



**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2015**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, March 4, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a regular scheduled meeting.

PRESENT: Henry H. Livingston, III, Chairman
Kirksey Koon, Vice Chairman
Bill Waldrop, Councilman
Leslie (Les) Hipp, Councilman
Scott Cain, Councilman
Wayne Adams, County Administrator
A.J. Tothacer, County Attorney
Beth Mayner, Administration Office
Debbie Cromer, Finance Director

ABSENT: Steve Stockman, Councilman
Travis Reeder, Councilman

MEDIA: Andrew Wigger, Newberry Observer
Samie Truong, WKDK

The meeting was duly advertised as required by law.

Chairman Livingston called the meeting to order.

Mr. Hipp led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Livingston stated that Mr. Stockman and Mr. Reeder were both home with symptoms of the flu.

1. Adoption of Consent Agenda

Mr. Hipp motioned to adopt the consent agenda; seconded by Mr. Cain. The vote was unanimous.

2. Additions, Deletions and Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Cain motioned to adopt the agenda as presented; seconded by Mr. Hipp. The vote was unanimous.

3. Personal Appearances

a. Voices for Pride Officers (NCDSN)

Vice-Chairman Koon introduced and welcomed Mr. Bob Jones the new Executive Director of the Newberry County Disabilities and Special Needs.

Mr. Adams read the Proclamation declaring March 2015 as Disabilities Awareness Month into the record:

WHEREAS, more than 500,000 South Carolina citizens and families are impacted by severe lifelong disabilities, with no distinction as to race, culture, geography, age, sex or economic class; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs serves people with the severe, lifelong disabilities of mental retardation and related disabilities, autism, traumatic brain injury, and spinal cord injury; and

WHEREAS, the Newberry County Disabilities and Special Needs Board works with families to provide support services which promote economic self-sufficiency and independence; and

WHEREAS, people with lifelong disabilities are productive citizens, neighbors, and family members deserving of respect and opportunities for economic self-sufficiency, independence and personal growth; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 statewide observance of Disabilities Awareness Month celebrates the successful partnership between people with and without disabilities and the increasing involvement of people with disabilities in education, employment and community activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL, does hereby proclaim March, 2015, as **DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH IN NEWBERRY COUNTY** and encourages our citizens to work together to promote increased opportunities for people with disabilities; to recognize the many contributions made by people with disabilities to our community; and to honor the dedication of the caregivers who bring support and hope to their fellow citizens

ADOPTED by Newberry County Council in meeting duly assembled in Newberry, South Carolina, this 4th day of March, 2015.

Mr. Adams read the Proclamation honoring Connie Coleman into the record:

WHEREAS, Connie Coleman has served as the receptionist at the Newberry County Disabilities and Special Needs Board for over ten years; and

WHEREAS, Connie is the past Chairperson of the South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council, an appointment made by the Governor, and Connie was the first African American female to ever hold this seat. Connie is also the past President of the local Voices for PRIDE Self Advocacy Council and she currently serves as the Secretary/Treasurer of the group. Connie is also the current President of the IMPACT SC Self Advocacy Council and serves on the Ruth S. Pugh Foundation Board. Connie also serves as the Chairperson for the South Carolina Partnership of Disabilities Organizations (SCPDO). The primary goal of SCPDO is to organize and coordinate activities associated with Disabilities Awareness during the month of March in SC; and

WHEREAS, Connie enjoys being active in her community and is a volunteer for the Newberry Opera House and has been recognized as a Shining Star by the Newberry DSN Board; and

WHEREAS, in addition to these many accomplishments, Connie uses her knowledge to help support self-advocacy around the state and recently made presentations to groups from the University of South Carolina and the College of Charleston regarding owning and maintaining her own home; and

WHEREAS, Connie's motto is "Don't let a disability stop you from accomplishing your goals in life!" and

WHEREAS, recently Connie saw her neighbor, who is about eighty years old and lives across the street, standing out in the cold and asked if something was wrong and found that the lady had locked herself out of her house. Connie offered to help and asked her if she had another key and she told her no. Connie noticed that Mr. Elgin, a gentleman that has done repairs to her house, was three doors down. Connie asked for his help and Mr. Elgin climbed through an unlocked kitchen window and was able to get the lady in out of the cold weather. Connie said she didn't want her to be out in the cold

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL WISHES TO EXPRESS CONGRATULATIONS AND TO HONOR CONNIE COLEMAN FOR HER COMMUNITY SERVICE.

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

AND IT IS SO RESOLVED this 4th day of March, 2015.

Connie Coleman, Secretary/Treasurer for Voices for Pride took to the podium and introduced the President, Fred Wilson; and Vice-Chairman, Leon Gallman of Voices for Pride. She reported that they met with the legislature toady at the State House to celebrate the 26th Anniversary of Disabilities Day and to discuss transportation, respite, living on your own, and jobs. She said they had a rally and she spoke to a lot of people. Connie presented each member of County

Council with a Shining Star for work done on behalf of their agency. She asked that they wear their stars with PRIDE! She thanked council members for doing a good job throughout the years and for her gift today. Miss Connie informed everyone that she will be on WIS news tonight.

Chairman Livingston thanked the Disabilities and Special Needs Board for all they do and for the pride they bring to our community.

4. Ordinance #03-02-15: An Ordinance to provide for the issuance and sale of not exceeding one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000.00) General Obligation Bonds of Newberry County, South Carolina, for the issuance of notes in anticipation of such bonds, to prescribe the purposes for which the proceeds of such obligations shall be expended, to provide for the payment thereof, and other matters relating thereto.

Mr. Adams reported that this ordinance provides for advanced funding of the Capital Project Sales Tax proceeds for construction of three (3) fire department substations.

