

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
MARCH 2, 2022**

The Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, 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, Chair (District 1)
Les Hipp, Vice-Chair (District 5)
Mary Arrowood, Council Member (District 2)
Henry H. Livingston, III, Council Member (District 3)
Robert N. Shealy, Council Member (District 4)
Johnny Mack Scurry, Council Member (District 6)
Travis Reeder, Council Member (District 7)
Christopher Inglese, County Administrator
A.J. Tothacer, Jr., County Attorney
Karen Brehmer, Deputy Administrator
Debbie S. Cromer, Finance Director
Susan C. Fellers, Clerk to Council

MEDIA: Andrew Wigger, Newberry Observer

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order and determined a quorum to be present.

Mr. Scurry had the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Adoption of the Consent Agenda

Mr. Scurry moved to adopt the Consent Agenda consisting of the Minutes of the February 2, 2022 meeting, as presented; seconded by Mr. Reeder. Vote was unanimous.

2. Additions, Deletions and Adoption of the Agenda

There being no additions or deletions to the Agenda, Mr. Shealy moved to adopt the Agenda, as presented; seconded by Mrs. Arrowood. Vote was unanimous.

3. Public Appearance:

- a. Voices for Pride Officers (NCDSN) - Presentation of Proclamation declaring March 2022 as Disabilities Awareness Month in Newberry County.**

Connie Gallman appeared on behalf of the Voices for Pride Officers and thanked Council for its continued support of the Newberry County Disabilities and Special Needs.

Mr. Johnson read the Resolution into the record:

**PROCLAMATION BY NEWBERRY COUNTY
DECLARING MARCH 2022
DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, more than 500,000 South Carolina citizens and families are impacted by severe lifelong disabilities, with no distinction as to race, culture, geography, age, sex or economic class; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs serves people with severe lifelong physical and intellectual disabilities, including autism, traumatic brain injury, and spinal cord injury; and

WHEREAS, the Newberry County Disabilities and Special Needs Board works with families to provide support services to promote economic self-sufficiency and independence; and

WHEREAS, people with lifelong disabilities are productive citizens, neighbors, and family members deserving of respect and opportunities for economic self-sufficiency, independence and personal growth; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 statewide observance of Disabilities Awareness Month celebrates the successful partnership between people with and without disabilities and the increasing involvement of people with disabilities in education, employment and community activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL, does hereby proclaim March 2022 as

DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH IN NEWBERRY COUNTY and encourages our citizens to work together to promote increased opportunities for people with disabilities; to recognize the many contributions they make to our community; and to honor the dedication of the caregivers who bring support and hope to their fellow citizens.

ADOPTED by Newberry County Council in meeting duly assembled in Newberry County, this the 2nd day of March, 2022.

AND IT IS SO PROCLAIMED THIS 2ND DAY OF MARCH, 2022, AT NEWBERRY, S.C.

After reading the Resolution, Mr. Johnson then presented a framed Resolution to Ms. Gallman.

- 4. Ordinance #03-04-22: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the County of Newberry adopted June 30, 2016, so as to amend the zoning map acting on a request to amend the official zoning map established, codified in Chapter 153 of the County of Newberry Code of Ordinances, so as to rezone three (3) real estate parcels totaling thirteen and ninety-one hundredths (13.91) acres designated as TMS Parcel No. 639-8, 639-87, and 639-88 from RS-Single Family Residential to R2-Rural.**

- a. First Reading**

Katie Werts, Zoning Administrator, advised this request, if approved, would allow the placement of a manufactured home on property located at 1420 Mt.

Tabor Road, Little Mountain, SC. The Joint Planning Commission recommended rezoning of this real estate parcel to R2-Rural.

Mr. Hipp moved to adopt first reading; seconded by Mr. Shealy. There being no discussion, Mr. Johnson called for the vote. Vote was unanimous.

