



NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes

October 6, 2021

6:00 P.M.

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at 6:00p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, S.C., for a regular scheduled meeting.

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

PRESENT: Henry H. Livingston, III, Chairman
Todd Johnson, Vice-Chairman
Les Hipp, Council Member
Mary Arrowood, Council Member
Travis Reeder, Council Member
Johnny Mack Scurry, Council Member
Nick Shealy, Council Member (ZOOM)
Karen Brehmer, Finance Department
Debbie S. Cromer, Finance Department
Taylor Davenport, Assistant to the Administrator
Susan Fellers, Clerk to Council

Call to order:

Henry H. Livingston, III, Chairman

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

Todd Johnson, Councilman

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

Mr. Johnson held the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Additions, Deletions & Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Hipp moved to adopt the agenda as presented; seconded by Mr. Reeder. Vote was unanimous.

2. Public Apperance

a. Presentation of Resolution 08-21 Honoring Jimmie Coggins

Mr. Hipp read the following Resolution into the record honoring Mr. Jimmie Coggins:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	RESOLUTION 8-21 HONORING
)	JIMMIE COGGINS
COUNTY OF NEWBERRY)	

WHEREAS, James F. (AKA Jimmie) Coggins, had an offer to manage a Newberry radio station in 1949 and then purchased the radio station in 1951. Since that time the radio station has been a Coggins owned and run radio station known as WKDK. At the passing of Mr. James F. Coggins, management and ownership of the radio station passed to James P. (AKA Jimmie) Coggins.

WHEREAS, during their careers, James F. and James P. Coggins have covered local, state, and national events with news updates throughout the day. WKDK has kept the public informed on major events, such as the JFK assassination and the 9/11 attacks, and continues with this type of critical reporting through the 2020-21 pandemic. With respect to the 9/11 attacks, James P. Coggins was able to record and interview Joe Palmer, Newberry Chief Fireman at the time, who called in from ground zero a few days after the attack.

WHEREAS, during their careers at WKDK, the Coggins have covered School Board meetings, Newberry County Council and Newberry City Council meetings, the tornado of 1984, the flood of 1986, the 2015 American Legion World Series, the eclipse of 2017 and many other events of local interest.

WHEREAS, James F. and James P. Coggins have received numerous recognitions, including the Order of the Palmetto, the SC Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame in 2002, Sportscaster of the Year in 1959, Rotarian of the Year in 1997-1998 and Rotarian of the Year in 2002-2003.

WHEREAS, radio station WKDK has received much recognition including St. Jude’s Radiothon, Newberry County Board of Education, Rotary Club, Newberry Lion’s Club, Relay for Life, March of Dimes, Red Cross, and Gamecock radio network.

WHEREAS, in 2006, the station introduced automation and started broadcasting 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Soon afterwards, the station was able to stream broadcasts for listeners by way of its website.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL HEREBY RECOGNIZES WKDK AND THE COGGINS FAMILY FOR 75 YEARS OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWBERRY COUNTY, AND MORE SPECIFICALLY, MR. JAMES P. (JIMMIE) COGGINS FOR HIS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AND FOR BEING A POSITIVE REFLECTION ON THE COUNTY.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall be published in the official minutes of the Newberry County Council and a framed copy of this Resolution shall be presented to Jimmie Coggins.

AND IT IS SO RESOLVED this 6th day of October 2021.

Council thanked Mr. Coggins for his work in the Community.

Mr. Hipp presented the framed Resolution to Mr. Coggins.

Mr. Coggins thanked his staff, local business support and listeners for the last 75 years.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the Resolution; seconded by Mrs. Arrowood. Vote was unanimous.

3. **Ordinance #10-24-21** – An Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the County of Newberry adopted June 20,2016, so as to amend the zoning map acting on a request to amend the Official Zoning Map established, codified in Chapter 153 of the County of Newberry Code of Ordinances, so as to rezone one (1) real estate parcel totaling eight and ninety-nine hundredths (8.99) acres designated as TMS Parcel No. 523-18 from RS-Single Family Residential to R2-Rural.

- a. **First Reading**

Katie Werts, Zoning Administrator, informed Council that the property owner is requesting the rezoning in order to place two manufactured homes on the property. Staff and The Planning Commission both recommend the rezoning.

Motion by Hipp; Seconded by Mr. Reeder. Vote is unanimous.

4. **Ordinance #10-25-21** – An Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the County of Newberry adopted June 20,2016, so as to amend the zoning map acting on a request to amend the Official Zoning Map established, codified in Chapter 153 of the County of Newberry Code of Ordinances, so as to rezone two (2) real estate parcels totaling thirteen and thirty-eight hundredths (13.38) acres designated as TMS Parcel No. 27-13-44 and 27-13-47 from RS-Single Family Residential to R2-Rural.

