

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
APRIL 17, 2013**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, 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
Steven C. Stockman, Councilman
Wayne Adams, County Administrator
A.J. Tothacer, County Attorney
Laurie Renwick, Clerk to Council
Debbie Cromer, Finance Director

ABSENT: John E. Caldwell, Councilman
Scott Cain, Councilman

PRESS: Natalie Netzel, Newberry Observer
Tammy Kitchen, WKDK

The meeting was duly advertised as required by law.

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

Major Todd Johnson led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Adoption of Consent Agenda

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

2. Presentation of Newberry County Service Awards

Chairman Livingston presented service awards to Trena Crisp, Magistrate's Office - 10 years; Georgia Attaway, Assessor's Office - 15 years; and Detrick Bishop, Sheriff's Office - 15 years.

3. Ordinance #04-07-13: An Ordinance to provide appropriations for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014, for the Newberry County budget for county ordinary purposes and for other county purposes

for which the county may levy a tax and receive revenues; to provide for the levy of taxes on all taxable personal and real property in Newberry County for all county purposes, including sufficient tax to pay the principal and interest on outstanding indebtedness of Newberry County payable during said fiscal year; to provide for matters relating to Newberry County; and to provide for the expenditure of said taxes and other revenues received by the county during said fiscal year, and to provide for borrowing in anticipation of tax collections by the issuance of one or more tax anticipation notes, if necessary.

Mr. Koon motioned to approve first reading of Ordinance #04-07-13; seconded by Mr. Hipp.

Mr. Adams reported that this budget was brought before the Finance Committee and as presented would not require a millage increase for the county's operation portion of the levy; however, we do anticipate a 2.1 mil increase in the debt service levy. The millage will not change because of this budget. The mil value is expected to be worth about \$1,008.00 more in the coming year according to the Auditor but the tax rate will stay the same. Staff cut 2.4 million dollars out of the budget from total requests from department heads. There are several expected to appeal to Council at Monday's work session but these don't look to be big dollar items. The operating budget is balanced at \$21,425,867.00.

Having received no discussion, first reading of Ordinance #04-07-13 was approved unanimously.

- 4. Ordinance #04-08-13: An Ordinance to provide appropriations for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014, for the Newberry County Library, Piedmont Technical College and the Newberry Agency for the Disabilities and Special Needs; to provide for the levy of taxes on all taxable personal and real estate properties in Newberry County for said purposes; to provide for the expenditure of said taxes and other revenues received by the county during said fiscal year for said purposes.**

Mr. Waldrop motioned to approve first reading of Ordinance #04-08-13; seconded by Mr. Hipp.

Mr. Adams reported that this budget does not envision an increase in the millage rate either and the distribution of the proceeds will be on the same basis as the previous year.

Having received no discussion, first reading of Ordinance #04-08-13 was approved unanimously.

- 5. Ordinance #04-09-13: An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 206 as amended by subsequent ordinances relating to the Joint**

County Industrial Park of Newberry and Lexington Counties so as to enlarge the park so as to include the Lexington County Technology Park Property.

Mr. Hipp motioned to approve first reading of Ordinance #04-09-13; seconded by Mr. Koon.

Mr. Adams reported that the county's role in this would be only to collect the 1% revenue which is the traditional arrangement in the multi-county park agreement. This will be located on a 220 acre parcel in Chapin near the Exit 91 interchange and is being reserved specifically for technology and research oriented purposes. He said there is no specific project involved at this point that we are aware of.

Mr. Hipp commented that he is glad we are finally on the receiving end of a multi-county industrial park agreement with a surrounding county.

Having received no discussion, first reading of Ordinance #04-09-13 was approved unanimously.

6. Consideration to approve low bid from Cannon Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$1,847,208.00 for Sheriff's Office Renovation and Addition.

Mrs. Waldrop stated that all nine (9) of the pre-qualified bidder's submitted bids and the lowest most responsive was Cannon Associates in the amount of \$1,847,208.00. This scope encompasses 20,240 sq. ft. of renovations at the existing armory and a new 5,480 sq. ft. emergency operation center placed directly in front of the armory.

Mr. Koon motioned to approve the low bid from Cannon Associates in the amount of \$1,847,208.00; seconded by Mr. Waldrop.

Chairman Livingston asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Hipp noted that there was a base bid and an alternate bid amount and asked Mrs. Waldrop if she would explain.

Mrs. Waldrop responded that the alternate is the electrical set-up cost which would consist of the conduit and the outer boards to accept the future third generator to operate the office area in the middle portion of the facility providing emergency power when needed.

Mr. Hipp asked if the initial bid included two generators.

Mrs. Waldrop said that the generators are not included in this budget.

Mr. Hipp asked is the initial bid included the relocation of the two existing generators from 219 or is there two generators already on site.

Mr. West responded but his comments could not be picked up because he was not at the microphone.

Mr. Hipp asked if there were other items that are not included.

Mrs. Waldrop stated that Kinard Control, CSI, and AT&T will be awarded separately.

