

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LEXINGTON CITY COUNCIL

August 29, 2014

The special meeting of the Lexington City Council was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Mayor John Mohr in the City Council Chambers at Lexington City Hall.

Roll call was taken to find the following physically present: Mayor Mohr, Alderman Cole, Alderman Johansen, Alderman Miller, Alderman Phelps, Alderman Fosen and Alderman Revelle. Members of the staff and public present were: Melanie Kunkel.

Old Business:

Council Remote Participation - All six Aldermen were present. No action was taken.

School Funding Resolution – Mayor Mohr introduced a draft of Resolution 2014-4 authorizing a \$300,000 grant from the City’s General Fund reserves and payable to Lexington CUSD #7. The grant is intended to compliment community fund raising for deficit reduction and to postpone a property tax referendum that is planned for the November 4, 2014 General Election by the school board. There was unanimous support for helping the school. There were much discussion about cost saving ideas that the school district might consider. Many of these ideas have been acknowledged by the school board in their public presentations. Alderman Johansen offered an idea that had not been previously heard – that is to use a portion of the City’s grant to hire a consultant to review the school’s finances and to look for more economies and efficiencies. While the idea has merit, the Council accepted that decisions had to happen on a faster timeline and before the General Election ballots are printed in mid-September. The Council also accepted that the school administration and school board members must acknowledge how serious their financial condition is and take ownership in the solutions. Alderman Fosen suggested a change to the draft resolution. The change effectively divided the City contribution into two installments. The first \$150,000 installment would not require any further action by the City Council. The second \$150,000 installment would only be fulfilled after the City Council was given an opportunity to review the school districts deficit reduction plan. Discussion on the change was favorable. Alderman Fosen moved to accept Resolution 2014-4 noting the two \$150,000 installments and the City Council review of the school’s deficit reduction plan. The motion received a second by Paul Miller. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote. A copy of Resolution 2014-4 is attached to these minutes.

There being no further business, it was moved by Alderman Miller and seconded by Alderman Johansen to adjourn at 5:45 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

John Mohr, Mayor

Approved: 9/8/2014

