

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
December 4, 2023**

The Newberry County Council Economic Development Committee met on Monday, December 4, 2023, at 6:06 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a regular meeting.

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

PRESENT: Leslie "Les" Hipp, Committee Chair
Robert N. Shealy, Committee Member
Jeff Shacker, County Administrator
Rick Farmer, Economic Development Director
Eric Nieto, I.T. Director
Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council/PIO

Absent: Travis Reeder, Committee Member

1. Call to Order

- Mr. Hipp called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and determined a quorum to be present.

2. Additions, Deletions and Adoption of the Agenda

- Mr. Farmer requested that the committee remove from the agenda Mawsons Way Extension and MCCP II Restrictive Covenants, listed under Product Development. He said both items will be discussed during executive session Wednesday night (during the Newberry County Council Work Session).
- Mr. Hipp asked Mr. Shacker if that was still his feelings regarding Mawsons Way, to which Mr. Shacker answered in the affirmative.

- Mr. Shealy made a motion to remove items One and Three from section B (Product Development) from the agenda. Mr. Hipp provided the second and the motion passed 2-0.

3. Public Comments

- There were no public comments.

4. Staff Report

a. Project Activity

i. Updates

- Mr. Farmer said project activity remains steady and that they had four new projects come through since the last committee meeting.
- Mr. Farmer said projects moving forward in Newberry County Council include Project Cavalier and Project Palmetto – both solar projects.
- Mr. Farmer said they are working on two expansion projects that should be coming to Newberry County Council in the next month or so.

b. Project Development

i. Boyd's Crossing Rail Site

- Mr. Farmer said this site is 80 acres on US 76 south, just off Boyd's Crossing Road. Mr. Farmer said they have suspected contamination issues with the site, as it was once used to dry lumber. He said MCOG has agreed to cover Phase One ESA at their expense and that should begin soon.

c. Prospect Development.

i. ECONOMIX – Atlanta, Nov. 28-30

- Mr. Farmer attended the EXONOMIX in Atlanta last week, a site selectors consultants forum. Mr. Farmer said he would take this over a trade show any day because they get to hear the site selectors say what the prospects want.

d. Other

i. Korean American Day

- Mr. Farmer announced that the Korean American Day celebration is scheduled for January 20, 2024. He said they have already had a brief conversation about the event, but the first planning committee meeting will be held on December 5, 2023. He said the hope was to pull off a celebration as good as the previous year.
- Mr. Farmer said the location of the event has been changed to MacLean Gymnasium at Newberry College, due to the size of the crowd last year.
- Mr. Farmer said the planning committee consists of himself, Mr. Wigger, Mayor Foster Senn and representatives from Korean industries in Newberry County.

5. Comments by and discussion items from the Committee Members

- No comments.

6. Executive Session

§30-4-70 (a)(2) and (a)(5): 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, including Projects Artemis, Cardinal, Cavalier, Palmetto, Aspen and other projects.

- Mr. Shealy made a motion to go into executive session at 6:14 p.m., Mr. Hipp provided the second and the motion was approved 2-0.

- At 6:53 p.m., Mr. Shealy made a motion to come out of executive session; Mr. Hipp provided the second and the motion was approved 2-0.
- Mr. Hipp said no action was taken in executive session and no votes were taken.

7. Adjourn

- With there being no further business, Mr. Shealy made a motion at 6:54 p.m. to adjourn; Mr. Hipp provided the second and the motion was approved 2-0.

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**



Leslie Hipp, Committee Chairman



Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council

Minutes Approved: Jan. 3, 2024