

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
May 7, 2025**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 6:04 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: Robert Shealy, Chairman
Karl Sease, Vice-Chairman
Leon Fulmer Jr., Council Member (virtual)
Todd Johnson, Council Member
Travis Reeder, Council Member
Johnny Mack Scurry, Council Member
Stuart Smith, Council Member
Jeff Shacker, County Administrator
Joanie Winters, County Attorney
Karen Brehmer, Deputy County Administrator
Captain Ben Chapman, NCSO
Debbie Cromer, Finance Director
Captain Daniel Floyd, NCSO
Sheriff Lee Foster, NCSO
Eric Nieto, I.T. Director
Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council/PIO

Mr. Shealy called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Mr. Shealy led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Adoption of Consent Agenda:

- a. Newberry County Council Budget Work Session – March 25, 2025
- b. Newberry County Council Work Session – April 2, 2025.

c. Newberry County Council Meeting – April 2, 2025.

- Mr. Sease made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; Mr. Smith provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

2. Additions, Deletions & Adoption of the Agenda.

- Mr. Scurry made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented; Mr. Smith provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

3. Public Appearance:

a. Newberry County 4-H – Assistant 4-H Program Team Director Alana West and Newberry County 4-H Agent Mallory Fulmer.

- Ms. West said she served for 13 years as the county 4-H agent and built a substantial program compared to other counties; however, since she last spoke to Newberry County Council she has accepted a position of assistant director of South Carolina 4-H.
- Ms. West then introduced Newberry County Council to Ms. Fulmer, who is the new 4-H agent for Newberry County.
- Ms. Fulmer provided an update from their 4-H year, which runs August through September, so the numbers are not final. She also thanked Ms. West for her guidance.
- Ms. Fulmer said they currently have 105 youths registered in their clubs (youths enrolled in clubs or are participating in camps). Some of these clubs including shooting sports, cooking clubs, STEM clubs, and a homeschool club.
- Ms. Fulmer said one of their clubs recently installed a pollinator garden in front of their office and she thanked Ms. Debbie Cromer for helping them to get approval to put the garden in.
- Their totals for the school enrichment program (when she pushes in to schools, including school gardens, embryology, and greenhouse projects) that total is 1,431 youths.

- Their total independent club members (those doing independent projects at home) are a total of 20 youths.
- Newberry County 4-H has a total of 67 volunteers that assist.
- In total, Newberry County 4-H participation is 1,528 people.
- Some clubs that may be included next year include a teen council, a sewing club and a livestock club.
- Mr. Sease shared he was at the ribbon cutting for the garden and shared the thank you cards Newberry County Government received. Ms. West invited council to stop by their office and check out the garden.

4. Recognitions:

a. Timothy Hueble	20 years	Sheriff's Office
b. Jeffrey Martin	25 years/Retirement	Facilities
c. Donnie Lietzsey	Retirement	Public Works

- Mr. Shacker recognized Mr. Hueble and Mr. Martin for their service to Newberry County, highlighting their accomplishments and pivotal moments while working for Newberry County. He further announced that Mr. Lietzsey will be recognized at a future meeting.

5. Proclamation recognizing Correctional Officers and Employees Week in Newberry County.

- Mr. Johnson made a motion to accept the Proclamation; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

6. Proclamation recognizing Emergency Medical Services Week in Newberry County.

- Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the Proclamation; Mr. Sease provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

7. Proclamation recognizing Peace Officers Memorial Week in Newberry County.

- Mr. Johnson made a motion to accept the Proclamation; Mr. Smith provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