Mr. Hipp asked if the inclusion of all of these together is within the original budget.

Mrs. Waldrop responded that all are within the total budget amount of \$2,692,500.00.

Chairman Livingston commented that it looks as if we are going to be well within our budget when all is said and done.

Having received no further comments, the vote was unanimous to approve the low bid from Cannon Associates in the amount of \$1,847,208.00.

Mr. Adams recognized Mrs. Barbara Kemp; a Newberry County resident and chief architect of the Sheriff's Office renovation project. He also applauded the Sheriff and his staff for the help they have provided with these plans.

Chairman Livingston commented that we appreciate the tolerance of the Sheriff and his staff for all the years in the "established villas". He thanked them for their patience and working with us during all the inconveniences and the embarrassment of operating out of those units. Hopefully, this will come together and be an extremely nice addition to our county and a definite improvement from what you have operated out of.

7. Consideration to approve low bid (not to exceed budgeted amount of \$365,912.00) from W.E. Baker and Son for Whitmire Armory Renovation.

Mrs. Waldrop reported that we received twelve (12) bids on this project and the lowest bidder was W.E. Baker and Son in the amount of \$412,875.00. Through value engineering, they have deducted \$46,963.00 in items from the scope and the amount staff is requesting to be awarded to W.E. Baker and Son is \$365,912.00. She said due to the overage of the roof replacement, the revised construction budget is \$378,000.00.

Mr. Waldrop motioned to approve the bid from W.E. Baker and Son in the amount of \$365,912.00; seconded by Mr. Koon.

Chairman Livingston asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Hipp asked Mrs. Waldrop to brief them on the alternates.

Mrs. Waldrop reported that Alternate #1 is to renovate/ up-fit the front of the building for a community area/sheriff substation and Alternate #2 is for a new attached truck bay for EMS.

Mr. Hipp asked if these were included.

Mrs. Waldrop responded that they will not be included.

Having received no further comments, the vote was unanimous to approve the low bid from W.E. Baker and Son in the amount of \$365,912.00.

8. Consideration to approve Two (2) 2500 Series Dodge Trucks; One (1) for Little Mtn. Rescue Squad and One (1) for Prosperity Rescue Squad.

Mr. Tommy Long stated he was here tonight to get approval to move forward with the purchase two (2) 2500 Series Dodge Trucks for Little Mtn and Prosperity Rescue to replace two existing vehicles. This is included in the rolling stock five (5) year replacement plan budget.

Mr. Hipp motioned to approve the purchase of two (2) Dodge Trucks; seconded by Mr. Stockman. The vote was unanimous.

9. Consideration to approve use of Fairgrounds for Ag Expo September 12-15, 2013.

Mr. Koon motioned to approve use of Fairgrounds for Ag Expo; seconded by Mr. Waldrop. The vote was unanimous.

10. Consideration to reschedule May 15th County Council Meeting to May 22nd.

Mr. Adams stated that Kiswire is planning its groundbreaking ceremony for the new manufacturing plant on Hwy. 76 on May 15th which is the second County Council meeting in May. Council is going to be an integral part of that ceremony and we will also be hosting company leaders afterwards for a dinner. For those reasons, we are asking Council to consider moving the meeting date from May 15th to May 22nd.

Mr. Waldrop motioned to move the meeting date; seconded by Mr. Hipp. The vote was unanimous.

11. Committee Reports

a. Finance Committee – 04/08/13

Mrs. Cromer reported that the Finance committee met on April 8, 2013, and the following was presented.

- Buddy Livingston was elected Chairman for 2013

- Purchase of two (2) Heavy Duty Dodge Trucks for Rescue Squads
- Discussion of FY13-14 Operating Budget
- Request for funding for Free Medical Clinic
- Request for funding for Village Cemetery

12. Appointments

No. Appointments

13. Public Comments (by those who signed up at the meeting)

No comments

14. Executive Session

No Executive Session.

15. Comments from County Administrator

Mr. Adams commented that last week in the Court of Common Pleas a jury rendered a verdict against JF Hawkins Nursing Home regarding a former patient who died in 2009. That jury award of \$382,000.00 and the defense cost involved will be paid entirely by the State Insurance Reserve Fund. To our knowledge there is only one remaining lawsuit that involves the county's ownership of the nursing home.

16. Comments/Request from Council Members

Mr. Koon asked that our thoughts and prayers be with those that lost their lives to what we believe to be a terrorist attack.

17. Future Meetings

- a. Budget Work Session - 4/22/13 @ 6:00 p.m.
- b. County Council - 5/01/13 @ 7:00 p.m.
- c. Public Safety and Courts Committee – 5/06/13 @ 6:00 p.m.
- d. Public Works and Planning Committee – 5/13/13 @ 6:00 p.m.
- c. County Council - 5/22/13 @ 7:00 p.m.

18. Adjournment

Chairman Livingston adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Henry H. Livingston, III, Chairman

APPROVED:

Laurie N. Renwick, Clerk to Council