

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, the news media and the public were notified of the time, date, and place along with a copy of the agenda of this meeting and a notice was posted on the outdoor bulletin board at the Batesburg-Leesville Town Hall and the Town's website no later than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

OCTOBER 12, 2020

Mayor Shull opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 P. M. to receive citizen input on an **Ordinance to Rezone Two (2) Parcels of Property Located at 301 West Church Street (TMS #005920-005-004) and 305 West Church Street (TMS #005920-05-001 from R-3, Multi-Family Residential, to C2, Office and Institutional Commercial.** Since no one appeared before Council, Mayor Shull closed the Public Hearing at 7:00 P.M.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Batesburg-Leesville, held in Building B of the Town Hall Complex, was called to order by Mayor Shull at 7:00 P. M. Members present were Mayor Shull, Council Member Etheredge, Gambrell, Lemon, Mitchell, Wise, Prouse, and Hall. Council Member Cain arrived at 7:04 P. M.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Pastor Kent Suits.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Council Member Gambrell.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Wise to approve the agenda. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

***Council Member Cain arrived after the vote was taken.*

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Hall to adopt the minutes from the September 14, 2020 Regular Council Meeting. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Shull reported the next Council Meeting would be November 9, 2020.

CENTRAL MIDLANDS COG – Council Member Hall

Council Member Hall reported on the CMCOG meeting held via zoom on Thursday, September 24, 2020.

- All items on the August meeting were adopted for which there was not a quorum.
- The annual budget was for \$13,678,241 with expenditures being \$14,093,724.93. These numbers can be misleading since the routine budget was under and Contracted Services was approximately \$1,800,000. This is for Ageing and Midlands Workforce Development programs.
- As stated in the report on the August Meeting, the majority of the Consent Agenda was for the transfer of funds to the Comet System.
- The regular agenda items which were budgeting of additional funds for Consultant Services to solicit more public involvement (\$60,000) and to provide a retainer for possible translator services (\$30,000). Verbal report indicated that persons using more than 20 different languages reside with the COG

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE Council Member Prouse

Council Member Prouse reported there was no meeting during the month of September but there is a meeting scheduled for October 21st.

THE COMET ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Council Member Cain

Council Member Cain stated The Comet constantly meets. Stated he has been appointed to the Finance Committee for Comet and at some point, we need to have a work session relating to the bus system with dedicated lines going to Midlands Technical College, Lexington Medical Center, and to Michelin. Previously, we did a lot of work and had a lot of studies but Council never made a financial commitment on the bus system and asks Council to consider these dedicated lines.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER COMMISSION – Mayor Shull

Mayor Shull reported the Commission did not meet and the next meeting is Wednesday the 14th.

B-L CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Mike Taylor, President

Reported the two events that was postponed due to COVID-19 was held recently. The annual golf tournament, which was postponed from May until September 18th was postponed again to September 25th due to rain. The annual auction was postponed from August 22nd until last Thursday, October 8th. Stated the Chamber is most appreciative of everyone's support at both events.

On the Table was brought to the Midlands by Central Carolina Community Foundation in 2019 because they believe it takes all of us to build a strong community. They feel that each voice in our community matters and that people who feel connected are happier citizens who make their communities better. Stated he was fortunate to be involved last year at one in Lexington and this year was asked to host one in Batesburg-Leesville, which was last Tuesday. A cross section of our community was present. Some of the questions asked were: (1.) What would you say if you were bragging about this area? What do we do well? How can we use those things to strengthen our community? (2.) What are your hopes for our community, now and in the long term? (3.) What are the top needs of our community? How can we individually or collectively address those needs? (4.) How can we use these conversations to bring colleagues, friends, and neighbors together to lead change and create a more livable, equitable and just region? After the meeting everyone wanted to continue to meet.

B-L CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CONT'D.

