

**MINUTES**  
***Town of Lexington***

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**July 16, 2007**

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Town Council held a Special Council meeting preceded by an Executive Session and followed by a Council Work Session. (See separate minutes.) Attending the Special Council meeting was Mayor Randy Halfacre, Council Members Richard Thompson, Kathy Maness, Ted Stambolitis, Danny Frazier and Todd Shevchik. Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Leggett Tyndall was absent (excused). Staff members were also present and included: Town Administrator Jim Duckett, Assistant Town Administrator Britt Poole, Assistant Police Chief Jay Koon, Director of Utilities Allen Lutz, Finance Director Kathy Roberts, Assistant Finance Director Laraine Wieder, Parks, Streets and Sanitation Director Dan Walker, and Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand.

Two (2) reporters were present from the news media.

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Halfacre called the *Special Council* meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:**

Councilmember Frazier requested that one item be added regarding a room rental fee waiver for Lexington County for a hotdog fundraiser. There being no objections the item was added.

**NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. **Tobacco Use at Gibson Pond Park:** In an effort to curb littering and to help prevent forest fires, it was suggested that the rules for Gibson Pond Park (approved on July 2, 2007) include the following:

- No Smoking or Use of Tobacco Products.

Such a ban is common at parks in various cities around the country and would help preserve the natural beauty of the area. Smoking is reportedly one of the most common causes of forest fires. Park rules are enforceable by Town of Lexington Ordinance §130.05.

A motion was made by Mayor Halfacre and seconded by Councilmember Frazier to approve the addition of “no smoking or use of tobacco products” as part of Gibson Pond Park rules. Mayor Halfacre commented that a recent issue of USA Today newspaper stated that there has been an increase of similar policies across the country for municipal properties. He added that the Town is not alone in their effort to protect Town parks. Mayor Halfacre requested that the

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amendment to policy apply to all Town properties. Town Administrator Duckett stated Town buildings already have designated areas. Councilmember Stambolitis amended the motion for the policy of “no smoking or use of tobacco products” to become part of the policy for all Town parks including the Roof House. Councilmember Frazier seconded the amended motion which was unanimously carried by all those present.

- 2. Room Rental Fee Waiver for Lexington County Event:** Councilmember Frazier received a request from the Lexington County’s Solicitor Office asking for Town Council’s approval to waive the rental fee of \$600 on July 25, 2007 in order to hold a hotdog fundraiser for the son of the Solicitor’s driver, Mr. Howard Jernigan. Mr. Jernigan has done a lot for Lexington and his son is very ill. Councilmember Frazier stated that the small portion of the Conference Center is probably all that they need, but staff could work out the details with Lexington County.

A motion was made by Councilmember Frazier and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve waiving the Conference Center rental fee. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA:**

Tim Flach, The State newspaper, asked if chewing tobacco was also prohibited in the parks. Mayor Halfacre responded that it was prohibited.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no other business, a motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Thompson to adjourn the Special Council meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

The Special Council meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky P. Hildebrand  
Municipal Clerk

**APPROVED:**

T. Randall Halfacre  
Mayor