

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**January 21, 2026**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, 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  
Eric Nieto, IT Director  
Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council/PIO

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

Mr. Smith led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

1. Adoption of Consent Agenda:

- a. Newberry County Council Work Session Minutes – January 7, 2026.
  - b. Newberry County Council Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2026.
- Mr. Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; Mr. Scurry 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. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

3. Special Recognition:

a. Employee Recognitions:

- Daniel Coulombe      5 years                      NCSO.
- David Brandt            10 years                      NCSO.
- Carol Lively              Retirement                      Clerk of Court.

- Mr. Shacker recognized the above employees for their service to Newberry County, highlighting their accomplishments and pivotal moments while working for Newberry County.

4. Ordinance 12-01-2025. 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. 6-11-16 and codified in Chapter 153 of the Newberry County Code of Ordinances, establishes zoning classification and districts so as to rezone one (1) real estate parcel totaling eighty hundredths (.80) acres designated as TMS No. 640-88 from RS-Single Family to R2-Rural.

a. Third Reading.

- With there being no changes, Mr. Sease made a motion to accept third reading; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

5. Ordinance 01-01-2026. An Ordinance to amend the text of the Official Zoning Ordinance of Newberry County, South Carolina, as codified in Chapter 153 of the Code of Ordinances of Newberry County, South Carolina, by amending Section 153.033, Fences And Walls, Section 153.168, Setback From The Lake Shore, Section 153.170, Structures And Projections Into Required Yards And Rights-Of-Way, and Section 153.231, Definitions.

a. First Reading.



- Mr. Shacker said that currently in the zoning ordinance fences are allowed within setbacks. Staff felt that it would be good to have clarifying language inserted in the ordinance into several sections, making it clear that it's both fences and walls and the setbacks that fences and walls are permitted.
- Mr. Smith made a motion to accept first reading; Mr. Scurry provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

6. Consideration and approval of bids for construction of Newberry Museum Roof Repairs, a 2022 CPST Project (Bid Number 2025-18).

- Mr. Shacker said the proposal here is to not only replace the clay tiles but also cover over the existing internal gutters. The low bid, and the recommended bid, was to Benton Roofing for \$369,472.
- Mr. Shacker said they would recommend, at this time, taking the alternate for soffits and facias and tackle those at a later date through a contractor who specializes in that work.
- Mr. Sease made a motion to approve the bid from Benton Roofing; Mr. Reeder provided the second.
- Mr. Smith asked when the project will begin, Mr. Shacker said this spring.
- Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Shacker to clarify that this was a competitive bid with multiple responders, and this is the low bid. Mr. Shacker answered in the affirmative and said that they had multiple responses and this is the lowest bid.
- The motion carried 7-0.

7. Appointments.

- There were no appointments.

8. Public Comments (Three Minutes).

- Mr. Gary Ginn said he had several questions because he had not seen the proposed changes to item number five. He said if fences are allowed to be put on the 360-contour line, that is basically putting horse blinders on. He said he doesn't know what this change is, but if Newberry County allows

fences down to the 360-contour line, then there are a lot of people around the lake, they will not be able to see the lake as they have. He said he hopes Council will take great strides for those who have enjoyed the view of the lake.

9. Comments/Requests from County Administrator.

- Mr. Shacker said the next CPST project to come before Newberry County Council will be the public safety complex.
- Mr. Shacker said there has been a lot in the news about the approaching winter weather, he said he thinks staff members are doing a good job preparing for the weather.

10. Comments/Requests from Council.

- Mr. Sease gave thanks to a Newberry County Sheriff's deputy that morning who was parked next to ice on the road, he had his lights on warning everyone driving through of the ice to prevent an accident.
- Mr. Reeder commented on the MLK weekend, he said it was a great weekend even though they didn't have a parade on Sunday, the program was packed on Monday.
- Mr. Shealy asked everyone to be careful with the potential weather and encouraged everyone to be prepared for bad weather.
- Mr. Fulmer said that DOT was going to be out early doing pre-treatment on the roads and bridges and asked residents to be mindful of those trucks because you never know where they will stop and start spreading. He encouraged residents to stay back and give them plenty of room. Mr. Fulmer said if there are power outages, please check on your neighbors.

11. Future meetings:

- a. Newberry County Council Work Session – February 4 at 5 p.m. – CANCELLED.
- b. Newberry County Council – February 4 at 6 p.m.
- c. Public Safety and Courts Committee – February 9 at 5 p.m.

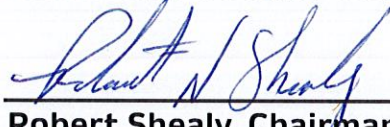


- d. President's Day – February 16 – Offices Closed.
- e. Newberry County Council Work Session – February 18 at 5 p.m.
- f. Newberry County Council – February 18 at 6 p.m.

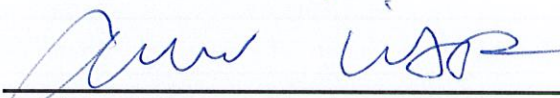
12. Adjournment.

- Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Scurry provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.
- Newberry County Council adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL**



**Robert Shealy, Chairman**



**Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council**

Minutes Approved: 2-4-26