

MINUTES
Town of Lexington
Executive Sessions and
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
September 18 , 2023

Town Council held an Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. followed by a Special Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. following by a Work Session (separate minutes) on September 18, 2023 in the Conference Center at 111 Maiden Lane, Lexington, South Carolina. The meetings were attended by: Mayor Steve MacDougall, Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Livingston, Councilmembers Kathy Maness, Todd Carnes, Ron Williams, Todd Lyle, and Gavin Smith.

Staff members present were: Interim Town Administrator Stuart Ford, Municipal Attorney Brad Cunningham, Assistant to the Town Administrator Wesley Crosby, Transportation Director Randy Edwards, Transportation Department Coordinator Laura Hinson, Police Chief Terrence Green, Planning, Building and Technology Director John Hanson, Utilities Supervisor Billy Gunter, Finance Director Kathy Pharr, Economic Developer Jack Stuart, Parks and Sanitation Director Dan Walker, Communications Manager Laurin Barnes, Digital Media Coordinator Michael Tolbert, Assistant Municipal Clerk Karen Hanner and Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand.

There were approximately twelve (12) citizens present and two (2) members from the news media.

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND CALL TO ORDER: Mayor MacDougall welcomed everyone again to the meeting and introduced the Council Members. Councilmember Williams gave the invocation. Councilmember Lyle led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor MacDougall called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT Part I: Mayor MacDougall reported the *Executive Session* was called to order at 5:00 p.m. after a motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember Maness to go into *Executive Session*. The motion was unanimously carried. Council recessed from *Executive Session* at 6:00 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Lyle and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston. The motion was unanimously carried. Mayor MacDougall announced that the Executive Session report would be given at the end of the Council Work Session due to Council returning to Executive Session to complete the items. (See separate Minutes for Council Work Session, September 19, 2023.

DELETIONS ON AGENDA: None.

NEW BUSINESS

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1. **Maiden Lane Wastewater Services Emergency Ordinance:** Section §5-7-250 of the South Carolina Code of Laws empowers Council to enact, by two thirds vote of members present, emergency ordinance affecting life, health or safety of its citizens. The Town has been made aware of a sewer line break located at 117 ½ East Main Street and has taken remedial measures to prevent spillage in the area. The remedial measures are only a temporary solution and the permanent solution is significantly delayed due to steps required to obtain an easement. The extended delay unnecessarily risks significant and potentially hazardous conditions due to the nature of the temporary remedial measures particularly during heavy storm events. Accordingly, the Town wishes to protect the public welfare and resources by seeking to implement a permanent solution under emergency authority. (Copy of proposed ordinance attached.)

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember Maness to adopt an emergency ordinance to address sewer line repairs as stated. The motion was unanimously carried.

NEWS MEDIA QUESTIONS

A representative from the news media asked what would be the permanent solution. Interim Town Administrator Ford responded that the Town would continue monitoring the issue and the permanent solution would be to continue maintenance in order to have the least impact.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor MacDougall thanked the Councilmembers and citizens for attending the Special Council meeting. Without objection from Council, Mayor MacDougall adjourned the Special Council Meeting at 6:12 p.m., followed by the Council Work Session.

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.