



**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 4, 2014**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, June 4, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a regular scheduled meeting.

PRESENT: Kirksey Koon, Vice Chairman
John E. Caldwell, Councilman
Bill Waldrop, Councilman
Leslie (Les) Hipp, Councilman
Steven C. Stockman, Councilman
Scott Cain, Councilman
Wayne Adams, County Administrator
A.J. Tothacer, County Attorney
Laurie Renwick, Clerk to Council
Karen Brehmer, Fiscal Accounting Specialist

ABSENT: Henry H. Livingston, III, Chairman (attending Mid-Carolina Graduation)

PRESS: Kevin Boozer, Newberry Observer
Tammy Kitchen, WKDK

The meeting was duly advertised as required by law.

Vice-Chairman Koon called the meeting to order and led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. He noted that Chairman Livingston was participating in Mid-Carolina's Graduation and would not be in attendance tonight.

1. Personal Appearances

a. Bob Montgomery – Old Library/Post Office Museum Update

Mr. Montgomery reported that as they move forward, they would like to refer to this as the "Taylor Building" after the architect who was appointed by the US Treasury

Department to design it. He thanked Council for allowing them to take this landmark and grow it to something that will be a precious part of Newberry County. A lot of work has been done by Newberry citizens and he introduced Mrs. Denise Reid to share the progress made since the last update.

Mrs. Reid distributed a quarterly report to members of Council for review. She unveiled the draft logo for the Newberry Museum and stated that it is a wheel with the idea that the hub (the museum) will draw people into the community by offering educational programs with interactive displays and maps. They incorporated the Newberry College wolf and all of the municipalities in the spokes and are working with the lettering to make it more aesthetically pleasing. She briefed Council on the contents of the quarterly report to include the museum statement and vision, charter and constitution, board of trustees and election of officers, articles of incorporation, IRS tax identification number and the status of the non-profit application. She concluded by saying that this is a unique venture in the fact that it addresses economic development and that aspect will enable them to apply for neighborhood grants. She thanked Council for their vision and help to achieve it.

Mr. Montgomery commented on the possibility of installing some landscaping to avoid continuous weeds and erosion and asked Council to look at this and see if it was doable. He said the Historical Society in Newberry County will recognize its 50th Anniversary and they are hoping to pull all this together and celebrate the occasion at the Taylor Building on September 28th.

Mr. Hipp commented that he has been in support of this for many years. It is one thing to have a vision and a dream but it is another to make it happen. Bob and Denise have put in a tremendous amount of work along with many other support people. He thanked them for their work, vision, and diligence.

Mr. Adams gave an update of the envelope preservation work at the Old Post Office (Taylor Building).

2. **Ordinance #04-07-14: An Ordinance to provide appropriations for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015, 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. Adams reported that the proposed budget on the operating side stands at \$21,700,781.00 and capital budgets are proposed at \$2,355,000.00. He said it looks like the Local Government Fund we will be funded at or about the same level as last year. He said the county received a check this year in the amount of \$173,609.00 from the National Forestry Funds (just \$1,391.00 short of budget) and we expect \$172,000.00 in the upcoming budget year.

Vice-Chairman Koon declared this the Public Hearing.

Having received no comments, Vice-Chairman Koon declared the Public Hearing closed.

- 3. Ordinance #04-08-14: An Ordinance to provide appropriations for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015, 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. Adams reported that under the proposed budget, Newberry County Library will be funded at \$403,881.00; Piedmont Technical College at \$397,132.00; and Newberry County Disabilities and Special Needs at \$22,606.00

Vice-Chairman Koon declared this the Public Hearing.

Having received no comments, Vice-Chairman Koon declared the Public Hearing closed.

- 4. Ordinance #06-10-14: An Ordinance enacting and adopting 2014 S-11 Supplement to the Code of Ordinances for the County of Newberry, South Carolina.**

Mr. Adams reported that this is a housekeeping matter to consolidate into the County's Code of Ordinances any ordinances passed since the previous update.

Mr. Hipp motioned to approve first reading of Ordinance #06-10-14; seconded by Mr. Cain. The vote was unanimous.

- 5. Consideration of bids for Interior Renovations at Courthouse**

Mrs. Waldrop reported that bids were received on May 29th and the three responses were Capital Construction of the Carolinas, Town & Country Construction of S.C., and Pyramid Contracting. This work is a result of the water damage and includes a new suite for the Solicitor's Office. A full set of specs and drawing were developed by DSP Architects and staff recommends the low bid from Capital Construction of the Carolinas in the amount of \$63,590.00.

