

**MINUTES**  
*Town of Lexington*  
**Executive Session I and**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**August 15, 2011**

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Town Council held Executive Session I at 5:20 p.m. on August 15, 2011 prior to the Regular Council Meeting. Council's August Work Session and Executive Session II were held immediately following the Regular Council Meeting. The meetings were attended by Mayor Randy Halfacre, Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Livingston, Council Members Richard Thompson, Kathy Maness, Ted Stambolitis, Danny Frazier, and Todd Shevchik.

The Executive Sessions were also attended by Town Administrator Britt Poole, Assistant Town Administrator Stuart Ford, Municipal Attorney Brad Cunningham, Director of Parks, Streets and Sanitation Dan Walker, Mr. Richard Davis, Annie Wessinger, and Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand. Also attending the Regular Council meeting was: Police Chief Terrence Green, Director of Planning, Building and Technology John Hanson, Community and Economic Catalyst Johnny Jeffcoat, Director of Utilities and Engineering Allen Lutz, Finance Director Kathy Roberts, Events and Media Coordinator Jennifer Dowden, and I.T. Manager Josh Emory.

One (1) member of the news media was present and thirteen (13) citizens were present.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION I REPORT**

Mayor Halfacre reported that the *Executive Session I* was called to order at 5:20 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Thompson and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to go into *Executive Session I*. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present. Council adjourned from *Executive Session I* at 6:11 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Shevchik and seconded by Councilmember Thompson. The motion was unanimously carried. Mayor Halfacre reported that Council met in *Executive Session I* to discuss: five contractual issues, one economic development opportunity, and one pending legal issue. No vote was taken. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember Maness to ratify Mayor Halfacre's *Executive Session I* report. The motion was unanimously carried.

**INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Halfacre introduced the Council Members and welcomed everyone to the Council meeting. Councilmember Thompson gave the invocation. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Halfacre called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS**

Mayor Halfacre requested that the following item be added to Council's agenda:

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Rental Fee Waiver for Amazon Procurement Fair.

There being no objections, the item was added as New Business Item #2

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on July 18, 2011. The motion was unanimously carried.

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. **Ms. Reagan Ryder Hendrix – 2011 Palmetto Girls State Governor Proclamation – Councilmember Kathy Maness:** Councilmember Maness stated that she was honored to present the proclamation to Ms. Hendrix. She added that she has had the opportunity for five years to speak at the Palmetto Girls State program. She stated that it is always a pleasure to see all the girls, all the excitement, and challenges to beat the guys. She welcomed Reagan's parents, Florence Belser, Director of Palmetto Girls State, and Doris Reynolds who works with Palmetto Girls State and the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 7 in Lexington. Councilmember Maness read the proclamation and she and Mayor Halfacre presented it to Reagan. (Copy attached.)
2. **Farmers Market Month Proclamation – Councilmember Todd Shevchik:** Councilmember Shevchik read a proclamation declaring August as the Town of Lexington's Farmers Market Month and commending the Town for the first year of holding a Farmers Market on Main Street on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays from June to October. (Copy of proclamation attached.)

**TRAFFIC UPDATE**

Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston provided an update on the Town of Lexington's continuing efforts to improve traffic. (1) The George Street Sidewalk project is expected to be completed by late November, 2011. (2) Engineering for the Church Street Sidewalk Project is nearing completion and should go out for bid by the fall. (3) Phase I Traffic Project is expected to let in mid-November with utilities relocations beginning in a few months from now. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston asked if anyone has any traffic issues to please contact 359-1027. The Traffic Committee will meet tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. in the Eli Mack, Sr. Room in Town Hall.

Mayor Halfacre confirmed with the Town Administrator that utilities would be relocated just before the Phase I Traffic Project is let because once the bids are opened it will take a few months before construction begins. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston confirmed that the majority of the easements have been purchased or are in the process of being purchased, which will not delay the project. She also confirmed that any of the work that can be done at night will be. Councilmember Stambolitis confirmed that the Town Administrator had asked for a systematic spread sheet for the dates of all the events involved with the project, but it had not yet been received from SCDOT. Town

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Administrator Poole stated that: the bid document has not yet been completed; the majority of the work will be done at night; traffic will be obstructed to some degree; and the project's estimated time frame could be 18 months which is not considered unreasonable. He added that the time frame could depend on the weather. Councilmember Frazier wanted to ensure that the Town has a liaison between SCDOT and the Town so if there is a problem, there is a good line of communication and businesses will be disrupted as little as possible. Town Administrator Poole confirmed that the Town would not hire an additional person as the liaison, but would use existing staff.