Mr. Cain motioned to approve first reading of Ordinance #03-02-15; seconded by Mr. Waldrop.

Chairman Livingston asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Hipp commented that to his knowledge we have only had one CPST project to go over budget and it was our Senior Citizens Center. He asked if this overage (in addition to the 1.2 million plus interest from these project) will be covered by our CPST projection.

Mr. Adams responded that with the \$300,000.00 overage on the senior citizens building, we look to be about one million dollars over collected. He said by law we cannot use the revenues from the CPST to pay the interest cost. The interest for two years on the principal of 1.2 million dollars will be paid for with the regular bonded indebtedness levy at \$9,000.00 each year which computes to less than .01 of a mil.

Having received no further discussion, the vote was unanimous to approve first reading of Ordinance #03-02-15.

5. Consideration of bids for Public Works Storage Building

Mrs. Waldrop reported that staff received bids on February 19, 2015 for the storage building for the Public Works facility. Two bids were received; one from Capitol Construction in the amount of \$133,600.00 and the other from Henley's Construction Co. in the amount of \$124,750.00. She stated that the

Public Safety and Planning Committee recommended that this be brought before full council at their meeting on March 2, 2015. Staff recommends the low bid from Henley's Construction Co. in the amount of \$124,750.00.

Mr. Cain motioned to approve the bid from Henley's Construction Co., in the amount of \$124,750.00 for the Public Works storage building; seconded by Mr. Waldrop. The vote was unanimous.

6. Consideration of bid for Breathing Apparatuses for Fire Departments

Mrs. Waldrop reported that bids were received on February 19, 2015 and staff only received one bid from Anderson Fire & Safety in the amount of \$161,142.00. She said staff recommends accepting this bid.

Mr. Koon motioned to approve the bid from Anderson Fire & Safety in the amount of \$161,142.00 for breathing apparatuses for Fire Departments; seconded by Mr. Cain.

Chairman Livingston asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Hipp asked Mrs. Waldrop how these prices compared to the prices we've paid in the past for the same type of equipment.

Mr. Long responded that although there was only one bid, the price is in line with what we have historically paid in the past.

Mr. Waldrop asked how long this equipment would last.

Mr. Long stated that it should last around 20+ years.

Having received no further discussion, the vote was unanimous to approve the bid from Anderson Fire & Safety in the amount of \$161,142.00.

7. Committee Reports

a. Personnel and Intergovernmental Relations 02/23/15

Wanda Hill, Human Resource Director, reported that this committee met on February 23, 2015. The following items were presented to the committee for information purposes only.

- Ms. Ebony Young, citizen, briefed the committee on the mission and objectives of the Youth Empowerment Program

- Ervin West, Facilities Manager, discussed the numerous items in need of repair at the Fairgrounds and noted that it will not be rented out until the repairs are made
- Mrs. Gerdi Lake gave an update on recreation and the progress at Lynches Woods

b. Public Works and Planning 03/02/15

Mike Pisano, Public Works Director, reported that the Public Works and Planning Committee met this past Monday at 6:00 p.m. and the following items were discussed.

- There was discussion of a petition to close the unimproved portion at the end of Hamm Drive.
- Mark Schumpert with Joyce Engineering gave the committee an update on the single stream recycling and moving forward with the Dixie Dr., Little Mountain, Bachman Chapel and Seibert Road centers.
- Ervin West updated the committee on the extent of the fairground repairs and noted a projected cost of \$208,500.00
- Update on the Public Works storage building and the landfill gas remediation project.
- The airport apron expansion project ran \$80,000.00 under budget and has been completed. The airport layout plan and the terminal building plans were discussed.

Mr. Adams commented that it is the recommendation of staff to not rent out the fairgrounds until we can make some of the repairs. We hope to begin the planning of these repairs now but funding will not be available until July 1st of the new budget year. It was decided among Council to schedule a work session at the fairgrounds in order to view the items in disrepair.

8. *Appointments:*

No appointments

9. *Public Comments (by those who signed up at meeting)*

No comments.

10. *Executive Session*

Mr. Adams stated that staff requests an Executive Session for purposes allowed under SC Code Section 30-4-70(a)(1) and (2) to discuss an employment matter and also a pending legal action.

Mr. Cain motioned to go into Executive Session; seconded by Mr. Koon. The vote was unanimous.

Executive Session [7:43 p.m. – 8:08 p.m.]

Mr. Cain motioned to return to Open Session; seconded by Mr. Hipp. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Adams reported that Council met in Executive Session for the stated purposes and no action was taken.

11. Comments/Request from County Administrator

Mr. Adams noted the correct date of the Zoning Ordinance Work Session as being March 16, 2015 instead on March 23rd as printed on the agenda.

12. Comments/Request from Council Members

Mr. Hipp noted that the Clerk to Council was absent due to a death in the family and asked that she and her family be kept in prayers. He also noted the importance of comments from the public being made from the podium for transcription purposes because those speaking from the audience cannot be captured accurately on the recorder.

Mr. Koon asked for prayers for Chairman Livingston's family at the loss of one of his family members. He also recognized and announced the birth of his grandson, Isaac Smith.

Chairman Livingston dittoed Mr. Hipp's sentiment about comments being made from the podium and added that those speaking should state their name and address.

13. Future Meetings

- a. "On the Move with Margaret" 03/09/15 @ 9:15 a.m.
- b. County Council 03/18/15 @ 7:00 p.m.
- c. Work Session (Zoning Ordinance) 03/23/15 @ 6:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

Chairman Livingston declared the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Henry H. Livingston, Chairman

APPROVED:

Laurie N. Renwick, Clerk to Council