

MINUTES
LEXINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
JANUARY 24, 2006

Lexington County Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 24, 2006 in Council Chambers, beginning at 4:30 p.m. Mr. Cullum presided; Mr. Kinard gave the invocation; Mr. Derrick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members attending:	M. Todd Cullum	James E. Kinard, Jr.
	William C. Billy Derrick	George H. Smokey Davis
	Debra B. Summers	Bobby C. Keisler
	Johnny W. Jeffcoat	John W. Carrigg, Jr.
	Joseph W. Owens	

Also attending: Art Brooks, County Administrator; Larry Porth; Finance Director/Deputy County Administrator; Katherine Doucett, Personnel Director/Deputy County Administrator; John Fechtel, Director of Public Works/Deputy County Administrator; Jeff Anderson, County Attorney; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

Employee Recognition - Art Brooks, County Administrator - Employee of the Quarter - Nominees for the Fourth Quarter - Captain Clark Rowe, Sheriff's Department; Randy Munsch and Todd Dunkerley, Information Services.

Mr. Brooks presented a plaque to Mr. Munsch as the Employee of the Fourth Quarter and a Certificate of Excellence was presented to Mr. Dunkerly. Captain Rowe was not present to receive his certificate.

Employee Banquet - Mr. Brooks announced the Employee Banquet is scheduled for Friday, April 7.

Special Recognition - Neal McLaurin - Mr. John Fechtel, Director of Public Works, recognized Neal McLaurin, Stormwater Manager, who is retiring Thursday, January 26 after 33 years of dedicated service to the County that began in 1973. Mr. Fechtel announced that a drop-in for Neal will be held at the Fire Training Center on Thursday, January 26 from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Introduction of Sheri Armstrong - Mr. Fechtel introduced Sheri Armstrong, Environmental Coordinator with Public Works, who will be assuming the position of Stormwater Manager upon Neal's retirement.

Lexington and Irmo High Schools - Government Class - Mr. Cullum recognized and welcomed students from Lexington and Irmo High Schools studying government.

Mental Illness Recovery Center, Inc. - Designation for MIRCI to Obtain Funds to Transport Persons With Disabilities Through the State Mass Transit Assistance Program - Mr. Carrigg asked that the request be placed in the Health & Human Services committee for review and discussion prior to taking action on the request.

Mr. Cullum directed staff to place the Mental Illness Recovery Center, Inc. request in the February 14th Health & Human Services committee for discussion.

Appointments - Board of Zoning Appeals - Mr. Malcolm Dennis - Mr. Carrigg made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jeffcoat to reappoint Mr. Dennis to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Cullum opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Cullum	Mr. Carrigg
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Davis
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Owens	

Assessment Appeals Board - Mr. Bill Power - On behalf of Mr. Cullum, Mr. Owens made a motion, seconded by Mr. Keisler to reappoint Mr. Power to the Assessment Appeals Board.

Mr. Cullum opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Cullum	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Davis
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Jeffcoat
	Mr. Carrigg	

Chairman's Report - Mr. Cullum reported he has been quite busy these past few days. On January 12, he and several Council members attended the announcement of the relocation of the Columbia Inferno Hockey Team to Lexington County. Council members in attendance were: Councilmen Jeffcoat, Owens, Keisler, Kinard, Davis and Councilwoman Summers. On Wednesday, January 18 attended the 11th Circuit South Carolina Law Enforcement Network meeting; Friday, January 20 attended the County's first Boards and Commissions dinner recognizing individuals who volunteer their time and expertise assisting the County, and Monday, January 23 attended the Lexington County Law Enforcement Officers' Association meeting.

Resolution to the Lexington County Delegation - Mr. Cullum asked Council to consider adopting a resolution to be sent to the Lexington County Delegation that County Council wants to adopt the

position that South Carolina Association of Counties has formulated for 2006 that deal primarily with property tax relief, changing the law of impact fees, land/use growth policies, and the use of capital sales tax.

Mr. Owens made a motion, seconded by Mr. Derrick to assemble a resolution to be sent to the Lexington County Delegation that County Council wants to adopt the position that South Carolina Association of Counties has formulated for 2006 on certain issues dealing with property tax relief, impact fees, land/use growth policies, and the use of capital sales tax.

