

MINUTES
Town of Lexington
Executive Session and
Special Council Meeting
May 18, 2009

Town Council held an Executive Session followed by a Special Council Meeting and Council Work Session on May 18, 2009 in the Eli Mack Sr. Room. The Executive Session was attended by Mayor Randy Halfacre, Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Leggett-Tyndall, Council Members Richard Thompson, Kathy Maness, Ted Stambolitis and Danny Frazier. Councilmember Todd Shevchik was absent due to illness. The Executive Session was attended by Town Administrator Jim Duckett, Assistant Town Administrator Britt Poole, Assistant Town Administrator Stuart Ford and Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand. Also present for the Special Council Meeting and Work Session were Police Chief Terrence Green, Utilities and Engineering Director Allen Lutz, Finance Director Kathy Roberts, and Parks, Streets and Sanitation Director Dan Walker,

There were approximately ten (10) citizens present and two (2) reporters from the news media.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

Mayor Halfacre reported that the *Executive Session* was called to order at 5:14 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Thompson to go into *Executive Session*. 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 Maness and seconded by Councilmember Frazier. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present. Mayor Halfacre reported that Council met in *Executive Session* to discuss: One Department Head routine review. Three contractual issues regarding economic developments concerning the potential purchase of property within the Town, a performing art center, and a development on Main Street. Three legal issues regarding updates on pending legal matters. No vote was taken. A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Thompson to ratify the Mayor's *Executive Session* report. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

INVOCATION, PLEDGE AND CALL TO ORDER: Councilmember Thompson gave the invocation and Councilmember Maness led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Halfacre called the Special Council Meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **First Reading of an Ordinance Adopting the FY 2009-2010 Budget (Title Only):** South Carolina law requires Town Council to adopt a balanced budget

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each year. Budget Revenue and Expenditures are attached as well as the draft ordinance.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Tyndall and seconded by Councilmember Maness to approve First Reading of the ordinance adopting the FY 2009 – 2010 budget. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

- 2. First Reading of an Ordinance to Provide for the FY 2009-2010 Tax Levy (Title Only):** South Carolina law requires Town Council to adopt the Tax Levy each year. Attached is the draft ordinance for the Tax Levy for FY 2009 – 2010.

A motion was made by Councilmember Thompson and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve First Reading of the ordinance to provide for the FY 2009 – 2010 Tax Levy. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

- 3. Public Parking in Downtown Lexington:** A private company is attempting to develop the former Sessions Department Store property in Downtown Lexington and asked for the Town's support through exploring ways to provide public parking in the area. It has been the consensus of the Town Council that public parking is critical to the success of any development project in Downtown Lexington, and the developer is asking that the Town express that intent through adoption of a resolution of support. (Copy attached.)

A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Frazier to approve the adoption of a resolution in support as stated. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

QUESTIONS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA

Mr. Tim Flach, The State Newspaper, asked if Council was moving away from their previous decision to build a parking garage on Main Street and if so, would they do something else regarding parking. Mayor Halfacre responded that the plan could be something other than a parking garage and if a change was made, Council's approval would be required. He stated that businesses want to move to Highway 378, while downtown deteriorates and providing parking would be a way to participate in the downtown revitalization. Mayor Halfacre responded to a second question and stated that the Town did not have plans to buy the site at the old Sessions location.

Ms. Vickie Shealy, The Lexington County Chronicle, asked if the parking project would still be a public/private partnership. Mayor Halfacre responded that the development would be public/private and parking would probably belong to the Town and the location was not finalized.

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ADJOURNMENT: There being no further comments or questions, Mayor Halfacre called for a motion to adjourn the Special Council Meeting to go directly into the Council Work Session. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Tyndall and seconded by Councilmember Frazier to adjourn. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

The Special Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky P. Hildebrand, CMC
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:

T. Randall Halfacre
Mayor