

MINUTES

The Lexington City Council held its regular meeting in the courtroom of the Lexington-Rockbridge Joint Facility on August 4, 2005.

PRESIDING: J. W. Knapp

OFFICERS: T. J. Ellestad, City Manager
L. A. Mann, City Attorney
S. Edwards, City Clerk

MEMBERS: L. W. Broomall
T. P. Golden
M. M. Elrod
R. W. Smith

ABSENT: J. E. Gianniny
J. H. Page

There were six people present.

PUBLIC HEARING

To receive public comment on an application by Charlene Worley for a large capacity house conditional use permit at 8 Houston Street

Mr. Blatter explained that the current zoning limits the occupancy to three unrelated individuals to occupy a single family dwelling. These requests are being made to increase the number of occupants to five. It was further noted that this particular house is seen as a very positive house.

To receive public comment on an application by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bear for a large capacity house conditional use permit at 427 West Nelson Street

No comment

To receive public comment on an application by John Blackburn for a large capacity house conditional use permit at 110 Henry Street

It was noted that John Blackburn was available to answer any questions. No comment

To receive public comment on an application by John Blackburn for a large capacity house conditional use permit at 108 Henry Street

No comment

To receive public comment on an application by John Blackburn for a large

capacity house conditional use permit at 101 North Randolph Street

No comment

To receive public comment on an application by Tim and Janeen Welsh for a large capacity house conditional use permit at 456 Lime Kiln Road

No comment

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Knapp called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. and he delivered the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

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

CITIZENS' REMARKS AND COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

None

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

City Council Committees

FINANCE COMMITTEE - No report

PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE - No report

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SERVICES COMMITTEE - No report

Boards and Commissions

PLANNING COMMISSION

Consideration of large capacity house conditional use permit for 8 Houston Street, 427 W. Nelson Street, 110 Henry Street, 108 Henry Street, 101 N. Randolph Street and 456 Lime Kiln Road

Councilman Smith noted that the Planning Commission has spent considerable time in reviewing and establishing guidelines for these requests. In the past, five-year conditional use

permits have been issued; however, these will be issued as two-year permits due to problems experienced over the past few years. He further noted that they have changed inspection practices, particularly on the parking of residents. The neighboring church on Henry Street is particularly concerned with the houses on this street. All of these houses will have the same conditions attached to them. Councilman Golden noted that the Bear request should read six instead of five occupants. It was also noted that the Lime Kiln property had changed hands and appears to have better control over the property. Mayor Knapp asked about the rental inspection and it was noted by Mr. Bill Blatter that the ordinance has not yet been developed. Councilwoman Elrod raised a concern about noise at these properties. Mr. Blatter explained that there will be a procedure in place to ensure that complaints are heard. Mr. Blackburn addressed Council and explained how his active management plan is intended to work for his properties. Councilman Smith then moved that the two-year conditional use permits be granted. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Elrod.

ROLL CALL

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

RAEDC

Consideration of \$9,900 commitment for rail access for the Regional Industrial Park

Councilman Golden noted that the committee met on July 12 and elected Steve Jewell as Chairman and Mike Gibson as Vice Chairman. He noted the following unemployment figures in the area for April and May:

	April	May
Buena Vista	3.3%	3.6%
Lexington	4.0%	4.3%
Rockbridge County	3.0%	3.1%

They discussed the MeadWestvaco venture. It was noted that a rezoning was necessary for a portion of the property. David Kleppinger, Executive Director of Rockbridge Partnership, discussed details related to land use and costs by MeadWestvaco. He asked Council for a commitment to provide \$9,900 for its share of a rail access grant application for the Regional Industrial Park. Councilwoman Elrod asked the question if they should wait until after zoning on the property was approved. It was noted that they were only seeking a commitment to file application. Elrod also voiced concern about pollution and truck usage. Mr. Kleppinger noted that the use of rail is to help minimize use of trucks. Mayor Knapp questioned when the money would be needed and Mr. Kleppinger stated that it would probably be in the next fiscal year and noted that construction is scheduled to start November 1, 2005. Councilman Golden reiterated need for a rail component and expressed the desire to encourage use of rail. Councilman Golden made the motion for the City to move to commit up to \$9,900 to fund their portion of the grant request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Broomall.

ROLL CALL

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

CENTRAL SHENANDOAH PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION - No report

ROCKBRIDGE REGIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD - No report

MAYOR

Recognized Sharon Edwards as the new clerk and thanked Cindy Irby for all of her work for the city while serving as the assistant clerk. He also requested permission from Council to write a letter to the Greyhound bus company expressing concern over the recent action to remove bus service to this area. It was further noted that the flags seen downtown today in the city are being flown for Kappa Alpha in conjunction with their convention in Roanoke this weekend. On Saturday afternoon Kappa Alpha will hold a dedication ceremony for their property on Mulberry Hill which houses their offices. Mayor Knapp read a Proclamation which he will present at the dedication.

CITY MANAGER

Consideration of approval of Lexington Volunteer Fire Department officers for FY 2006

Chief David Clark	Chief Of Fire Police - Charlie Conner
1 st Asst. Chief - Chad Conner	Chief Engineer - Ronnie Williams
2 nd Asst. Chief - Jimmy Swink	Secretary - Eddie Ruley
1 st Lieutenant - Junior Southers	Treasurer - Butch Hall
2 nd Lieutenant - Robert Foresman	Chaplin - Arthur Wallace

Upon motion of Councilman Broomall and seconded by Councilman Smith it was recommended that the officers be approved as presented. The following vote was recorded:

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

City Manager Ellestad noted that Rockbridge County is involved in a study of their emergency fire and rescue services. His suggestion is to show our interest to Rockbridge County in participating financially in this study. Council agreed with his request.

An item not listed on the agenda but noted by City Manager Ellestad is that VMI would

like to meet and talk about future development projects. They would like to make a presentation about changes to their Master Plan. It was agreed that Council would meet with VMI officials an hour before the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting on September 1, 2005.

CITY ATTORNEY

The ARB will meet on September 1st and September 15th to see the architect's scale drawings, lighting plans, landscaping plans and signage drawings as well as sample of materials for the Court House. He further noted that he is continuing his work on updating the city codes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.