5. **Ordinance #03-05-22: An Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the County of Newberry adopted June 30, 2016, so as to amend the zoning map acting on a request to amend the official zoning map established, codified in Chapter 153 of the County of Newberry Code of Ordinances, so as to rezone one (1) real estate parcel totaling one and forty-nine hundredths (1.49) acres designated as TMS Parcel No. 340-2-21 from RS-Single Family Residential to R2-Rural.**

- a. **First Reading**

Mrs. Werts advised if rezoning of this property is approved it would allow for placement of mini-storage units at 119 Pender Ridge Road. The Joint Planning Commission recommended approval of this rezoning request to R2-Rural.

Mr. Shealy moved to adopt first reading; seconded by Mr. Scurry. There being no discussion, Mr. Johnson called for the vote. Vote was unanimous.

6. **Council to consider MOUs for CPST co-sponsorship:**

- a. **Amphitheater**

There was concern that the document was general and broad in nature and referenced a subsequent agreement. It says the two parties are ready to move forward as partners and pursue this project.

The City owns the property on which the proposed Amphitheater would be located, and the County has an option for adjacent property.

b. Gallman School

This Agreement does not commit county or city staff in the future. The County would account for all CPST funds, and the City would provide support.

Staff is comfortable with both of the Agreements as they are.

As to Item (a), Mr. Hipp moved to approve the MOU; seconded by Mr. Reeder. Vote was unanimous.

As to Item (b), Mr. Hipp moved to approve the MOU; seconded by Mrs. Arrowood. Vote was unanimous.

7. Executive Session

- a. Code Section 30-4-70(a)(2): Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim.**
- b. Code Section 30-4-0(a)(1): Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body; however, if an adversary hearing involving the employee or client is held, the employee or client has the right to demand that the hearing be conducted publicly. Nothing contained in this item shall prevent the public body, in its discretion, from deleting the names of the other employees or clients whose records are submitted for use at the hearing.**

Mr. Reeder moved for Council to go into Executive Session for the reasons set forth above; seconded by Mr. Shealy. Vote was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
6:16 P.M. - 7:55 P.M.

Mr. Shealy moved to return to open session; seconded by Mr. Reeder. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Johnson stated Council went into Executive Session for the reasons as stated above, and no action was taken in Executive Session.

8. Ordinance #02-03-22: An Ordinance to declare surplus and approve the sale and transfer of a parcel of real estate property owned by Newberry County.

a. Second Reading

Mrs. Arrowood moved to adopt second reading; seconded by Mr. Reeder. There being no discussion, Mr. Johnson called for the vote. Vote was unanimous.

9. Public Comments

Both **Karol Kunkle** and **Misty West** spoke regarding Item #8. Neither of them had any opposition to the County selling the property but both were opposed to the proposed use of the property by a paper company. They felt this property would be better used for housing.

10. Comments/Requests from County Administrator

Mr. Inglese has directed that both Community Hall and the Helena Center be re-opened for rental to the public.

He had the following report regarding the Animal Shelter:

- A. Euthanasia in the year 2021 was only 51.
- B. Sterilization has increased by 40%.
- C. Adoption event was held in February.
- D. Shelter will try to do Saturday adoptions once a month.
- E. Leslie has been there 14 years, and he was proud of the hard work of the staff.

District boundary maps are now available and have been uploaded to the County website. Copies of the map will be posted in the hallway as soon as possible.

He reminded Council of the special meeting on Monday and urged them to turn in their scoring sheets to the administrative staff prior to Monday. The meeting Monday will be at 4:30 p.m.

11. Comments/Requests from Council Members

Council thanked Mr. Inglese and the county employees for their hard work.

12. Future Meetings (All meetings are at 6:00 pm unless otherwise noted):

- a. Finance Committee on March 7 has been canceled
- b. Special Called County Council CPST on March 7 at 4:30 p.m.
- c. County Council Regular Meeting on March 16
- d. Finance Committee on March 28.

13. Adjournment

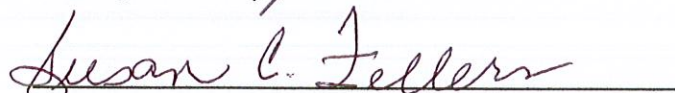
There being no further business to come before Council, Mr. Shealy moved to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Arrowood. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL



Todd Johnson, Chairman



Susan C. Fellers, Clerk to Council

Minutes Approved: 4-20-2022