Reported Lexington County has begun a comprehensive planning process for the county where citizens will be able to take a survey and attend a Zoom meeting. There are seven Zoom meetings to take place between October 19th and October 22nd, one for each area of the county. Our area Zoom meeting will take place on Monday, October 19th from 9-10 A. M. and to register citizens can go to www.growwithuslexco.com to register.

Some numbers that I became aware of today and thought you might find interesting. Lexington County EMS responded to and transported 8, 528 calls from January to September 2020 in an area west of Longs Pond Road and South of Hwy. 378 in the South Western portion of Lexington County.

COVID-19 numbers for 29054, 29070, and 29006 were 12-15 from April 24th until June where they jumped between 40-60; July they jumped into the 160's; dropped in September and are picking back up.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Second Reading on an Ordinance to Rezone Two (2) Parcels of Property Located at 301 West Church Street (TMS #005920-005-004) and 305 West Church Street (TMS #005920-05-001 from R-3, Multi-Family Residential, to C2, Office and Institutional Commercial was held. A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Etheredge to approve. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 7 Approved 2 Denied – Council Member Cain, Hall

NEW BUSINESS

A. First Reading on an Ordinance to Rezone a Parcel of Property Located Along West Columbia Ave. (TMS#007025-01-002) from R-3, Multi-Family Residential, to C-2, Office and Institutional Commercial was held.

A. NEW BUSINESS CONT'D.

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Hall to approve. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

B. Approval of Funds for the Purchase of Floating Aeration Equipment Relating to CDBG Funded Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Wise to approve. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

C. Approval of Funds to Relocate Section of Water Line Along Devils Backbone Road Relating to Hwy. #378 Widening. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Hall to approve. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

D. Approval of Hospitality Tax Funds to Repaint Parking in Both Downtown Districts. A motion was made by Council Member Lemon with a second by Council Member Gambrell to approve. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

E. Discussion Regarding Shirley Street in Council District 3. Discussion was held and was decided to include this in a Work Session in order to get into more details about the street.

MANAGER'S REPORT – Ted Luckadoo

CENSUS 2020

- U.S. Census has announced that door to door data collection will begin on August 11, 2020 in South Carolina. They have also announced that the Census collection will end on September 30th.
- As of 10/8/20, here are the updated statistics for Census 2020:
 - National Response – 66.8% (Up from 65.7% last meeting)
 - South Carolina – 60.8% (Up from 59.7%) (42 out of 52 States)
 - Lexington County – 68.1% (Up from 66.8%) (4th out of 46 counties)
 - Saluda County – 49.3% (Up from 48.2%) (39th out of 46 counties)

MANAGER'S REPORT CONT'D.

Batesburg-Leesville – 59.4% (Up from 58.6%) (76 out of 271 cities/towns)

- Batesburg-Leesville – 68% (2010 total response % for the Town)

CDBG HOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- This Thursday, October 15th, we will be hosting at Town Hall, 2 information sessions regarding the Lexington County CDBG “Minor Home Repair” and “Comprehensive Housing Rehabilitation” programs, which are available for lower income residents who need work performed on their owner-occupied residences.
- The first session will begin at 3:00pm and the second session will be at 6:00pm. Sandy Fox from Lexington County CDBG will provide information on the two programs to those in attendance. She will answer questions and discuss the process/procedures.
- The Minor Home repair program offers awards of up to \$13,999 while the Comprehensive program goes up to \$25,000. Minor home repair can go towards roof or HVAC, window replacement, porch or stair repairs, etc. The comprehensive program would bring a home up to code.

NOVEMBER ELECTION LEESVILLE PRECINCT LOCATION CHANGE

- Leesville United Methodist Church and the Lexington County Election Office have confirmed that voting for the upcoming November election will be held at LUMC for the Leesville precinct and not at the cafeteria at Leesville College Park. They will be publicizing and notifying voters that vote at that precinct. As for the Leisure Center, they are relocating the voting area at the center from the back room to the gym for more space.

