



**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
Work Session
MINUTES
AUGUST 27, 2014**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, August 27, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a work session.

PRESENT: Henry H. Livingston, III, Chairman
Kirksey Koon, Vice Chairman
John E. Caldwell, Councilman
Bill Waldrop, Councilman
Leslie (Les) Hipp, Councilman
Steven C. Stockman, Councilman
Wayne Adams, County Administrator
Laurie Renwick, Clerk to Council

ABSENT: Scott Cain, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT: Ervin West, Facilities Manager
Crystal Waldrop, Purchasing Director
Ron Powell, Director of Building, Planning & Zoning
Jackie Bowers, Clerk of Court

MEDIA: Andrew Wigger, Newberry Observer

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Livingston called the meeting to order and determined a quorum present.

2. Opening Remarks:

Mr. West gave an update on the status of the Courthouse repairs and noted that the new roof has been complete and there have been no leaks in fourteen (14) months. He said they are now working on the interior restoration and renovation; the drywall is up and is

being painted, the courtroom walls are being assessed, and carpet is being taken out and hardwood floors refinished. We have a target date of Thanksgiving to have these renovations completed. The purpose of tonight's meeting is to decide on the areaway RFQ's and what decisions we will make going forward. Mr. West reviewed the S&ME soil exploration/geotechnical report that was performed at the Courthouse. He noted several deficiencies found in the report. The membrane stops short on the Harrington Street side and was found to be installed backwards and they discovered unknown drain lines that were broken loose and disconnected that did not appear on the 2000 drawings.

Mr. Adams added that Council has discussed two methods of addressing the basement waterproofing; one is to apply a new membrane to the wall and backfill against it like was done in the past or the other being to construct an areaway around the Courthouse. Tonight's interviews are with structural engineers about the areaway option where you would dig out and install a retaining wall which will leave a space between the exterior soil and the walls. We are not deciding which option is best tonight, but of the three firms presenting, which one would you like to do the work when the decision has been made.

3. *Presentations from Structural Engineering Firms for Courthouse Areaway Project:*

The following firms each gave a detailed summary of the proposed work and cost estimates associated with constructing an areaway around the Courthouse to prevent water infiltration.

**Davis & Floyd
MMSA, Inc.
Chao and Associates, Inc.**

There was much discussion among Council Members about the pros and cons of each firm's recommendations and the level of waterproofing based on the ultimate use of the basement.

Mr. Hipp motioned to approve Chao and Associates, Inc. for the exterior waterproofing method (membrane) with the understanding that he did not give a committal on price (\$150,000.00) until further research; seconded by Koon. The vote was unanimous.

4. *Public Comments*

No comments

5. *Adjournment*

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Henry H. Livingston, Chairman

APPROVED:

Laurie N. Renwick, Clerk to Council