Mr. Hipp motioned to approve the low bid from Capital Construction of the Carolinas; seconded by Mr. Cain.

Vice-Chairman Koon asked if there was any discussion.

Mr. Hipp commented that staff posted all the correct notices and even though none of these companies are local, all of our local businesses were given an opportunity to bid but chose not to.

Having received no further discussion, the vote was unanimous to approve the low bid from Capital Construction of the Carolinas.

6. Consideration of bids for Courthouse Waterproofing

Mrs. Waldrop reported that staff pre-qualified six (6) bidders back in January but only two responded to the solicitation; Watertight Systems out of Lexington, S.C. and Southern Restoration out of Charlotte, N.C. She said the specs for this project were developed by Stafford Engineers and staff would like to recommend the low bid from Watertight Systems in the amount of \$109,151.00.

Vice-Chairman Koon commented on the difference in the two bids with Watertight Systems submitted at \$109,151.00 and Southern Restoration at \$376,853.00.

Mr. Cain asked if there was a reason why the bids came in with such a spread.

Mrs. Waldrop responded that Mr. West talked with Watertight Systems and they felt comfortable with their bid. She said the differences seem to be in the unit pricing and the fact that Southern Restoration is out of Charlotte and possibly figured in the cost for staffing employees here during the duration of the job.

Vice-Chairman Koon asked Mr. Adams to read into the record the scope of work that was bid on.

Mr. Adams reported that this includes repairing and replacing cracked and damaged pre-cast concrete around doors, windows, and the perimeter band. It also includes pointing up of mortar and repairs to fascia and soffit materials below the roofline. Two damaged windows will be replaced as will downspout tie-ins. The entire exterior of the building will be sprayed with sealant/water repellent with a lifespan of about ten (10) years.

Mr. Hipp motioned to approve the low bid in the amount of \$109,151.00 from Watertight Systems; seconded by Mr. Cain. The vote was unanimous.

7. Appointments

Mr. Hipp nominated Mr. Milton Price for an appointment to the new Recreation Commission representing District 5; seconded by Mr. Waldrop. The vote was unanimous.

8. Committee Reports

a. Personnel and Intergovernmental Relations Committee 6/2/14

Mr. Adams reported that the Personnel and Intergovernmental Relations Committee met on 6/2/14 and the following was considered:

- Mr. Jason Barnes, citizen, discussed the need for more recreational fields for the growing youth baseball program.
- Mr. Ron Powell, Building Inspector, reported on the status of the Jaycee Hut and Pistol Club. The Jaycee Hut has been boarded up to prevent entry and the county has contracted for an asbestos survey with the intent of razing that building. The Pistol Club has made significant improvements especially with the electrical service and continues to address other items of recommended improvements
- Mr. Mike Pisano, Public Works Director reported that the Maybinton ball field is in good shape and in regular use. There are three portable toilets located at the field and the county has provided an infield drag and chalk-line for assisting in preparing the field for games. The county is mowing the area outside the fence on a bi-weekly basis and the community is taking care of mowing the field itself
- Mrs. Gerdi Lake, Recreation Director, updated the committee on various recreation activities.

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

No comments.

10. Executive Session

No Executive Session.

11. Comments/Request from County Administrator

No comments.

12. Comments/Request from Council Members

Mr. Hipp remembered Mr. Robert (Spott) Coats who served on City Council for some 20 years. He was very giving and contributed many ways to the county. He served on the Newberry County Memorial Hospital Board for many years with near perfect attendance.

He asked that his family be kept in thought and prayer-.

Mr. Koon recognized a retired city employee, Captain John Campbell, who passed away last week. He said he worked with Captain Campbell for 25 years with the City Police Department and he was a good officer.

13. Future Meetings

- a. "On the Move with Margaret" 6/09/14 @ 9:30 a.m.
- a. Budget Work Session 6/09/14 @ 6:00 p.m.
- c. County Council 6/18/14 @ 7:00 p.m.
- d. Economic Development Committee 6/23/14 @ 6:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Koon declared the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Kirksey Koon, Vice-Chairman

APPROVED:

Laurie N. Renwick, Clerk to Council