8. Proclamation recognizing Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Newberry County.

- Mr. Reeder made a motion to accept the Proclamation; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Sheriff Foster thanked Newberry County Council for recognizing each one of the disciplines that work in public safety. He said it is a lot that those in public safety do, but there is a lot of tasks people do not see, they do not see the dispatchers, they do not see the corrections officers. He said it is a team effort.
- Sheriff Foster said two months ago, the legislature passed the Law Enforcement Improvement Act which is trying to make law enforcement in the public safety segment more professional and accountable and as a result, each agency has a minimum of nine things they have to do. Captain Pete Johnson headed that up for the NCSO and Sheriff Foster said it sounded easy on the front end, but when you got into the meat of it, it was a lot more entailed than anyone thought and it covered corrections, dispatch, communications and law enforcement. The NCSO got their audit back and thanks to Captain Johnson and staff, they passed with flying colors, with the auditors saying they “set the bar” for others to follow.
- Sheriff Foster also mentioned that the night before this meeting, the deputies arrested an individual and something didn’t sit right, and when they got in the jail, they started working and between deputies, the jail and communications running background checks, they found this person was not who they said he was and was wanted by the Department of Justice for a

verity of offenses. He said the teamwork of those three divisions working together helped to uncover his identity.

9. Resolution No. 02-25. An Inducement Resolution providing for a fee in lieu of tax agreement between Newberry County and Newberry PV1, LLC.

- Mr. Reeder made a motion to accept the Resolution; Mr. Smith provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Mr. Shealy said this is one of the solar farm agreements the county had previously.

10. Ordinance No. 05-01-2025. An Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee agreement by and between Newberry County, South Carolina and Newberry PV1, LLC providing for a payment of a fee in lieu of taxes, providing special source revenue credits, and addressing other matters related thereto.

a. First Reading.

- Mr. Sease made a motion to accept first reading; Mr. Johnson provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

11. Ordinance No. 05-02-2025. An Ordinance to provide appropriations for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, 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.

a. First Reading.

- Mr. Smith made a motion to accept first reading; Mr. Johnson provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

12. County Council may take additional action(s) on matters discussed during the 5:00pm executive session.

- No action was taken.

13. Appointments.

- There were no appointments.

14. Public Comments (three minutes).

- There were no public comments.

15. Comments/Requests from County Administrator.

- Mr. Shacker updated Newberry County Council on future projects, including some that will be coming up at future meetings. The first are the bids for the Mawson's Way extension, he said they received seven bids and the range was tight, about a \$500,000 separation and the low bid is well within budget. Another project are the bids on the old animal hospital building on the corner of Harrington and Caldwell, a project budgeted in the current fiscal year. He said that is also within budget. Two other projects coming to Newberry County Council include the Whitmire and Pomaria CPST projects.

16. Comments/Requests from Council.

- Mr. Smith said it was an honor to serve 30 years in public safety, and he knows what it takes to do that job. Mr. Smith also congratulated Mr. Martin on his retirement.
- Mr. Reeder said he was glad to see everyone out and they had a good meeting and good rewards today for those who truly work hard. Mr. Reeder said school will be out soon and they need to find activities for students to do this summer.
- Mr. Sease thanked everyone for coming out and participating in their local government. He thanked all the first responders, and it is amazing the jobs they do.
- Mr. Shealy thanked the employees for all of their hard work and the group they had in attendance is the county's lifeline.

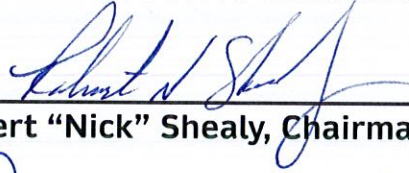
17. Future meetings:

- a. Newberry County Executive Committee – May 12 at 5 p.m.
(CANCELLED)
- b. Newberry County Council Work Session – May 21 at 5 p.m.
- c. Newberry County Council – May 21 at 6 p.m.
- d. Memorial Day Holiday – May 26 - Offices Closed.
- e. Newberry County Council Work Session – June 4 at 5 p.m.
- f. Newberry County Council – June 4 at 6 p.m.

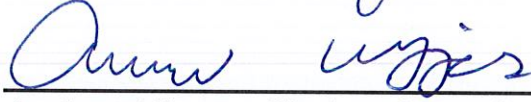
18. Adjournment.

- Mr. Scurry made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0 at 6:43 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL



Robert "Nick" Shealy, Chairman



Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council

Minutes Approved: May 21, 2025