

Newberry County Council Public Safety and Courts Committee

April 25, 2016

Newberry County Council Public Safety and Courts Committee meeting was held on April 25, 2016 5:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Annex Conference Room.

PRESENT: Kirksey Koon, Chairman
Bill Waldrop, Councilman
Travis Reeder, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT: Jay Tothacer County Attorney, Clerk to Council Laurie Renwick,
Emergency Services Coordinator Tommy Long, Sheriff Lee Foster,
Facilities Manager Ervin West, Attorney Hank Bufkin, James Kokolis,
Renee Stubbs and Sally Walker

MEDIA: None Present

1. Call to Order and Invocation

Chairman Koon called the meeting to order followed by invocation.

2. Additions, Deletions, and Adoption of Agenda- Chairman Koon

Councilman Waldrop made a motion to approve the agenda; second by Councilman Reeder. The vote was unanimous.

3. Approval of January 11, 2016 Minutes

Councilman Reeder moved to approve the minutes as presented; second by Councilman Waldrop. The vote was unanimous.

4. Discussion of Noise Ordinance- Hank Bufkin, Attorney

The owner of Buffalo Creek Mr. Kokolis and his attorney Hank Bufkin along with concerned residents in that area requested the noise ordinance for Newberry County be reviewed. Mr. Bufkin reported the ordinance needs to have some kind of standard and state what is the level of noise and the ordinance should be more specific. He reported on May 28-29 there will be a 10 band music festival at Frayed Knot in Lexington County and his client could not compete with that music because of the noise ordinance for Newberry.

Sheriff Foster reported the number of noise complaints from Buffalo Creek.

- 2014 -25 complaints resulted in 7 charges for 1 manager and 5 charges for a different manager.
- 2015-121 noise complaints for Newberry County only 2 at Buffalo Creek Grill
- 2016- 37 noise complaints for Newberry County zero for Buffalo Creek Grill

Sheriff Foster reported that there is not much the Sheriff's Department can do, they can only advise people to turn the music down.

Sally Walker reported she was not affected by the noise coming from Buffalo Creek Grill but her problem was the noise coming from Lexington County. She wanted Newberry County to talk with Lexington County about the noise polluting Newberry County. She also stated that Newberry County needed a stricter noise ordinance and someone to enforce the ordinance.

Renee Stubbs reported she was not affected by the noise coming from Buffalo Creek Grill but she was more concerned about what time any music was being played on the lake instead of the noise.

Chairman Koon advised the concerned residents they should talk with Senator Cromer because he represents Newberry and Lexington County.

Jay Tothacer reported there was absolutely nothing Newberry County could do about the festival at Frayed Knot. He said if County Council wanted more information or something more specific, staff will provide for them.

The committee forwarded this request to staff for further review.

5. Public Comments

6. Executive Session (if needed)

7. Adjournment

The meeting was declared adjourned by Chairman Koon.

APPROVED:

Public Safety and Courts Committee

Kirksey Koon, Chairman

Zenda McClurkin, Recorder