

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
July 2, 2025**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, July 2, 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
Todd Johnson, Council Member (virtual)
Travis Reeder, Council Member
Johnny Mack Scurry, Council Member
Stuart Smith, Council Member
Jeff Shacker, County Administrator
Joanie Winters, County Attorney
Captain Ben Chapman, NCSO
Tommy Long, Emergency Services Director
Brandon Wicker, Emergency Services Coordinator
Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council/PIO

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

Mr. Reeder led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Adoption of Consent Agenda:

- a. Newberry County Council Work Session Minutes – June 18, 2025.
- b. Newberry County Council Meeting Minutes – June 18, 2025.
- c. Newberry County Economic Development Committee Minutes – June 23, 2025.

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

2. Additions, Deletions & Adoption of the Agenda.

- Mr. Sease made a motion to remove item 4, to include the public hearing and second reading, from the agenda as the petitioner has withdrawn their request for the rezoning. Mr. Scurry provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the agenda as amended; Mr. Sease provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

3. Special Recognition:

a. Silverstreet Fire Department.

- Mr. Long recognized the station listed above for their achievements, history and other accolades, as well as highlighting the work they do throughout the year.
- Mr. Shealy said this is indeed a special recognition and that the county's volunteers were the backbone of Newberry County.
- Mr. Reeder said he knows they work long hours for low pay and that he appreciates everything they do.
- Mr. Smith thanked the volunteers for everything they do for the county.
- Mr. Sease thanked the volunteers for the service they provide Newberry County.
- Mr. Fulmer said that fire departments are the glue that hold communities together and provide for the

communities they serve, not only through fire service, but in times of needs.

~~4. Ordinance 06-01-2025. An Ordinance acting on a request to amend the official Zoning Map established pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 12-24-01 as revised and amended by Zoning Ordinance No. 06-11-16 and codified in Chapter 153 of the Newberry County Code of Ordinances, establishes Zoning Classifications and Districts as to rezone one (1) real estate parcel totaling three and twenty-five thousand (3.025) acres designated as TMS No. 651-43 from GC-General Commercial to R2-Rural.~~

~~a. Public Hearing.~~

~~b. Second Reading.~~

- Due to the petitioner withdrawing their request to rezone the property, Newberry County Council removed this item from the agenda. If the petitioner wishes to resubmit their request, they will need to start the process over.

5. Consideration and approval of the award of a contract for landfill monitoring and reporting services (RFQ 2025-8).

- Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the highest ranked firm, Alliance Consulting Engineers, Mr. Johnson provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- According to Mr. Shacker, Newberry County formerly operated a landfill located near Cockrell Drive near S.C. Highway 219 and Interstate 26. That landfill was closed a number of years ago. Newberry County is required to monitor the landfill and report the results of the monitoring activities to the S.C. Dept of Environmental Services - formerly SCDHEC. The county has for a number of years engaged consulting engineers to perform the monitoring and to prepare the required reports to SCDES. The current contract is set to expire.

- County staff solicited proposals from qualified consultants to provide landfill monitoring and reporting services to the county. County staff reviewed those proposals and ranked them using the scoring criteria set forth in the request for proposals. Based on the rating process, county staff recommends that County Council award the contract to Alliance Consulting Engineers.

6. Consideration and approval of a bid for Little Mountain Reunion Park Improvements, a 2022 CPST Project (Bid Number 2025-9).

- Mr. Sease made a motion to accept the low bid from Sossamon Construction Company in the amount of \$1,533,000; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- The Little Mountain Reunion Park Improvements is a 2022 CPST Project. The approved bid is not only under the revised budget, but also the balloted amount for the project, this amount also includes the alternates for the project. The alternates include replacing asphalt with concrete and relocating the flagpole(s).

7. Consideration and approval of bids for Newberry Museum HVAC Replacements, a 2022 CPST Project (Bid Number 2025-13).

- Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the low bid from Walker White in the amount of \$300,003; Mr. Scurry provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- This is another 2022 CPST project, this bid was for part of the museum project, specifically HVAC replacement. Another bid will be forthcoming that will address the roof at the Newberry Museum. Newberry County, at this time, projects the total will be under budget.

8. County Council may take action on matters discussed during the 5:00 pm executive session.

- Mr. Sease made a motion to authorize the County Administrator to execute the agreement between Newberry Hospital and Newberry County for EMS services; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Mr. Sease made a motion to authorize the County Administrator to enter into a Letter of Intent to option property owned by the County in anticipation of the economic development project's consideration of Newberry County (Project Altair); Mr. Fulmer provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

9. Appointments.

- Mr. Sease made a motion to adopt the consent agenda with regard to appointments so council can group appointments by District for a single vote; Mr. Smith provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Airport Commission – District 1. Tommy Amick.
- Board of Zoning Appeals – District 1. Hugh Lister.
- Library Board – District 1. Susan Lawson.
- Newberry Hospital Board (Seat One) – District 1. Beth Bozard.
- Newberry Hospital Board (Seat Two) – District 1. George Oxner.
- Disabilities and Special Needs Board – District 1. Bill Braswell.
- Joint Planning Commission – District 1. Alan Jenkins.
- Westview Behavioral Health Board – District 1. Rev. Edward Jeter.
- Board of Rescue Squads – Whitmire. David Andrews Sr.
- Board of Rural Fire Control – Whitmire. Ray Ellison.

