

MINUTES

The Lexington City Council held its regular meeting in the Rockbridge Court Facility on April 20, 2006.

PRESIDING: J. W. Knapp

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

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

There were twelve people present.

PUBLIC HEARING

To receive public input on the proposed FY 2007 operating budget.

Lawrence Goodall, 4 Edmondson Avenue, representing the Rockbridge Regional Library thanked Council for their support to the library in the proposed budget.

To receive public input on Ordinance 2006-3 repealing and reenacting Chapter 25.1, Trees.

No comments

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Knapp called the meeting to order at 8:10 pm and delivered the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Elrod noted that Aubrey Shinofield was not present at the April 6th meeting as noted in the minutes. She requested that Mrs. Shinofield's name be deleted from the final minutes.

Councilman Golden requested that under the RAEDC report, the word Committee be changed to Commission in the final minutes.

Upon motion of Councilman Gianniny, seconded by Councilman Golden, the minutes were approved with the noted changes. The following vote was recorded.

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

The motion carried.

CITIZENS' REMARKS AND COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Presentation of Tree City USA Award

Betty Besal, City Arborist, accompanied by Jackie Hutchings, Chris Wise, Trina Welsheimer and Karen Stanley, presented to the Mayor and Council the 6th Year Tree City USA award. She also noted that Lexington will also be receiving a growth award this year.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

City Council Committees

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council Broomall reported that the Committee had not met.

PHYSICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councilman Gianniny reported that this Committee had not met. He further noted that after the budget process is completed it will be necessary for this Committee to schedule a meeting to continue the discussion on traffic calming.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Elrod reported that this Committee had not met. They did set a meeting for May 9, at 4:30 pm in City Hall.

Boards and Commissions

PLANNING COMMISSION

Councilman Smith reported that this Commission has met and that Bill Blatter will give the report.

Bill Blatter reported that there were several action items at the last Planning Commission

meeting. They were:

1. Renewal of a Conditional Use Permit for the Museum of Military Memorabilia on Main Street. This will be on the City Council Agenda for the May 4th meeting.
2. Proposal to subdivide three lots along Sarah's Run. This is scheduled to come to Council on the May 4th Agenda.
3. An 18 month extension was recommended for the Conditional Use Permit for the modular units at Washington and Lee University. This is scheduled to come to Council on the May 4th Agenda.
4. Reviewed the site plan for the new sorority parking lot at Washington and Lee University. Planning Commission will meet on the site before the next scheduled meeting.
5. I-81 entrance corridor was discussed. The Planning Commission did take a stand on this issue and recommended that Council also do so.

Council further discussed the letter that was handed out at the meeting from the Planning Commission. Councilwoman Elrod made the motion that Council sign a joint letter with the Planning Commission on this issue. Councilman Broomall seconded this motion. The following vote was recorded.

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

The motion carried. Councilwoman Elrod noted that she would like to discuss the language in the letter before the final document is signed.

RAEDC

Councilman Golden reported that this Commission met on April 11th. He noted that under the local industry update that Modine and DesChamps are hiring and no layoffs are reported at Dana.

Unemployment rates for the area were reported for the month of February as follows:

Lexington	3.8%
Buena Vista	3.6%
Rockbridge Co.	3.1%

The area average was 3.3% which was the same as the State average and the National

average was 5.1%.

Councilman Golden also noted that it was reported that there had been a presentation by Washington and Lee University and Dabney Lancaster to the business community about English as a second language program and how this is being supported.

It was also noted that Stillwater at Goshen is the only industrial building in the Rockbridge area that is not occupied at this time.

Councilman Golden also reminded Council members about the IDA dinner that is to be held at Natural Bridge Hotel.

CENTRAL SHENANDOAH PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Mayor Knapp reported that the full commission had not met but that the Executive Committee had met to review applications.

Mayor Knapp also talked about the correspondence that had recently been distributed to Council from Bonnie Riedesel about the Bicycle Plan. After some discussion it was felt that Council should set up a meeting with Ms. Riedesel and the City representative, Debbie Desjardins, to discuss this information.

REGIONAL TOURISM BOARD

Councilman Page reported that this Board had not met.

He did, however, remind Council that the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Tour will be in the area at the end of April.

It was also noted that Jean Clark is in Williamsburg attending the first session of Lead Virginia. Councilwoman Elrod gave an overview of what the participants in the Lead Virginia group can expect during their trip to the Shenandoah Valley in June. It was also noted that the Mayor will be riding the bus when this group travels from Staunton to Lexington.

MAYOR

Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Knapp read from a prepared proclamation stating that April 18 - 25, 2006 was being declared as Arbor Week in the City of Lexington.

Appointment to Cemetery Advisory Board

No recommendations were presented.

Mayor Knapp thanked Councilman Golden for filling in as Vice Mayor in his absence at the last Council meeting. He also gave a brief summary of his recent trip to England. He also informed Council that he had attended the Environmental Conference and had talked with the Governor.

CITY MANAGER

Consideration of Ordinance 2006-3, repealing and reenacting Chapter 25.1, Trees

Upon motion of Councilman Gianniny, seconded by Councilman Broomall, it was recommended that Ordinance 2006-3 be approved. The following vote was recorded.

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

The motion carried.

(Include in Final Minutes)

Councilman Gianniny thanked Betty Besal and members of the Tree Commission for their work on this Ordinance.

Consideration of Resolution 2006-02 setting the personal property tax relief rate at 60%.

City Manager Ellestad reviewed this resolution with Council. City Treasurer, Pat DeLaney and Commissioner of Revenue, Karen Roundy also contributed to the discussion. Upon motion of Councilman Gianniny, seconded by Councilman Broomall, it was moved that Resolution 2006-02 be adopted. The following vote was recorded.

ROLL CALL

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

The motion carried.

(Include in Final Minutes)

CITY ATTORNEY

No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No report. Council members reviewed their calendars for upcoming meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.