



**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
APRIL 6, 2017**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, April 6, 2017, 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  
Scott Cain, Councilman  
Steve Stockman, Councilman  
Travis Reeder, Councilman  
Dr. Harriett Rucker, Councilwoman  
Wayne Adams, County Administrator  
A.J. Tothacer, County Attorney  
Laurie Renwick, Clerk to Council  
Debbie Cromer, Finance Director

**ABSENT:** Bill Waldrop, Councilman

**MEDIA:** Andrew Wigger, Newberry Observer

The meeting was duly advertised as required by law.

Chairman Livingston called the meeting to order.

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

***1. Adoption of Consent Agenda***

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

***2. Additions, Deletions and Adoption of Agenda***

Vice Chairman Koon motioned to adopt the agenda as presented; seconded by Mr. Stockman. The vote was unanimous.

3. ***Ordinance #03-09-17: An Ordinance to provide for the issuance and sale of General Obligation Bonds of Newberry County, South Carolina not exceeding \$1,900,000 in aggregate principal amount, to prescribe the purposes for which the proceeds of said bonds shall be expended, to provide for the payment of said bonds, and other matters relating thereto.***

Mr. Cain motioned to approve second reading of Ordinance #03-09-17; seconded by Mr. Stockman. The vote was unanimous.

4. ***Ordinance #03-12-17: An Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a not exceeding \$7,500,000 aggregate principal amount of Special Source Refunding Revenue Bond (Newberry County Memorial Hospital), Series 2017, of Newberry County, South Carolina; authorizing the execution and delivery of a Bond Purchase and Loan Agreement and the grant of a mortgage upon certain hospital facilities; authorizing proper officers to do all things necessary or advisable; and other matters relating thereto.***

Mr. Reeder motioned to approve second reading of Ordinance #03-12-17; seconded by Mr. Cain. The vote was unanimous.

5. ***Ordinance #03-10-17: An Ordinance to provide appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018, 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. Cain motioned to approve first reading of Ordinance #03-10-17; seconded by Mr. Reeder.

Mr. Adams reported that the proposed FY 17/18 operating budget is balanced at \$23,911,852.00; approximately 6,000.00 more than the prior year's budget. Looking at the revenues and expenditures recommended, we can preserve 6 months operating expenses in reserve and we don't look to increase property taxes. He said there will be a budget work session on April 10, 2017 to discuss all this in more detail.

Having received no discussion, the vote was unanimous to approve first reading of Ordinance #03-10-17.

- 6. Ordinance #03-11-17: An Ordinance to provide appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018, for Newberry County Library, Piedmont Technical College and the Newberry Agency for 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. Reeder motioned to approve first reading of Ordinance #03-11-17; seconded by Mr. Cain.

Mr. Adams reported that this proposed budget is balanced at \$21,931.00 more than the current year's budget of \$877,262.00 for a total of \$899,193.00. This would equate to an additional one-tenth of one mill in the levy, raising it from 6.9 mills to 7.0 mills. All three budgets would be increased at the same rate – 2.5%. These entities are expected to see increased costs in such areas as employee health insurance and retirement system contribution requirements.

Having received no comments, the vote was unanimous to approve first reading of Ordinance #03-11-17.

- 7. Consideration of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Invoices (FY 16/17) from Central SC Alliance in the amount of \$36,000.00**

Rick Farmer, Economic Development Director, reported that he has been pleased with Central's involvement in economic development in Newberry County and uses them almost on a daily basis. He was very pleased with their assistance with the MM Technics groundbreaking; they helped organize it, execute it, and payed for about 1/3 of it.

Dr. Rucker motioned to approve both invoices totaling \$36,000.00; seconded by Mr. Cain.

Chairman Livingston asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Koon commented that he has not supported giving Central SC Alliance their quarterly cut for quite some time; however, with their help in getting MM Technics located in Newberry County and the extra help they are giving our economic development team, he will vote in favor of it tonight.

Having received no further discussion, the vote was unanimous to approve Central SC Alliance invoices totaling \$36,000.00.

**8. Committee Reports**  
**a. Economic Development 3/27/17**

Rick Farmer reported that the Economic Development Committee met last week and Mr. Steve Stockman was elected the committee chairman for the upcoming year. Mr. Farmer reported that Newberry County is receiving strong project activity and possibly an existing industry expansion. The committee discussed the MM Technics groundbreaking success, product development priorities, and the opportunities for SC Department of Commerce grants. The committee was briefed on marketing efforts and professional development and congratulations was extended to Kara Cannon for her recent graduation from the SC Economic Developers' Association. Mr. Farmer also noted that Kara is preparing to take a course at University of NC Chapel Hill to which she has received a scholarship for attending. The committee discussed the upcoming annual Toast of the Town event to honor and recognize existing industry to be held on May 9, 2017 and encouraged everyone to attend.

**9. Appointments**

Chairman Livingston nominated Mr. Jason Fulmer (replacing Jerry Stoudemire) to the Board of Rural Fire Control; seconded by Mr. Stockman. The vote was unanimous.

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

No comments.

**11. Executive Session**

No Executive Session.

**12. Comments/Request from Administrator**

Mr. Adams noted that Debbie Cromer, Finance Director and Bill Waldrop, Councilman were not in attendance due to very minor medical procedures.

**13. Comments/Request from Council Members**

Mr. Reeder thanked the team for all the hard work on the budget.

Vice Chairman Koon noted that today is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States entering World War I.

Chairman Livingston thanked all emergency services volunteers and law enforcement personnel for the challenges they faced the past few days with the storms and being on call and ready to respond.

**14. Future Meetings**

- a. Budget Work Session 4/10/17 @ 7:00 p.m.
- b. Public Safety and Courts Committee 4/17/17 @ 5:00 p.m.
- c. County Council 4/19/17 @ 7:00 p.m.

**15. Adjournment**

Chairman Livingston declared the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL**

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**Henry H. Livingston, Chairman**

**APPROVED:**

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**Laurie N. Renwick, Clerk to Council**