



**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 6, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, June 6, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a regular scheduled meeting.

PRESENT: Henry H. Livingston, III, Chairman
Steve Stockman, Councilman
Scott Cain, Councilman
Travis Reeder, Councilman
Dr. Harriett Rucker, Councilwoman
Wayne Adams, County Administrator
A.J. Tothacer, County Attorney
Laurie Renwick, Clerk to Council
Debbie Cromer, Finance Director

ABSENT: Kirksey Koon, Vice Chairman
Bill Waldrop, Councilman

MEDIA: Andrew Wigger, Newberry Observer

The meeting was duly advertised as required by law.

Travis Reeder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Adoption of Consent Agenda

Mr. Reeder motioned to adopt the consent agenda; seconded by Mr. Cain. The vote was unanimous.

2. Additions, Deletions, and Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Livingston recommended splitting agenda item 4.1 into 4.1(a) and 4.1(b) to address the solicitor's and coroner's request separately.

Dr. Rucker motioned to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Cain. The vote was unanimous.

3. *Personal Appearances*

a. Anne Skinner, Workforce Development Director

Anne Skinner, Director, updated council on the services offered to residents throughout the seven county Upper Savannah Workforce System and more specifically how they are working within Newberry County.

3.1 *Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding with Upper Savannah Workforce Area (SC Works System)*

Mr. Cain motioned to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Upper Savannah Workforce Area; seconded by Mr. Reeder. The vote is unanimous.

3.2 *Ordinance #06-08-18: An Ordinance for the purpose of leasing county property located in Newberry Square at 1840 Wilson Road in Newberry.*

Dr. Rucker motioned to approve the first reading of Ordinance #06-08-18; seconded by Mr. Reeder. The vote is unanimous.

4. *Ordinance #04-02-18: An Ordinance to provide appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, for the Newberry County budget for county ordinary purposes and for other county purposes for which the county may levy a tax and receive revenues; to provide for the levy of taxes on all taxable personal and real property in Newberry County for all county purposes, including sufficient tax to pay the principal and interest on outstanding indebtedness of Newberry County payable during said fiscal year; to provide for matters relating to Newberry County; and to provide for the expenditure of said taxes and other revenues received by the county during said fiscal year, and to provide for borrowing in anticipation of tax collections by the issuance of one or more tax anticipation notes, if necessary.*

Mr. Reeder motioned to approve third reading of Ordinance #04-02-18; seconded by Mr. Cain. The vote was unanimous.

Proposed Amendments

4.1 *Separated into 4.1(a) and 4.1(b) – See below.*

4.1(a) Consideration of additional funding for the Solicitor's Office in the amount of \$27,300.00 which will increase council's contingency line item by \$27,300.00, from \$239,341.00 to \$266,641.00, with staff making the necessary line item adjustments, and with the additional funding coming from reserves (net balance brought forward).

Dr. Rucker motioned to approve placing \$27,300.00 into council's contingency for the Solicitor's Office for budget purposes to be determined by council at a later date; seconded by Mr. Reeder. The vote was unanimous.

4.1(b) Consideration of additional funding for the Coroner in the amount of \$10,000.00 which will increase council's contingency line item by \$10,000.00, from \$266,641.00, with staff making the necessary line item adjustments, and with the additional funding coming from reserves (net balance brought forward).

Mr. Cain motioned to approve placing \$10,000.00 into council's contingency for the Coroner's Office for budget purposes to be determined by council at a later date; seconded by Mr. Stockman. The vote was unanimous.

4.2 Increase debt service levy to allow for purchasing a medium duty rescue truck for Fairview Rescue Department.

Mr. Cain motioned to approve increasing the debt service levy by approximately one-half mill to allow for servicing the amortization of \$300,000.00 over a five-year term (\$64,000.00 per year) to fund a medium duty rescue truck, with staff making the necessary line item adjustments; seconded by Mr. Stockman. The vote was unanimous.

4.3 Distribute the amount budgeted for employee salary increases (\$265,000.00, 2.5% of payroll budget) in a manner that recognizes a combination of factors (cost of living, merit pay, job duties, and market competitiveness), as prioritized by council.

Mr. Cain motioned to approve distributing the budgeted funding of \$265,000.00 for salary increases emphasizing merit at an 80% level (2% of the 2.5% total) and a combination of job duties and pay competitiveness at a 20% level (0.5% of the 2.5% total) and allow staff to distribute the associated benefit costs and make the necessary line item adjustments; seconded by Mr. Reeder. The vote was unanimous.