Mr. Cullum opened the meeting for discussion.

Mr. Carrigg asked, what is the resolution for?

Mr. Cullum responded the resolution would take the policy positions that the Association of Counties has formulated through the association's committees and would highlight primarily property tax relief, changing of the state law of impact fees, some of the policies they have in land use and growth policies, and the possibility of the use of capital sales tax. He said Council is not voting on the resolution tonight, but simply asking staff to assemble a resolution to be sent to the Lexington County Delegation for consideration.

Mr. Cullum called for further discussion on the motion; none occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Cullum	Mr. Owens
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Davis	Ms. Summers
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Jeffcoat
	Mr. Carrigg	

Senate Bill S.1022 - School Tax Millage Operating Cost - Mr. Cullum stated Senate Bill S.1022 has been filed that calls beginning with the year 2006, school tax millage for operating purposes set by the Boards of Trustees of Lexington Council School Districts One, Two, Three, and Four for their respective districts must be first approved by Lexington County Council and asked if Council wanted to take up the issue at this time or let it run its normal course.

Mr. Derrick recommended and Council agreed to let the debate continue with regard to school funding and take no position on who has fiscal autonomy at this time.

Administrator's Report - DHEC Waste Tire Grant - Mr. Brooks stated the County was just made aware that additional funding may be available from the DHEC Waste Tire grant and asked due to time constraints, that Council approve the request to move forward with the grant application for an additional \$88,400. It is a 100 percent grant.

Mr. Derrick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Owens that staff move forward with the DHEC Waste Tire grant application for an additional \$88,400 in funding.

Mr. Cullum opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Cullum	Mr. Derrick
	Mr. Owens	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Davis	Ms. Summers
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Carrigg

Abstaining: Mr. Jeffcoat

Assistance to Greenville County - Mr. Brooks stated that Greenville County was granted a Presidential Declaration (which was discussed on January 10) for their ice storm damage. However, due to their employees working overtime, Greenville County feels that they can complete the cleanup and thanked the County for being ready and available to assist.

Committee Report - Health & Human Services, J. Carrigg, Jr., Chairman - FY2006 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant Application - Ms. Summers reported during the afternoon, the Health & Human Services Committee met to discuss the FY2006 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant application. Ms. Summers stated this is an annual grant that has been ongoing for approximately fifteen years that supports 50 percent of the salaries and benefits of two positions in the Emergency Management division. The 50 percent match is budgeted in the General Fund.

Ms. Summers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Keisler to allow staff to move forward with the FY2006 Local Emergency Management Performance grant application.

Mr. Cullum opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Cullum	Ms. Summers
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Derrick	Mr. Davis
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Carrigg
	Mr. Owens	

Budget Amendment Resolution - A budget amendment resolution in the amount of \$45,355 was distributed and signed to appropriate funds from the Friends of Lexington County Museum for the restoration of the Leaphart/Harmon House that includes exterior painting, electrical installation, stairway handrail installation, construction of end chimney, and heating and cooling systems.

Executive Session/Legal Briefing - A motion was made by Mr. Owens and seconded by Ms. Summers that Council go into executive session to discuss five contractual matters, two personnel issues, and one legal matter.

In Favor:	Mr. Cullum	Mr. Owens
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Kinard

Mr. Derrick	Mr. Davis
Mr. Keisler	Mr. Jeffcoat
Mr. Carrigg	

Messrs. Jeffcoat and Carrigg left prior to the end of Executive Session.

Mr. Cullum reconvened the meeting in open session.

Matters Requiring a Vote as a Result of Executive Session - Chairman Cullum reported Council received the legal briefing, discussed contractual and personnel matters, and reported one motion was to be considered.

Legal Closing of a Portion of Taylor Road - Mr. Derrick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Owens that County Council agrees to the legal closing of a portion of Taylor Road from 12th Street to Old State Road. Lexington County maintains this road for the City of Cayce and as long as they (City of Cayce) are in agreement, we should not object. Also, staff is authorized to take any action necessary for this to proceed.

Mr. Cullum opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Cullum	Mr. Derrick
	Mr. Owens	Mr. Kinard
	Mr. Davis	Ms. Summers
	Mr. Keisler	

Not Present:	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Carrigg
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Old Business/New Business - None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk

M. Todd Cullum
Chairman