town Handles Non-Town Sponsored Events Held Within Town Limits – Town Administrator Britt Poole:** A discussion was requested to determine how the Town should handle non-Town sponsored events held within Town limits regarding: Advertising, Additional Staff, Police Security, and Street Closures.

Council discussed the item and requested that Staff bring it back to a Work Session with recommendations. Mr. Poole stated that the Town is receiving an increasing number of requests for events. He added 5K runs require more police coverage than some events. He asked for direction from Council since the Town has a history of not charging for events. He added that many other cities in the State do charge for services during events. Mr. Poole added that the Town does not have any particular rules as it relates to advertising for non-Town sponsored events.

Councilmember Stambolitis stated that all advertisement should be family friendly. He stated that he would like for Council to see ads beforehand and censor the language on event advertisements because a recent event was negative and offensive to people. He added that he did not even know about "Brewskis, Bourbon & Butts on Butler" until someone came to his restaurant to display a poster. Mr. Poole stated that the Town could not control commercial speech assuming it was not obscene. Councilmember Stambolitis later stated that this was not an attack on Mr. Pitcovich, but rather an example of how the Town handles events.

Mayor Halfacre stated that he had only received positive comments about the posters for "Brewskis, Bourbon & Butts on Butler". He added that what is offensive to some is not to others.

Councilmember Shevchik stated that the Town needed a policy on how to advertise because the "Brewskis, Bourbon & Butts on Butler" was advertised in

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the water bill, but the 5K run was not. He does not want the Town in a situation where they are asked why one event is covered and another one is not. Councilmember Shevchik thanked Mr. Pitcovich and the Lexington Young Professionals for taking on the Oktoberfest event.

Councilmember Maness stated because the event was advertised in the Town's water bill, citizens thought it was a Town sponsored event. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston stated that if Mr. Pitcovich came to the Town and asked for help, not money, then the Town is a sponsor of the event. She added that an event should be presented to Council first. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston stated that anytime alcohol is at an event, it splits the community. She added that if the Town helps advertise through the water bill, the Town is somewhat responsible and therefore Council should have a say in the matter. She stated that if a company is hosting an event then the Town should be reimbursed for Staff time. Mr. Poole added that if the Town gives money or Staff, we are directly involved. He confirmed that an event cannot close a road without the Town's approval and the Police Department's assistance. Mr. Poole stated that the Town receives more complaints about 5K run road closings than for events. Councilmember Shevchik stated that it would eliminate the problem if an event received approval first.

Mayor Halfacre asked Mr. Lee Pitcovich to speak on the issue. Mr. Pitcovich stated that he does not want to use Town Staff and when they did use them at the "Brewskis, Bourbon & Butts on Butler" they were reimbursed, except for the assistance with the street closing. He stated that it was probably bad timing for several reasons, but the event took several months to plan and \$18,000 in ticket sales was received. Mr. Pitcovich stated that he was not the only one that got hurt in the deal. He added that he did not know what Council wanted even when he gave them an event for free. He added that he has nothing to hide. Mr. Pitcovich compared several other events held in Town and described them as "stuffy" and Lexington needs to realize they are behind the times and it is 2012.

Mayor Halfacre stated that it was unfair to Mr. Pitcovich after all the time and money he put into the event. He added that the event was actually part of the Vision Plan and if they were not going to follow the plan, they needed to amend it. He understood that it is a sensitive issue which cannot be solved tonight, but the Town will need to come up with a plan for events. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston requested that if Mr. Pitcovich has any suggestions, to let Mr. Poole know. Mr. Poole stated that he had approved the water bill advertisement for "Brewskis, Bourbon & Butts on Butler" as part of the Vision Plan to encourage activities in the downtown area. He stated that if that was not the direction, then a new policy would help clear up the issue. He agreed to bring the item back to a Work Session with a recommended policy and if Council had any recommendations to please let him know.

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Mayor Halfacre stated that he attended the event and Chief Green was the first person he saw. He added that in their conversation he stated that he hesitated to go into the crowd due to negative comments he may hear. Chief Green told him it would be just the opposite, that people were excited about an event downtown. Mayor Halfacre confirmed that he only heard positive comments from the event goers. A female member of the audience gave her positive testimony about the event and added that she could have moved to a bigger city, but she chose to stay here knowing that people like the Lexington Young Professionals were involved in bringing cultural events to the Town.

8. **Appointment to the Traffic Committee – Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand:** Mr. Richard Hook requested to serve on the Town’s Traffic Committee. (Copy of Talent Bank form attached.)