4.4 Determine annual salary increases for elected and appointed officials. Ordinance No. 01-01-17 provides that, "[a]t its first meeting in May of each calendar year, Newberry County Council shall decide whether and at what percentage(s) to fund increases in county-funded maximum salaries for countywide elected officials." While the ordinance does not require council to increase these salaries, they will in fact be increased automatically "at a rate equal to the consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U), as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (unadjusted) for the most

recently reported 12-month period” unless council votes otherwise. The rate of increase reported for the most recent 12-month period (March 2018) was 2.4%.

Dr. Rucker motioned to approve increasing of maximum salaries for elected and appointed officials by 2.5%; seconded by Mr. Reeder. The vote was unanimous.

- 4.5** *A budget proviso is needed to address the fact that DSS is in the process of modifying how it reimburses counties for their expenses related to housing that agency. It is anticipated that reimbursement levels will decline.*

Mr. Cain motioned to approve inserting a budget proviso that reads as follows: Council may reduce funding appropriated in support of any state mandated program or requirement, up to a percentage equal to the percentage by which the state legislature reduces its appropriation for the Local Government Fund as compared to statutory formula – 34.7% for FY 18-19; seconded by Mr. Stockman. The vote was unanimous.

Having received no further discussion, third reading of Ordinance #04-02-18 was approved as amended.

- 5.** *Ordinance #04-03-18: An Ordinance to provide appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019, for Newberry County Library, Piedmont Technical College and the Newberry Agency for Disabilities and Special Needs; to provide for the levy of taxes on all taxable personal and real estate properties in Newberry County for said purposes; to provide for the expenditure of said taxes and other revenues received by the county during said fiscal year for said purposes.*

Mr. Cain motioned to approve third reading of Ordinance #04-03-18; seconded by Dr. Rucker. The vote was unanimous.

- 6.** *Ordinance #06-07-18: An Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of the transfer of the authority for conducting municipal elections in the Town of Peak to the Newberry County Registration and Elections Commission; to define the powers, duties and responsibilities assumed by the Newberry County Registration and Elections Commission for the conduct of municipal elections in the Town of Peak; to provide for reimbursement of all costs and expenses incurred by the Newberry County Registration and Elections Commission in the conduct of such municipal elections; and to provide for other matters relating thereto.*

Mr. Cain motioned to approve the first reading of Ordinance #06-07-18; seconded by Mr. Reeder. The vote was unanimous.

7. *Ordinance #06-09-18: An Ordinance enacting and adopting 2018 S-14 Supplement to the Code of Ordinances for the County of Newberry, South Carolina.*

Mr. Cain motioned to approve the first reading of Ordinance #06-09-18; seconded by Dr. Rucker. The vote was unanimous.

8. *Consideration of bids for Magistrate Office Up-fit*

Crystal Waldrop, Purchasing Director, reported that staff received two bids for the Magistrate Office Up-Fit; RJ Dean in the amount of \$144,000.00 and MAR Construction in the amount of \$156,370.00. She said staff recommends the low bid from RJ Dean in the amount of \$144,000.00.

Mr. Reeder motioned to accept the low bid from RJ Dean in the amount of \$144,000.00; seconded by Dr. Rucker. The vote was unanimous.

9. *Appointments*

No appointments.

10. *Committee Reports*

a. *Personnel and Intergovernmental Relations 5/21/18*

Katherine Cook reported that the Personnel and Intergovernmental Relations Committee met on May 21, 2018, and the only item presented was the transfer of conducting municipal elections from the Town of Peak to the Newberry County Registration and Elections Commission which received first reading on the agenda tonight.

11. *Public Comments (by those who signed up at the meeting)*

No public comments.

12. *Executive Session*

a. *§30-4-70(a)(1) SC Code of Laws for annual evaluation of the County Administrator and Clerk to Council*

Executive Session deleted from agenda.

13. *Comments/Request from County Administrator*

No comments.

14. *Comments/Request from Council Members*

Chairman Livingston thanked the team involved with preparing the budget.

15. Future Meetings

- a. "On the Move with Margaret" 6/11/18 @ 9:00 a.m.
- b. Economic Development Committee 6/18/18 @ 7:00 p.m.
- c. County Council 6/20/18 @ 7:00 p.m.

16. Adjournment

Chairman Livingston declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Henry H. Livingston, Chairman

APPROVED:

Laurie N. Renwick, Clerk to Council