- a. **First Reading**

Mrs. Werts stated that the property owner is requesting the rezoning to place cattle on the property. Staff and Planning Commission recommend the rezoning.

Mr. Reeder asked if there have been any complaints.

Mr. Livingston asked that the property owner come to the podium to speak.

Property owner, Stephanie Elfrid stated that the property is currently a hay field, and she wishes to have a few cattle placed on her property. She has no lake frontage and says that she spoke with several neighbors who have no issues with the property housing cattle.

Mr. Dan Swenson said that he owns lake front property in the community. He currently works in agriculture and owns cattle. He believes that having cattle at the entrance of the community will cause property devaluation and asked that the rezoning be denied.

Ms. Danielle Himsey, stated that she works in real estate and owns property in the community. She said that the property in question does have lake views and is the entrance to the Cypress Point Subdivision and is apart of the Hickory Bay Subdivision which has covenants and restrictions. She thinks the area is residential and should stay that way.

Mr. Johnson stated that he would make a motion to approve the first reading in order to get to the public hearing and hear more information from both sides. Mr. Hipp and Mr. Reeder agreed.

Motion by Mr. Johnson; Seconded by Mr. Hipp. Vote was 6 to 1. Mrs. Arrowood opposing.

- 5. Resolution 07-21** – A Resolution to ratify acceptance of Commerce Park Avenue and Mid Carolina Court located in Mid Carolina Commerce Park as well as acceptance of a deed and maintenance responsibility for Industrial Court.

Motion by Mr. Reeder to approve the resolution; seconded by Mrs. Arrowood. Vote was unanimous.

- 6. Consideration to approve Central SC Alliance FY 21/22 1st Quarter invoice totaling \$18,000. (Recommended by the Economic Development Committee 09/27/21)**

Motion to approve the invoice by Mr. Reeder; seconded by Mrs. Arrowood. Vote was unanimous.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Economic Development Committee**
Rick Farmer, Economic Development Director

Mr. Farmer stated that the Economic Development Committee met on September 27th. They discussed Product Development and Prospect Development. There was also an executive session held under SC Code Section 30-4-70 a(2) and a(5).

Mr. Johnson asked about workforce development expansion.

Mr. Farmer stated that he believes that the County should start with preparing a strategic plan. He also believes that in order for the workforce to grow the County will have to grow.

- b. Public Safety & Courts Committee**
Tommy Long, Emergency Services Coordinator

Mr. Long stated that Public Safety & Courts Committee met on October 4th. The committee approved and discussed the Central Midlands Hazard Mitigation Plan to be sent to full council approval at the next meeting. Mr. Long also said that the Committee has approved for staff to research an Ordinance that will approve billing for certain fire and rescue calls. This was brought to the committee to help with false alarm calls and interstate accidents.

8. Executive Session

Chairman Livingston read the code sections in which Council will go into executive session.

Mr. Tony McDonald stated the Council no longer needs to met in regards to Code Section 30-4-70 a(2) and a(5).

Motion by Mrs. Arrowood to go into executive session; seconded by Mr.Reeder. Vote was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION [6:45PM-8:50PM]

Code Section §30-4-70 (a)(1): Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body; however, if an adversary hearing involving the employee or client is held, the employee or client has the right to demand that the hearing be conducted publicly. Nothing contained in this item shall prevent the public body, in its discretion, from deleting the names of the other employees or clients whose records are submitted for use at the hearing.

Code Section §30-4-70 (a)(2) and (a)(5): 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 the 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 claim. Discussion of matters incident to proposed contractual arrangements, and related to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other business in the area served by the public body.

Mr. Hipp reported that Council met in executive session on matters pertaining to Code Section 30-4-70a(1). No action was taken.

9. Appointments

Mr. McDonald stated that Council will vote by ballot for the Capital Project Sales Tax Commission Members. They would appoint 3 Commission Members and 2 alternates.

Council was given a list of 8 nominees who have agreed to serve if chosen and would not hold dual office positions. Mrs. Debbie Cromer, Finance Director will tally the votes.

Council voted and approved Lisa Toland, Roy McClurkin and Sid Crumpton as the CPST Commission Members. Mike Reid and Harry Werts will serve as alternates.

10. Public Comments

No public comments.

11. Comments/Requests from County Administrator

No comments from Mr. McDonald.

12. Comments/Requests from Council Members

Mr. Livingston said that he served on the board that has appointed Nelson Linsey to serve as the head of the Central SC Alliance. He asked that Council welcome him to that position.

13. Future Meetings

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| a. Public Works & Planning | 10/18/21 | 6:00 p.m |
| b. County Council | 10/20/21 | 6:00 p.m |
| c. Personnel & Intergovernmental | 11/01/21 | 6:00 p.m |

14. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Arrowood to adjourn, seconded Mr. Johnson. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Livingston declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Approved: _____

Henry. H. Livingston, III, Chairman

Susan Fellers, Clerk to Council