Mayor Halfacre reviewed the traffic plan and how it started eight years ago, plus another 18 months to complete three intersections. He stated that by the time you get a plan, obtain the funds, and receive assistance from SCDOT, it is amazing that it has only taken that long when nothing happened in the prior twenty years.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor Halfacre called the Public Hearing to order and requested that those wishing to speak limit their comments to five minutes.

1. An Ordinance Calling for a Referendum to Authorize Sunday Beer and Wine Sales.
2. An Ordinance Annexing 611 Northwood Road.
3. An Ordinance Rezoning Park Place Court.

There being no comments, Mayor Halfacre declared the Public Hearings closed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and seconded by Councilmember Frazier to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance calling for a Referendum to Authorize Sunday Beer and Wine Sales**. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston confirmed that if the motion passed, the referendum would be on the Town's election ballot on November 8, 2011. She added that the fees from the permits can be used for purposes similar to those for which Accommodations and Hospitality Taxes can be used. The motion was unanimously carried. (Ordinance attached.)
2. A motion was made by Councilmember Thompson and seconded by Councilmember Maness to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 611 Northwood Road**. Councilmember Stambolitis confirmed that the funeral home plans to expand. The motion was unanimously carried. (Ordinance attached.)
3. A motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Thompson to approve **Final Reading of an Ordinance Rezoning Park Place Court**. Councilmember Stambolitis confirmed with the Town Administrator that Park Place Court could be a Collector Road. The motion was unanimously carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **First Reading of an Ordinance Annexing 4881 Sunset Boulevard:** Dr. Leo Hall owns approximately 1.42 acres of property at 4881 Sunset Boulevard and petitioned for annexation of the property. The Planning Commission will hear the request at its August meeting and will have a recommendation before Second Reading. (A sketch plan of the property proposed to be annexed is attached.)

A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember Shevchik to approve First Reading of the Ordinance as stated. The motion was unanimously carried.

2. **Rental Fee Waiver for Amazon Procurement Fair:** Amazon's recent arrival to the area prompted the need for the company to host a regional Procurement Fair. The event will take place on Monday, August 22, 2011 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Hosting the regional Procurement Fair in our Town will allow local companies interested in doing business with Amazon the convenience of location without having to drive long distances to other locations in the Midlands. Additionally, it demonstrates the Town's pro-business commitment to economic prosperity and our desire to work in partnership with the private sector in creating jobs for our citizens and procurement opportunities for our local small businesses. The organization asked for a fee waiver for August 22, 2011 for the Conference Center. The event would be on a Monday during normal business hours. Following is the value for the Amazon Procurement Fair event: Rental fee: \$600 (In-Town) or \$1,000 (Out-of-Town) and a \$250 required deposit.

A motion was made by Councilmember Frazier and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to approve the rental fee waiver for Amazon as stated. Councilmember Stambolitis stated that this was a great idea. He commended the Lexington Chamber and County Council for being the forerunners in getting Amazon to come to Lexington County. Mayor Halfacre added that the Employment Fair was held at Midlands Tech and this would be a good way to thank Amazon. The motion was unanimously carried.

**COMMENTS**

**Mayor Randy Halfacre** welcomed Scott Adams and Dan Hennigan to the Council meeting. Mayor Halfacre wished a Happy Birthday to all Town employees celebrating birthdays in August. He expressed condolences to Dan Walker in the recent loss of his step-father, Mr. Erman Brown. He added that Mr. Brown was a World War II Navy Veteran and served aboard the USS Wichita. Mayor Halfacre expressed his sympathy to the family of Mike Till and to the Lesesne family in the loss of Mr. Jim Lesesne. Mayor Halfacre expressed condolences to the 30 families of American troops and Navy Seals who were shot down last week in Afghanistan. He stated that it was the worst