SC CARES ACT REQUESTED REIMBURSEMENT

- From the SC Cares Act reimbursement, we submitted, we have been approved and received the following requests:
 - Salary Reimbursement - \$11,014.59
 - Telework Capability - \$1,409.25
 - Supplies/Equipment - \$1,729

- We have been approved and are awaiting the reimbursement for:
 - Other Supplies/Equipment - \$1,133.11
- We are still awaiting approval for Paid Sick or Medical Leave - \$8,121.51

LEXINGTON COUNTY PROPOSED STORMWATER UTILITY FEE

- A reminder to Council that Lexington County will be holding a virtual meeting this Thursday from 10 – 12pm to discuss the proposed county stormwater utility fee. As a
- reminder that we submitted a number of projects for consideration if this is approved by Lexington County.
- Council members should have received the fact sheet that Ms. Sheri Armstrong sent out.
- Staff will be attending the virtual meeting as well.

LEXINGTON COUNTY “Grow With Us” Planning

- Lexington County has begun a “Grow With Us” Planning process. As a part of this planning process, they are asking for people to go to their website and share what you think is important for the county to be considering in the future.
- Citizen and interested people can go to Lexington County’s website and click on the “Grow with Us” icon and from there find information on how to take part in the process.
- We are in District 7 and there will be a virtual meeting for our area on October 19th from 9-10 am for those interested in taking part. They will talk about the process and receive feedback about the future of Lexington County.

PROJECT UPDATES

- The Police Department roof re-coating was performed last week. It took the contractors about 4 days to complete.
- Contractors for the Brodie Pump Station project are expected to be on-site sometime this week or no later than next week to finalize the rest of this project. We did receive \$96,700 in reimbursement from Lexington County last week on expenses that we had paid to date for this project.
- We are planning to move forward with the bidding of the Floating Aeration and headworks projects at the WWTP the week of October 26th. We will have a 30 day bid period on this. Once bids are received, we will bring to Council for approval.
- We are planning to have a Council work session soon to have Summit Engineering update Council on their recommended updates and changes to the Town’s Fat, Oils and Grease program. They will discuss what the changes would mean to current restaurants/businesses and what it would mean for new restaurants coming in the future. Right now, they are dealing with some COVID-19 cases and we will certainly wait for that to clear prior to scheduling the work session.

MANAGER'S UPDATE CONT'D.

TOWN FINANCIAL/BUDGET UPDATE

Monthly Account Balances for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

	Sep-20	Aug-20	Jul-20
General Fund Checking	\$ 1,464,391.88	\$ 1,587,048.12	\$ 1,773,743.00
General Fund Savings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Police Donations	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 4,655.06
Fire Department 1%	\$ 26,629.34	\$ 17,581.74	\$ 14,740.23
Municipal Court	\$ 31,459.27	\$ 32,906.28	\$ 32,584.93
Victims Assistance	\$ 1,359.56	\$ 1,073.76	\$ 714.00
Total (Non-Utility Funds)	\$ 1,528,995.11	\$ 1,643,764.96	\$ 1,826,437.22
Utility Fund Checking	\$ 240,621.22	\$ 149,392.83	\$ 92,722.75
Utility Fund Reserve	\$ 767,756.97	\$ 767,725.47	\$ 767,683.46
Capital Improvement Project/Impact	\$ 1,517,168.04	\$ 1,520,775.86	\$ 1,483,730.95
USDA Debt Service Reserve	\$ 564,754.97	\$ 564,731.85	\$ 564,700.97
USDA Depreciation	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00
Senior Assistance	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00
Total (All Utility Funds)	\$ 3,090,306.20	\$ 3,002,631.01	\$ 2,908,843.13
Hospitality Tax Checking	\$ 806,007.87	\$ 761,699.34	\$ 731,740.64
Total All Funds	\$ 5,425,309.18	\$ 5,408,095.31	\$ 5,467,020.99

