

**Newberry County Council
Economic Development Committee**

MEETING MINUTES

**September 24th, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

Courthouse Annex Conference Room

Present: Steve Stockman, Committee Chairman
Henry H. Livingston, III, Council Chairman
Dr. Harriett Rucker, Committee Member

Others: Rick Farmer, Economic Development Director
Kara Cannon, Economic Development Specialist
Jay Tothacer, County Attorney

Media: None Present

1. Call to Order

Mr. Stockman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Additions, Deletion, & Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Farmer made one correction to the agenda, correcting the date of the previous meeting's minutes to be approved from June 26th to June 27th. Dr. Rucker made a motion to approve the agenda addition. Mr. Livingston seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

3. Approval of the June 27th, Minutes

Dr. Rucker made a motion to approve the June 27th, 2018 meeting minutes as written, and Mr. Livingston supplied the second. The vote was unanimous.

4. Public Comments

None

5. Staff Report

a. Project Activity

Mr. Farmer reported that project activity has picked up. We have received 7 new projects in the last quarter.

b. Product Development

Mr. Farmer reported that the Mid-Carolina Commerce Park recertification is nearly complete.

Mr. Farmer stated that the I-26 Mega Site options have expired, as well as, the site certification. The South Carolina Department of Commerce was working on renewing options, but was not successful and has since moved on.

c. Prospect Development

Mr. Farmer spoke on some near future marketing efforts, to include: marketing the planned speculative building and a new executive summary. We were previously working with the CentralSC Alliance on new flyers for the MCCP but have decided to delay while plans are underway for a new speculative building.

Mr. Farmer has met with multiple local industries during the last quarter. He reports that Samsung's phase II is nearly complete and that he facilitated an agreement between Samsung and SWM for access to the SWM Mawsons Way property.

MM Technics is now up to 20 employees and has a new press coming soon. The company will be hosting a 1-year anniversary gathering at Community Hall during Newberry's Oktoberfest on October 6th.

Komatsu has recently done some renovations to its facility and is up to 225 employees. Aqua Products is down to 7 employees but working on some new products for breweries. MacLean Power Systems continues to talk expansion, but has no solid plans, yet. SWM's MCCP location is up and running, but they plan to continue operations at the 219 Industrial Park location until December 2018. Arctichill's business continues to be strong and they're holding steady at 50 employees. Palmetto Pallet is at 18 heads, business is strong, but the company reports it's missing opportunities due to lack of capacity.

d. Other

1. Central SC Alliance Invoices (7-4052 & 7-4068)

Dr. Rucker made a motion to forward both invoices to full council for approval. Mr. Livingston supplied the second. The vote was unanimous.

2. Laurens/ Newberry Business and Industrial Showcase

The showcase is to be held on October 9th in Laurens at the Center for Manufacturing. Samsung and MM Technics will be participating, as well as, Newberry Electric Cooperative and West Electric. Mr. Farmer said Sea Pro Boats originally committed, then backed out.

3. Awards and Recognition

Newberry County recently won awards from the Southern Economic Development Council, as well as, Community Economic Development Awards for the Samsung project. Samsung and Komatsu also recently took home awards from the SC Salute to Manufacturing Conference. Samsung won the "Smart Move" award and Komatsu won the "Transformation" award.

6. Executive Session

Chairman Stockman stated that the committee would like to go into Executive Session in accordance with SC Code §30-4-70 (A) (2) and (A) (5) and with regards to current projects and potential contractual agreements. Dr. Rucker made a motion to go into Executive Session and Mr. Livingston offered the second. The vote was unanimous.

[7:19 p.m.-7:40 p.m.]

Mr. Livingston made a motion to come out of executive session, Dr. Rucker seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Farmer stated that the committee met in Executive Session and no action was taken in that session.

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m. Dr. Rucker offered the motion to adjourn, Mr. Livingston supplied the second. The vote was unanimous.

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

APPROVED:

Steve Stockman, Committee Chairman

Kara Cannon, Recorder