A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember Shevchik to place the request on Council’s October 1, 2012 agenda for consideration. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

9. **Reappointments to Boards and Commissions – Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand:** The following Board Members are up for reappointment in 2012:

Advisory Committee

Terry Samuels
Andrew Streit

Historic Preservation Review Board

Bob Britts
Mandy Derrick

Board of Zoning Appeals

Mary Watts
Royce Lehman
Reve’ Richardson

Planning Commission

Roscoe Caughman
Brian Amick
Edwin Gerace

Building Codes Board

Gene Smith
Bill Lafferty

A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Shevchik to place the item on Council’s October 1, 2012 agenda for consideration of reappointments. Mayor Halfacre confirmed that in the past this item was discussed in Executive Session only if there were issues to be discussed. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

1. **Main Street Façade Program – Director of Planning, Building and Technology John Hanson:** Copies were provided of the proposed application and policies for

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the Town's NEW Façade Improvement Program. The policies were developed based on research completed by Grants Administrator Wesley Crosby and with the assistance of the Town's Board of Appearance. Barring any suggested revisions by Council, Staff was prepared to move forward with the program by mailing an announcement and application to each property owner in the covered area within the next few days. The goal is to have grants awarded by the middle of November.

Mayor Halfacre stated that everyone is excited about this program. Mr. Poole confirmed that there would be five grants at first and if the program is successful it may be expanded in the future. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council to move forward with the CFIGP (Commercial Façade Improvement Grant Program).

QUESTIONS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA: None.

STAFF COMMENTS

Town Administrator Poole announced that the Town's new Snow Ball Festival events would be announced soon. He stated that part of the Vision Plan included expanding the annual Christmas tree lighting and the new events would cover two days. He added that a 5K run had been added along with a walking event, a Snow Ball Dance, parade, and tree lighting at Lexington Square to include a band.

Community and Economic Catalyst Jeffcoat stated that he has served on Lexington County Council for 16 years and he has seen a lot of money allocated for various items and they are always asked to account for their expenses. He added that part of the charge of a Council member was to be accountable and to not take it personal, because if a citizen asked a question about funding, there needed to be an answer. In a later response to Mr. Moroz comments, Mr. Jeffcoat stated that Town Council was not picking on Mr. Pitcovich and they appreciated what was being done for the community.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A friend of Mr. Pitcovich wished to speak in support of Mr. Pitcovich and the great job he has done with events in Lexington. He added that Mr. Pitcovich not only worked hard for Lexington, he had also stored the tents at personal expense which had saved approximately \$1,200 a year in storage fees. He asked that Council support Mr. Pitcovich and not be so hard on him.

Mr. Tripp Newsome stated that he had lived in other areas of the State and chose Lexington to live and to open his CPA business. He suggested that the Town form an Events Committee to review the items mentioned tonight. He added that the committee could also be the filter for requests, advertisements, donations, room rentals and it would be a service to an event instead of the Town giving money to an event. Mr. Newsome stated that Columbia has the St. Patrick's Day event, which includes alcohol, and does not get out of hand and brings in a lot of money.

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Mr. John Moroz stated that as a tax payer and a veteran he would like to see money go back into the community for all to enjoy. He did not know how many times his company had donated funds to something, but never went back and asked them how they spent it. He understood that the Council had been going through a tough time lately as evidenced by the “empty chair”, but if they were going to sweep the floor with Mr. Pitcovich, then they needed to sweep the whole floor.

Mr. Chuck Corley stated that the Jaycee’s had to close Main Street for the Christmas parade, but they still followed the process to do so. He added that the Veterans Parade had to do the same thing. He suggested that Council look at a TIF District for the downtown area.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Halfacre stated that we live in a conservative community and he took his hat off to Mr. Pitcovich for all he has done for the community. He stated that the Town’s Vision Plan is a 30 year plan with lots of ideas than cannot all happen overnight.

Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston stated that she was not picking on Mr. Pitcovich. She added that all events should be addressed before the entire Council, not just two or three members. She stated that it was not his fault, but Council had gone through a lot lately and they had to be accountable for spending.

Councilmember MacDougall responded to Mr. Moroz and stated that the Council had to show how a \$10,000 event contribution was spent. He stated that he would continue to be responsible and ask questions as he considered it his “homework” to do so.

Councilmember Stambolitis stated that nothing good comes with ease and the Council works very hard to manage all the requests that come to them for the good of all the Town’s citizens.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further comments or questions, a motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Maness to adjourn the Council’s Work Session at 8:19 p.m. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky P. Hildebrand, CMC
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:

T. Randall Halfacre, Mayor

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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.