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loss of life for the United States in a single incident during this decade-long war and a sobering and grim reminder of the many sacrifices made every day. He commended Mr. Hennigan for working feverishly on the First Responders Memorial to be placed in Columbia to honor all the First Responders and it will also serve as a memorial for the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy. Mayor Halfacre reminded everyone that the Council's Work Session would be in the Eli Mack, Sr. Room immediately following the Council meeting. Mayor Halfacre stated that the Town held another successful Farmers Market this past Saturday, even though it was delayed an hour due to rain. He added that the Farmers Market will continue through October on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays. Mayor Halfacre announced that the Town will hold a public meeting to review the Town's Vision Plan on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the Eli Mack, Sr. Room. He commended Councilmember Shevchik for the excellent article that he ran in Lexington Life magazine about the Vision Plan. Mayor Halfacre stated that the Town would soon conclude this year's events recognizing the Town's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. He invited everyone to attend a drop-in on Sunday, December 4, 2011 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and the Town would declare that day as "Town of Lexington Sesquicentennial Celebration Day". He added that the event will also include the presentations of the Historic Preservation Awards at 1:30 p.m. which would be just before Lexington's Christmas Parade on Main Street at 3:00 p.m. Mayor Halfacre also reminded everyone that the Town's Annual Carolighting will be held on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Virginia Hylton Park and he hoped everyone would come out to enjoy the kick-off to the Christmas season. Mayor Halfacre extended his best wishes and congratulations to Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and David Livingston on their recent marriage. He added that they "tied the knot" on a beach in North Carolina on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and he officially welcomed David to the Town family.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Livingston** thanked Mayor Halfacre and everyone for all the best wishes that she and David had received for their wedding. She stated that her husband is now officially a Town resident. She added that the ceremony was very romantic and sweet and they enjoyed having their new large family all together at the beach. Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston stated that her daughter was featured in the Lexington Women magazine and it describes how her daughter and son-in-law are going through the adoption process and how exciting it is for the entire family.

**Councilmember Richard Thompson** congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston on her new name. He added that he would get her husband to sign his Election Petition at a later time. Councilmember Thompson asked all the citizens to be careful of the children now that school is back in session.

**Councilmember Kathy Maness** wished Town Administrator Poole a belated Happy Birthday. She congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and David on their marriage. She stated that she was very proud of Reagan Hendrix for being voted the Palmetto Girls State Governor. She added that she is a great leader and we will be hearing her name again. She thanked Ms. Belser and Ms. Reynolds for attending tonight and for all they do for Palmetto Girls State. Councilmember Maness thanked the Town Council for sponsoring three young ladies to attend Palmetto Girls State this summer. She

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wished all the teachers and students a great year this school year, especially Ms. White who would have her son in her class and Ms. Brittany Halfacre who is in her first year of teaching kindergarten.

**Councilmember Ted Stambolitis** expressed his condolences to the Till family. He stated he and Mike Till started in the restaurant business around the same time in the early 1990's and Mike was the type of guy that was always willing to help, especially if you ran out of something at the restaurant. He added that Mike always helped out in his community, his church, and the Chamber. Councilmember Stambolitis thanked everyone for all the get well wishes for his dad who was recently in the hospital. He added that all the calls and emails really helped him. He wished all the students a safe and successful school year. Councilmember Stambolitis congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and David on their recent marriage and wished them much happiness. He also commended Jewitte and Rod Dooley for adopting and he knew they would make wonderful parents. Councilmember Stambolitis wished his wife a Happy 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary at the end of the month.

**Councilmember Danny Frazier** stated that Councilmember Stambolitis hit the nail on the head about Mike Till. He added that he had worked with him on many projects and he always had a positive attitude, especially when they cooked hotdogs together at Kids Day. He congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and David on their recent marriage and he was glad they were both happy. Councilmember Frazier asked everyone to be careful with school back in session. He added that he will have to get a little earlier start this year since he will have to take his daughters to the high school.

**Councilmember Todd Shevchik** expressed his condolences to Linda Till and the Till family. He always enjoyed playing tennis with Mike and even though he was a fierce competitor, he was always fun and he will be missed by everyone. He wished a Happy Birthday to Town Administrator Poole. Councilmember Shevchik congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem Livingston and David on recently tying the knot and he wished them well in their new marriage. He announced that Municipal Attorney Cunningham would be part of the broadcast team this year on 107.9 radio for Lexington High School football as "the voice of the Wildcats". He announced that he is running for re-election to Town Council in November and he would appreciate everyone's vote. He stated that he has enjoyed walking some of the neighborhoods and talking to voters.

Mayor Halfacre stated that the Town would have an election on November 8, 2011 and Councilmembers Thompson, Frazier and Shevchik are all running for re-election and they have all done a great job and hopefully people will do their homework and see what they have done.

**QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA:** None. Mayor Halfacre stated that earlier there was a new reporter present from Lexington Patch, which is an on-line news media.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

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**ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Halfacre thanked the Council Members and citizens for attending the meeting tonight and for those at home for viewing the Council meeting on Channel 2.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stambolitis and seconded by Councilmember Maness to adjourn the Council Meeting. The motion was unanimously carried by all those present.

The Regular Council meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky P. Hildebrand, CMC  
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:

T. Randall Halfacre  
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.*