

MINUTES
Town of Lexington

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

August 20, 2007

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, Mayor Pro-Tem Hazel Leggett Tyndall, Council Members Richard Thompson, Kathy Maness, Ted Stambolitis, Danny Frazier and Todd Shevchik. Staff members were also present and included: Town Administrator Jim Duckett, Assistant Town Administrator Britt Poole, Police Chief Terrence Green, Director of Utilities Allen Lutz, Finance Director Kathy Roberts, Parks, Streets and Sanitation Director Dan Walker, and Municipal Clerk Becky Hildebrand.

Two (2) reporters were present from the news media and approximately eight (8) citizens.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Councilmember Shevchik gave the invocation and Mayor Pro-Tem Tyndall led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER AND EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT: Mayor Halfacre called the Special Meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Mayor Halfacre reported that the *Executive Session* was called to order at 6:00 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Councilmember Stambolitis to go into *Executive Session*. The motion was unanimously carried. Council adjourned from *Executive Session* at 7:05 p.m. after a motion was made by Councilmember Maness and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Tyndall. The motion was unanimously carried. Mayor Halfacre reported that Council met in *Executive Session* to discuss: one personnel matter regarding moon lighting and two contractual matters regarding economic development issues. No action was taken. A motion was made by Councilmember Thompson and seconded by Councilmember Maness to ratify the Mayor's *Executive Session* report. The motion was unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Disbursement of Funds Collected for the "Cameras for Kids" Program:** Town Council made a commitment to raise funds to provide security cameras for Lexington Middle School. Pledges from numerous companies and individuals have exceeded the funds needed for that school. Therefore, Council now finds itself in a position to provide funds to help place security cameras in a second Lexington District One school.

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A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Tyndall and seconded by Councilmember Frazier to approve authorizing the Town Administrator and the Finance Director to disburse the appropriate funds to the respective Parent/Teacher Organizations of the schools involved. Mayor Halfacre confirmed that the Lexington Elementary School had some cameras, but needed more and if the Lexington Intermediate School was left open, the school district would pay for their cameras. Councilmember Shevchik asked when the cameras would be installed and who would authorize the installation. Councilmember Frazier responded that 52 cameras were already installed and on-line at the Middle School. He added that Council decided on the Middle School as the first one to be installed and they later discussed excess funds raised would go to a second school in the district. Councilmember Shevchik stated that it seemed backward to authorize payment to the PTO after the fact. Mayor Halfacre stated that the Middle School cameras were to be installed before school starts and the Elementary School would be done after hours and after school starts. Councilmember Stambolitis asked if the classrooms could be observed on-line. Mr. Poole stated that would be a violation of student privacy. Councilmember Frazier responded that only the Lexington Sheriff and Town Police could have that capability if authorized by the school. The motion was carried with a vote of six (6) in favor and one (1) opposed (Shevchik).

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Sylvia Backman, Unicorn Printing, representing the Lexington Chamber's Government Relations Committee thanked the Town for the cameras and added that it was a great idea.

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA:

Mr. Mark Bellune, The Lexington County Chronicle, asked how much money would be distributed. Mayor Halfacre responded that approximately \$65,700 would be needed at the Lexington Middle School and approximately \$25,000 at the Lexington Elementary School. He added that the Town raised approximately \$110,000, which includes \$20,000 awarded through the State's Competitive Grant program and another \$20,000 on hold by the State of South Carolina appropriations budget. Mayor Halfacre confirmed that approximately \$75,000 was from the private sector; that approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000 in pledges had not yet been collected; and the Town raised more than the 20% usually required to receive State funding.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, a motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Tyndall and seconded by Councilmember Maness to adjourn the Special Council meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

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The Special Council meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky P. Hildebrand
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:

T. Randall Halfacre
Mayor