

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
August 21, 2024**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a regular scheduled meeting.

Notice of the meeting was duly advertised, as required by law.

PRESENT: Todd Johnson, Chairman
Robert Shealy, Vice-Chairman
Leon Fulmer Jr., Council Member
Les Hipp, Council Member
Travis Reeder, Council Member
Johnny Mack Scurry, Council Member
Karl Sease, Council Member
Jeff Shacker, County Administrator
Joanie Winters, County Attorney
Beverly Brehmer, Deputy Clerk to Court
Karen Brehmer, Deputy County Administrator
Captain Ben Chapman, NCSO
Debbie Cromer, Finance Director
Clerk to Court Beth Folk
Eric Nieto, I.T. Director
Crystal Waldrop, Purchasing Director
Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council/PIO

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Scurry led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Adoption of Consent Agenda:

- a. Newberry County Council Work Session – August 7, 2024.
- b. Newberry County Council Meeting – August 7, 2024.

- Mr. Sease made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; Mr. Shealy provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

2. Additions, Deletions & Adoption of the Agenda.

- Mr. Scurry made a motion to accept the agenda as published; Mr. Hipp provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

3. Recognitions:

a. Employee Service

- Shanta Samuel 10 years Sheriff's Office
- Brian Smith 10 years Sheriff's Office
- Janice Allen 25 years Clerk to Court

- Mr. Shacker recognized the employees listed above for their service to Newberry County, highlighting their accomplishments and pivotal moments while working for Newberry County.

4. Resolution No 06-24. A Resolution endorsing Newberry County's application for funding through a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program.

- Mr. Shealy made a motion to adopt the Resolution; Mr. Hipp provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

5. Ordinance No. 08-01-2024. An Ordinance authorizing the County of Newberry to sell real property identified as TMS 290-11 and described in Invitation for Bid No. 2024-4.

a. Public Hearing

- Mr. Johnson declared the Public Hearing open. With no one signing up or standing to speak, Mr. Johnson declared the Public Hearing closed.

b. Second Reading

- Mr. Sease made a motion to accept Second Reading; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

6. Consideration and Approval of a Proposal for the Court House Network Cabling, a 2022 CPST Project (RFP Number 2024-3).

- Mr. Shacker said in 2022, the voters reauthorized the Capital Projects Sales Tax, with IT and security upgrades to the Newberry County Courthouse being one of the projects. Related to those upgrades was the need for a new backbone, a component of which is cabling. Mr. Nieto has identified a need for enhanced cabling – Cat 6A ethernet cable.
- A solicitation was issued for the cabling with 11 responses, all of which had a chance to meet with Mr. Nieto and look in the Newberry County Courthouse.
- The highest ranked proposal (Lewis Communications, LLC) was also the lowest cost option.
- Mr. Nieto is confident in all of the companies, including the recommended firm, in doing the job.

- Mr. Hipp made a motion to accept the recommendation of Lewis Communications LLC for the Courthouse Network Cabling; Mr. Fulmer provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

7. County Council may take action(s) on matters discussed during the 5:00 pm meeting.

- No action was taken.

8. Appointments.

a. Board of Zoning Appeals – District 6.

- Mr. Scurry made a motion to appoint Ms. Ida Werts to the Board of Zoning Appeals; Mr. Shealy provided the second and the motion carried 7-0.

b. Building, Fire and Nuisance Codes Board of Appeals – Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

- Mr. Johnson said as this is a new board, and each council member had a nomination, he spoke with the county attorney and each member of council and it is his understanding that they could do this as a slate, as opposed to taking each one individually.
- Mr. Johnson listed the nominations as follows: District 1, Councilman Todd Johnson to appoint Mr. Alan Jenkins. District 2, Councilman Leon Fulmer to appoint Mr. Leonard “Mac” McCullough. District 3, Councilman Karl Sease to appoint Mr. Aubrey Horne. District 4, Councilman Nick Shealy to appoint Mr. Ben Dukes. District 5. Councilman Les Hipp to

appoint Mr. Gordon Johnson. District 6. Councilman Johnny Mack Scurry to appoint Ms. Brandy West. District 7, Councilman Travis Reeder to appoint Mr. Joe Palmer.

- Mr. Hipp made a motion to approve the nominations as a slate; Mr. Sease provided the second, and the motion carried 7-0.

9. Public Comments.

- Mr. Asa Porter works in Public Affairs and is the Public Affairs Manager for Georgia Pacific. He said they have a philosophy at Georgia Pacific called good profit where the point of a company is to make money, but to do it in a way that supports your local community and enriches the people that work with and for you. He said they are looking to get more involved in the county and the area and he wants to be that liaison between the mill and local government. He said anything they can do for the local area he can take it to the mill and assess it.

10. Comments/Requests from County Administrator.

- Mr. Shacker said they recently had two good meetings related to Capital Project Sales Tax, the first was the follow up meeting with project architects on the amphitheater, with City of Newberry representatives present, as well as members of staff and county representatives. He said he thinks they were pretty satisfied, he said they are not at the end of the design process, but they are well underway, and he thinks it is headed

in a great direction. The second meeting was with the same firm and was regarding the roof for the museum and they have some challenges related to the roof and drainage of the roof and he thinks they have established a strategy for a permanent solution.

11. Comments/Requests from Council.

- Mr. Fulmer thanked everyone for coming out and thanked the Lord above for blessing him with another day to serve the great citizens of Newberry County.
- Mr. Hipp said it is always good to see citizens come and be a part of county government, even if it is a brief meeting.
- Mr. Shealy echoed those comments and said great seeing everyone and thanked Mr. Porter for all Georgia Pacific does for Newberry County, and he looks forward to working with them down the road.
- Mr. Sease echoed the same comments and said it is always great to have citizens involved in the governmental process. He also thanked Mr. Shacker for the Work Session, and that it was very informative.
- Mr. Reeder said it is good to see when businesses come before council to introduce themselves and that means they are doing something well. He also reminded everyone to be careful as COVID is still out there, and it is spreading. He said he had it last week and it was the worst one he had.
- Mr. Scurry introduced council to Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, who are active members of the community.

12. Future meetings:

- a. Newberry County Finance Committee – August 26 at 6 p.m.
(Postponed pending audit.)
- b. Labor Day – September 2 – Offices Closed
- c. Newberry County Council Work Session – September 4 at 5 p.m.
- d. Newberry County Council – September 4 at 6 p.m.
- e. Newberry County Council Work Session – September 18 at 5 p.m.
- f. Newberry County Council – September 18 at 6 p.m.

13. Adjournment.

- Mr. Shealy made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Reeder provided the second and the motion carried 7-0 at 6:19 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL



Todd Johnson, Chairman



Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council

Minutes Approved: 09-04-2024