- Board of Rural Fire Control – Station 8 (Bush River). Keith Minick.
 - Mr. Johnson nominated the above appointments for District 1. Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the nominations; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Library Board – District 2. Melanie Hawkins.
- Board of Rescue Squads – Lake Murray. Corey Bishop.
- Board of Rural Fire Control – Fairview. Paul Cromer.
 - Mr. Fulmer nominated the above appointments for District 2; Mr. Sease made a motion to accept the nominations; Mr. Scurry provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Board of Rescue Squads – Little Mountain. Nathaniel Birochak.
- Board of Rural Fire Control – Little Mountain. Jason Fulmer.
 - Mr. Sease nominated the above appointments for District 3; Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the nominations; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Board of Rescue Squads – Prosperity. Justin Cassada.
- Board of Rural Fire Control – Prosperity. Bert Lucas.
- Board of Rural Fire Control – St. Philips. Andrew Branham.
 - Mr. Shealy nominated the above appointments for District 4. Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the nominations; Mr. Scurry provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Library Board – District 5. Jeremy King.
- Board of Rescue Squads – Newberry Rescue. Chris Johnson.
 - Mr. Smith nominated the above appointments for District 5. Mr. Sease made a motion to accept the nominations; Mr. Scurry provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Board of Rural Fire Control – Chappells. Terry Russell.

- Mr. Scurry nominated the above appointment for District 6. Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the nomination; Mr. Sease provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Newberry County Disabilities and Special Needs – District 7. Yonnie Reeder.
 - Mr. Reeder nominated the above appointment for District 7. Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the nomination; Mr. Fulmer provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

10. Public Comments (Three Minutes).

- Ms. Lillie Hunter spoke on the partial closing of Boundary Street in favor of a Charter School. Ms. Hunter expressed her concern over this closing and that she, and other residents, are against it and expressed that a Plan B needs to be in place in order to not close the road.

11. Comments/Requests from County Administrator.

- Mr. Shacker thanked council for approving the bids for the Capital Project Sales Tax projects. He said they have one more on the horizon and that is the Newberry County Detention Center, the largest project on the ballot. He anticipates that bid to be on the agenda in the next couple of meetings.

12. Comments/Requests from Council.

- Mr. Smith thanked the Silverstreet Fire Department for coming out and it was an honor to recognize everyone, and a privilege to work with them over the years.
- Mr. Scurry thanked everyone for coming out.
- Mr. Fulmer thanked the volunteers of Silverstreet Fire Department for coming out and the recognition was deserved.

- Mr. Reeder also thanked Silverstreet Fire Department and said keep up the good work. He also recognized Mr. David Abrams, who passed away recently; Mr. Abrams served on the Joint Planning Commission for many years.
- Mr. Johonson said he did not truly have the words to everyone who reached out to him following the passing of his wife. He said to everyone who reached out, it meant a lot to him.
- Mr. Sease thanked everyone for coming out and thanked Silverstreet Fire Department volunteers for their service to the county. He also thanked Ms. Hunter for bringing the Boundary Street matter to their attention.
- Mr. Shealy said volunteers are the backbone of Newberry County. He also recognized Ms. Winters for the excellent job she does for Newberry County. He also told Mr. Johnson he is in his prayers. He also announced he is a grandfather again.

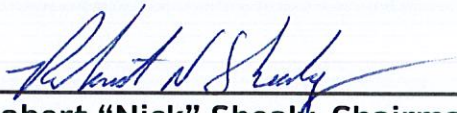
13. Future meetings:

- a. Independence Day – July 4th – Offices Closed.
- b. Newberry County Council Work Session – July 16 at 5 p.m.
- c. Newberry County Council – July 16 at 6 p.m.
- d. Newberry County Public Safety and Courts Committee – July 21 at 5 p.m.
- e. Newberry County Executive Committee – July 28 at 5 p.m.
- f. South Carolina Association of Counties Conference – August 4-7, 2025.

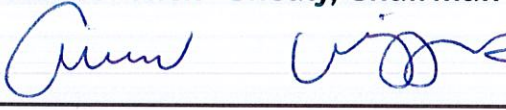
14. Adjournment.

- Mr. Scurry made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Smith provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Newberry County Council adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL



Robert "Nick" Shealy, Chairman



Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council

Minutes Approved: July 16, 2025