

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 1, 2021**

Newberry County Council Public Works and Planning Committee met on Monday, February 1, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a regular scheduled meeting.

Notice of the meeting was duly advertised, as required by law.

PRESENT: Johnny Mack Scurry, Chairman
Les Hipp, Council Member
Nick Shealy, Council Member
Wayne Adams, County Administrator
Debbie S. Cromer, Finance Director
Taylor Davenport, Assistant to the County Administrator
A.J. Tothacer, Jr., County Attorney

LIVE STREAM: Susan C. Fellers, Clerk to Council

1. CALL TO ORDER

Johnny Mack Scurry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2021

The meeting was turned over to Mr. Adams for election of the Chairman for 2021. The floor was opened for nominations. Mr. Hipp nominated Johnny Mack Scurry; second by Mr. Shealy. There being no other nominations, Mr. Adams closed the nominations and called for the vote. Vote was unanimous.

The meeting was turned over to Mr. Scurry.

3. Additions, Deletions and Adoption of Agenda

There being no additions or deletions to the Agenda, Mr. Shealy moved to adopt the agenda as presented; second by Mr. Hipp. Vote was unanimous.

4. Approval of February 3, 2020 Minutes

Motion by Mr. Shealy to approve the minutes, as presented; second by Mr. Hipp. Vote was unanimous.

5. Update on Planning Commission's consideration of Stewart Landing subdivision.

Mr. Tothacer advised that a preliminary sketch plan, which must meet subdivision regulations, has been submitted to the Planning Commission along with a revised preliminary plat. There was not a quorum at the last Planning Commission meeting and therefore no action could be taken. The plans have been sent to all members of the Planning Commission asking that they be prepared to vote at their February meeting.

If no action is taken within 60 days of presentation to the Planning Commission, it is assumed approved unless the developer asks for an extension. There is not a lot of leeway for staff or the Planning Commission as to approval of a subdivision development.

Once the plans are reviewed, any problems will have to be resolved before approval. Once the preliminary plans are approved, the developer can begin without bonding.

Mr. Hipp asked if there was any objection by the Planning Commission. Mr. Tothacer replied there was not and they just received it at the January meeting.

6. Discussion of the purchase of a mini-excavator for the Public Works Department.

Mr. Pisano requested approval to purchase a mini-excavator from left over funds of the 2018-2019 budget in capital expenditures. The surplus in that budget is \$58,922.29 and the bid for the excavator is \$56,708.79. Mr. Pisano

rented a mini excavator for \$800 per week for a 2 week job where they could not use their larger excavator.

Mr. Hipp felt they could rent one every week for a year and still come out cheaper than buying a mini excavator.

Mr. Shealy asked why these funds were still remaining in the 2018-2019 budget. Mr. Pisano deferred to Mrs. Cromer for explanation. Mrs. Cromer's response was inaudible.

Mr. Hipp wanted a more compelling argument that this would be a good expense. He did not feel this was good financial responsibility.

Mr. Shealy moved to forward request to full Council for consideration; second by Mr. Scurry. Motion passed by majority vote with Mr. Shealy and Mr. Scurry voting for it and Mr. Hipp opposed.

7. Executive Session

Mr. Adams said staff requests an executive session under Code Section 30-4-70(a) of the Code of Laws of SC, as amended, 1976, for (2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened or potential claim or other matters covered by attorney client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a legal claim,

Motion by Mr. Shealy to go into Executive Session; second by Mr. Hipp. Vote was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:29 P.M. - 6:37 P.M.

Mr. Adams advised that the committee met for the above stated reasons and no action was taken in Executive Session.

8. Public Comments

No comments

9. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Hipp to adjourn; second by Mr. Shealy. Mr. Scurry declared the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING**

Johnny Mack Scurry, Chairman

Susan C. Fellers, Clerk to Council

Approved: _____