Monthly Account Balances for September Since 2014

	Sep-20	Sep-19	Sep-18	Sep-17	Sep-16	Sep-15	Sep-14
General Fund Checking	\$ 1,464,391.88	\$ 1,146,304.31	\$ 1,319,989.38	\$ 1,345,242.52	\$ 1,194,091.20	\$ 1,092,133.40	\$ 1,029,111.13
General Fund Savings	\$ -	\$ 37,351.55	\$ 37,351.55	\$ 37,351.55	\$ 43,401.55	\$ 43,401.55	\$ 154,645.07
Police Donations	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 12,308.00	\$ 7,694.07	\$ 6,696.68	\$ 7,766.10	\$ 13,532.71	\$ 11,319.80
Fire Department 1%	\$ 26,629.34	\$ 22,561.19	\$ 22,471.47	\$ 19,751.37	\$ 23,311.49	\$ 20,509.19	\$ 17,147.88
Municipal Court	\$ 31,459.27	\$ 32,781.62	\$ 30,362.14	\$ 34,931.75	\$ 39,726.43	\$ 29,722.92	\$ 31,645.96
Victims Assistance	\$ 1,359.56	\$ 566.49	\$ 89.18	\$ 175.48	\$ 351.77	\$ 164.35	\$ 261.65
Total (Non-Utility Funds)	\$ 1,528,995.11	\$ 1,251,873.16	\$ 1,417,957.79	\$ 1,444,149.35	\$ 1,308,648.54	\$ 1,199,464.12	\$ 1,244,131.49
Utility Fund Checking	\$ 240,621.22	\$ 268,728.32	\$ 356,674.03	\$ 523,876.31	\$ 456,008.47	\$ 191,589.87	\$ 67,568.64
Utility Fund Reserve	\$ 767,756.97	\$ 764,173.45	\$ 758,084.10	\$ 1,074,613.98	\$ 675,638.85	\$ 832,477.17	\$ 518,208.86
Capital Improvement Project/Impact	\$ 1,517,168.04	\$ 1,322,247.90	\$ 929,859.28	\$ 70,114.72	\$ 45,040.72	\$ 11,907.72	\$ 3,880.72
USDA Debt Service Reserve	\$ 564,754.97	\$ 562,119.27	\$ 557,639.78	\$ 231,081.00	\$ 231,081.00	\$ 231,080.00	\$ 231,080.00
USDA Depreciation	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -	\$ -
Senior Assistance	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 1,859.25	\$ 778.78	\$ 1,498.79	\$ 2,366.49	\$ 587.27
Total (All Utility Funds)	\$ 3,090,306.20	\$ 2,917,273.94	\$ 2,604,119.44	\$ 1,900,465.79	\$ 1,409,268.83	\$ 1,269,421.25	\$ 821,325.49
Hospitality Tax Checking	\$ 806,007.87	\$ 384,621.45					
Total All Funds	\$ 5,425,309.18	\$ 4,553,768.55	\$ 4,022,077.23	\$ 3,344,615.14	\$ 2,717,917.37	\$ 2,468,885.37	\$ 2,065,456.98

EXECUTIVE SESSION CONT'D.

Return to Council Meeting

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Gambrell to return to the Regular Council Meeting at 8:08 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

POSSIBLE ACTIONS BY COUNCIL IN FOLLOW UP TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Possible Action Relating to Contractual Matter Regarding Town Hall Roof

A motion was made by Council Member Lemon with a second by Council Member Etheredge to award the contract to Watts and Associates to perform roof replacement on the Town Hall at 120 West Church Street, Suite A, for the price of \$35,900. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

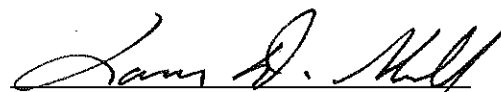
POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S MEETING – November 9, 2020

ADJOURNMENT


A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Etheredge to adjourn at 8:10 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

Vote: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Approved this 9th day of November 2020.


Lancer D. Shull, Mayor

ATTEST:


Judy E. Edwards, Town Clerk