

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
February 4, 2026**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 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: Robert Shealy, Chairman  
Karl Sease, Vice-Chairman  
Leon Fulmer Jr., Council Member  
Todd Johnson, Council Member (virtual)  
Travis Reeder, Council Member  
Johnny Mack Scurry, Council Member  
Stuart Smith, Council Member  
Ted Luckadoo, County Administrator  
Jeff Shacker, County Administrator  
Joanie Winters, County Attorney  
Karen Brehmer, Deputy County Administrator  
Captain Ben Chapman, NCSO  
Captain Daniel Floyd, Detention Center  
Sheriff Lee Foster, NCSO  
Coroner Laura Kneece, Coroner's Office  
Deputy Coroner Desiree Monts, Coroner's Office  
Eric Nieto, IT Director  
Brandon Wicker, Emergency Services Coordinator  
Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council/PIO

Mr. Sease called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Scurry led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance in place of Mr. Johnson.

1. Adoption of Consent Agenda:

- a. Newberry County Council Work Session Minutes – January 21, 2026.

- b. Newberry County Council Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2026.
- c. Newberry County Council Special Called Meeting – January 23, 2026.

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

## 3. Special Recognition:

- a. Prosperity Fire Station 2, Prosperity Rescue Squad 17, Hazmat Station 12.

- Mr. Wicker and Chief Robert Dennis recognized the stations listed above for their accomplishments, history and other accolades, as well as highlighting the work they do throughout the year.

## 4. Recap of Emergency Response to Winter Storm Fern – Tommy Long, Emergency Services Director.

- Mr. Long said that since the agenda was released, the county had another snowstorm.
- Prior to both weather events, daily briefings were held at the Emergency Operation Center with participation from around the county.
- A shelter was opened at Gallman Elementary School, as it has an active generator, during both weather events. A shelter trailer was also utilized that had supplies for the shelter which helped get materials there faster. O'Neal Street United Methodist was also open, and has been for weeks, as a warming center.
- During the first weather event, there were several accidents throughout the county.
- Mr. Long said they have determined they need to look at getting more generators throughout the county, including Mid-Carolina High, Newberry High, Newberry College, and maybe O'Neal Street United Methodist.

- The first storm was a state declared event, so the county should be able to get reimbursement from FEMA.
- The second storm was not as big event as the ice storm, and there were not as many accidents.
- The snowstorm was not a state declared event and would probably not receive any FEMA reimbursements.
- Mr. Shealy said they had more participation than they have had in the past, and he hopes for even more in the future.
- Mr. Sease asked if there would be a debrief on the ice storm, Mr. Long said he can and will do it via email.

5. A Proclamation recognizing Medicolegal Death Investigators Week in Newberry County.

- Mr. Sease made a motion to accept the Proclamation; Mr. Smith provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Members of the Newberry County Coroner's Office accepted a copy of the Proclamation.

6. Ordinance No. 02-01-2026. Amending and Restating an Ordinance Entitled "An Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of a General Obligation Bond of Newberry County, South Carolina not Exceeding \$405,000 in Principal Amount, to Prescribe the Purposes for Which the Proceeds of Said Bond Shall be Expended, to Provide for the Payment of Said Bond, and Other Matters Relating Thereto."

a. First Reading.

- Mr. Shacker said this bond was proposed in this year's budget to fund the purchase of a tri-axle dump truck, a 20-25-ton trailer, a 6500 series utility truck, etc. The concept was to use cash-on-hand within the debt service fund to pay this bond off.
- This ordinance streamlines the process for closing the bond. Instead of doing post-sale notice (that has to be done at least seven days prior to closing) the county can do pre-sale notice and move more quickly to close the bond. This will also give council the ability to decide if they need to amend what is proposed to be purchased by resolutions, if there are any issues.

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

7. Consideration and award of a contract for Inmate Food Services for the Newberry County Detention Center (RFP Number 2025-20) – NCSO Captain Daniel Floyd.

- Mr. Floyd said they sent out an RFP and received two proposals and through the selection process, Victus Food Services was the highest scored.
- Mr. Floyd said the detention center has run their own kitchen for many years, but with rising costs they do not have the buying power that a food service provider would, and this also removes some of the liability.
- Mr. Johnson said he appreciates the efforts of the detention center and NCSO and their due diligence.
- Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the proposal from Victus Food Services; Mr. Sease provided the second.
- Mr. Stuart asked if the food would be prepared and brought in daily; Mr. Floyd said the food would be prepared on site.
- The motion carried 7-0.

8. Appointments.

- There were no appointments.

9. Public Comments (Three Minutes).

- There were no public comments.

10. Comments/Requests from County Administrator.

- Mr. Shacker said significant progress has been made on the CPST projects, and in April to expect an award on the Public Safety Complex. The Newberry Amphitheater will be next, and the goal will have that in May.
- The Safe Streets for All project is in process, with a significant amount of community engagement. The goal will be to have meetings throughout

the county for public engagement. The Whitmire sidewalk project will be put out to bid soon, as well.

- Mr. Johnson said the due diligence of staff has been amazing on the Whitmire project, they have stayed the course and looks like there is a possibility to proceed with that for handrails. He commended the county for that.
- Mr. Luckadoo thanked council for this opportunity, the first two days have been very receptive and welcoming him with open arms. He thanked staff who helped put together the Meet-and-Greet and said it was a good event, with a lot of people attending. He said it was very welcoming, and the elected officials have also been very welcoming. He said he looks forward to helping move Newberry County forward. Mr. Luckadoo also gave appreciation to Mr. Shacker efforts over the past two days, helping to teach him everything he needed to know.

#### 11. Comments/Requests from Council.

- Mr. Fulmer thanked the recognized stations for coming to be with them tonight. He said our volunteers make up the backbone of fire and rescue squad service. He welcomed Mr. Luckadoo and said he is glad he is here with them and they are looking forward to a bright future. He thanked Mr. Shacker for his efforts and everything he has done for the county.
- Mr. Scurry recognized Ms. Leila Caldwell, saying he and her husband graduated together. He said that he had him in his prayers following recent surgeries. Mr. Scurry thanked Mr. Shacker for going the extra mile for his constituents.
- Mr. Shealy wished Ms. Robbiette Hazel a happy birthday.

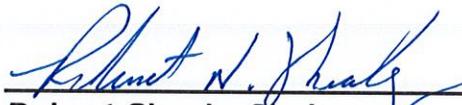
#### 12. Future meetings:

- a. Public Safety and Courts Committee – February 9 at 5 p.m.
- b. President’s Day – February 16 – Offices Closed.
- c. Newberry County Council Work Session – February 18 at 5 p.m.
- d. Newberry County Council – February 18 at 6 p.m.

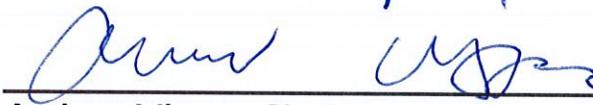
13. Adjournment.

- Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Sease provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Newberry County Council adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL**



**Robert Shealy, Chairman**



**Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council**

Minutes Approved: 2-18-26