

## **MINUTES**

The Lexington City Council held its regular meeting in the courtroom of the Lexington -Rockbridge Joint Facility on April 21, 2005.

**PRESIDING:** J.W. Knapp, Mayor

**OFFICERS:** T.J. Ellestad, City Manager  
L.A. Mann, City Attorney  
C. Irby, Asst. City Clerk

**MEMBERS:** T. P. Golden  
J. H. Page  
J. E. Gianniny  
L. W. Broomall  
R. W. Smith

**ABSENT:** M.M. Elrod

There were 12 people present.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **To receive public input on the proposed FY 2006 operating budget**

Ron Laub, of 209 Barclay Lane, appeared before council seeking more equitable ways to administer taxes. He expressed his belief that the city currently pays for maintenance of too many permanent parking places. He recommended changes to street parking policy. Mayor Knapp clarified that Mr. Laub was talking about street parking specifically. Councilman Gianniny noted that the comprehensive plan would be considering these issues and advised that concerned citizens watch for a planning commission public hearing.

### **REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor Knapp called the meeting to order at 8:09 p.m. and Councilman Page delivered the invocation.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilwoman Elrod corrected page 3, second paragraph, second to last sentence to read, "Councilwoman Elrod also understood they were reducing dues to attract more members and wondered if this was a good idea."

Councilman Golden corrected page 5, under "Consideration of an advertised proposed tax rate for the next budget meeting" to read "6 cents" and "5 cents" respectfully instead of %.

Councilman Gianniny moved that the minutes be approved as amended. Councilman Golden seconded and the following vote was recorded:

T.P. Golden	Aye	R.W. Smith	Aye
J.H. Page	Aye	J.E. Gianniny	Aye
L.W. Broomall	Aye	M.M. Elrod	Absent

The motion carried.

## **CITIZENS' REMARKS AND COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA**

Betty Besal, the city arborist, presented awards and certificates to the winners of the Arbor Day poster contest. The winner from Waddell Elementary was Maiah Bartlett and the winner from Central Elementary was Jessica Hartbarger.

Mayor Knapp proclaimed April 30, 2005 as Arbor Day in the City of Lexington and urged all citizens to celebrate by joining in the Woods Creek Restoration Day activities, and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands.

## **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

### **City Council Committees**

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The next meeting will be held May 5, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.

**PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE** - No report

**SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SERVICES COMMITTEE** - No report

### **Boards and Commissions**

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Councilman Smith reported that the commission met on April 14, 2005. They continue to work on the Comprehensive Plan and will take Mr. Laub's recommendations into consideration. Additionally, they discussed an application by W&L for an amendment to their approved master plan to authorize construction of a 23 car parking lot at the northeast corner of Nelson Street and Liberty Hall Road. Secondly, they discussed a conditional use permit from Nextel to erect a wireless telecommunications antenna and related equipment on a roof of the R.E. Lee building. Those will be voted on at the next meeting.

#### **RAEDC**

Councilman Golden that RAEDC met on April 4, 2005. No reason has been given yet for the change

in determination of unemployment figures.

**CENTRAL SHENANDOAH PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Mayor Knapp reported that the commission met on Monday, April 18, 2005. He clarified that Virginia byway designation would not reduce or effect maintenance costs. Their was a preliminary report of the bicycle plan.

**ROCKBRIDGE REGIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD - No report**

**MAYOR**

The Mayor reported that a letter had been received from the mayor of Roanoke requesting support in the adoption of a resolution expressing opposition to a proposal by the Federal Aviation Administration to close the Airt Traffic Control Tower at Roanoke Regional Airport. Per a letter received from Congressman Goodlatte, cuts are not yet being considered. The Mayor will write the mayor of Roanoke and inform him that the City is aware of the problem and will pledge its support when the time comes.

The Mayor complemented the city on its coordinated efforts with W&L and VMI to host the National Conference on Undergraduate Research this week.

**CITY MANAGER**

**Consideration of Courthouse Financing Agreement**

City Manager Ellestad presented a memorandum to council outlining three changes to the Courthouse Financing Agreement with Rockbridge County. After discussion of changes, Councilman Golden moved that the agreement be approved with the removal of the sentence that prohibits the city from charging courthouse users from paying for parking. Councilman Gianniny seconded the motion and the following vote was recorded:

T.P. Golden	Aye	R.W. Smith	Aye
J.H. Page	Aye	J.E. Gianniny	Aye
L.W. Broomall	Aye	M.M. Elrod	Absent

The motion carried.

**Consideration of memorandum of understanding with VMI for the North Main Street Storm and sanitary sewer project**

City Manger Ellestad presented the memorandum and noted that the staff concurs with all aspects of the agreement except for paragraph 6 which refers to a contribution by the City. Councilman Smith questioned the cost to the city if they did the sanitary sewer project. Ellestad said it would be approximately \$95,000. City Attorney Mann noted that the last bullet concerning weekday use of the City paved parking area at Jordan’s Point should spell out that this must exclude construction equipment and materials. Councilman

Broomall moved that the memorandum be approved with the following amendments: 1) strike paragraph 6, 2) change the bullet referring to easements and land owners to be easement(s) and landowner(s), and 3) clearly state that weekday use of the paved parking lot must exclude construction equipment and materials. Councilman Gianniny seconded and the following vote was recorded:

T.P. Golden	Abstain	R.W. Smith	Aye
J.H. Page	Abstain	J.E. Gianniny	Aye
L.W. Broomall	Aye	M.M. Elrod	Absent

The motion carried.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Mann reported that the city will be hearing shortly from Columbia Gas concerning their franchising agreement.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS** - None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.