

Meet Your County Council



Wm. Weston J. Newton (R)
Chairman
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 Term expires December 2010

Mr. Newton, a partner with Jones, Simpson & Newton, P.A., was a judicial law clerk for the Honorable C. Weston Houck, Chief U.S. District Court Judge, South Carolina, and for the Honorable John H. Waller, Jr., Associate Justice, South Carolina Supreme Court/Judge of the 12th Judicial Circuit. He received his B.A. from Washington and Lee University in 1989 and his J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1993. Mr. Newton is a member of the South Carolina, Beaufort County, Hilton Head Island and American Bar Associations. He is also a member of the Hilton Head Island Sunset Rotary Club. He is a graduate of Leadership Hilton Head/Bluffton.



Paul Sommerville (R)
Vice Chairman
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 Term expires December 2010

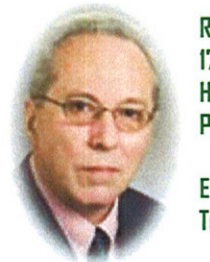
Mr. Sommerville is a Duke University graduate. His background is in labor relations, where he is a management consultant. He is married with two young daughters, and he is a U. S. Army veteran. A Beaufort native, he is an active church member of St. Helena's Episcopal Church. Mr. Sommerville feels that he is ready to give back to Beaufort County which has given him so much. Committee Assignments: Chairman of Natural Resources; Member of Finance Committee and Public Facilities.



Steven M. Baer (R)
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 Term expires December 2010

Mr. Baer has a Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering from Rutgers University. He is married to Sandy Baer and they have two children, Andy and Heather. His background is in telecommunications research, development and network planning with Bell Labs, AT&T and Bell System spin-offs. Early in his career, he was part of a small team that designed one of the world's first cordless phones. He led groups that did strategic, tactical, and economic planning for telecommunications networks, including assessment and expansion of the telecommunications network in Iran. His career involved study of issues at a deep technical level in order to develop and implement new technologies, new services, and techniques to improve efficiency. Most recently he was the co-inventor of a technical and economic planning system for wireless and broadband networks. He holds one patent. Until recently, Mr. Baer was a member of the Board of the Friends of the Hilton Head Library. He was editor and publisher for their Newsletter, as well as, the head of their nominating committee. He also developed a computer expansion plan for the Hilton Head Library.

He has assisted Beaufort County in video and audio conferencing systems between Beaufort and Hilton Head. He has organized an "inverse PTA" and helps with volunteer activities at a local senior center. He is an FCC licensed radio operator, a member of IEEE and HKN engineering societies, and writes a column for the Hilton Head Island Computer Club Newsletter. Committee Assignments: Vice Chairman of Public Facilities; Member of Community Services, Finance Committee and Natural Resources. He also serves on the Lowcountry Council of Governments.



Rick Caporale (R)
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 Term expires December 2010

Mr. Caporale holds a Bachelor's degree in English from the University of New Haven, a Master's degree in English and an Ed.S. in Higher Education from the University of Iowa. He has taught at several colleges, including Bunker Hill Community College in Boston as well as Saint Anselm College in New Hampshire. In 1994, he was elected to the Beaufort County Board of Education, where he served three terms. He retired from Hargray Communications in 2004, where he was sales manager, and is currently employed by Embark. Committee Assignments: Member of Community Services and Public Safety.



Gerald Dawson (D)
 64-A Horace Dawson Drive
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 Term expires December 2012

Mr. Dawson was born January 2, 1953, in Gardens Corner, SC. He received his early education through the Beaufort County school system. He later attended the Technical College of the Lowcountry, where he received certification as a licensed Emergency Medical Technician and as a licensed Paramedic. Mr. Dawson was employed as a paramedic with Beaufort County EMS and was also a Postal Letter Carrier with the US Postal Service, from which he retired. He is an ordained minister and serves as Associate Minister of Mount Carmel Baptist Church. Mr. Dawson and his wife, Vivian, have four daughters and six grandchildren. Mr. Dawson has always displayed a keen interest in Beaufort County as well as in his community. He has served as President of the Dale-Lobeco Community Center; PTO President of James J. Davis Elementary School; volunteer EMT, Beaufort County EMS; EMS Paramedic; Sheldon Planning District Representative, Beaufort County Planning Commission; Sheldon Planning District Subcommittee Chairman; Parris Island Ministries Campus Crusade for Christ Instructor; Member of the Governor's Comprehensive Strategies for Prevention (G-CAP). He is also affiliated with after school programs at James J. Davis Elementary and Whale Branch Middle Schools. Committee Assignments: Vice Chairman of Community Services; and a member of Natural Resources, Public Facilities and Public Safety. He also is a member of the Lowcountry Council of Governments.



Brian E. Flewelling (R)
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 Term expires December 2012

Mr. Flewelling is a native of Corinth, New York. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps at age 17, and served ten years on active duty and two years in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Mr. Flewelling and his wife, Angel, have one son. They have been actively involved with the Child Abuse Prevention Association for over 20 years, having been relief houseparents at the Open Arms Shelter and foster parents for many years. He has been active in two Lions Clubs, the Exchange Club of Beaufort, Beaufort Yacht and Sailing Club, and St. Peter's Catholic church. Mr. Flewelling owns Advantage Title Abstracting Company. He was a member and Chairman of the City of Beaufort Zoning Board of Appeals, and a member and Vice Chairman of the Beaufort County Planning Commission. Committee assignments: Vice Chairman of Public Safety; and a member of Finance Committee, Natural Resources and Public Facilities. He also is a member of the Lowcountry Council of Governments.



Herbert N. Glaze (D)
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 Burton, SC 29903
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 Term expires December 2012

Mr. Glaze is Assistant Principal at Beaufort High School and the Track and Field Coach. He attended Benedict College, B.S., and the Pepperdine University, M.Ed. He is a member of Beaufort County Education Association, Burton Advisory Committee, Marine Science Association, National Education Association, National Science Teachers Association, New Hope Christian Church (Elder), Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Sons of Beaufort Masonic Lodge #36, South Carolina Education Association, South Carolina High School League, and South Carolina Track and Field Association. He coached the Beaufort High School Girl's Track Team for 33 years, winning 18 regional (conference) championships, 8 state championships, and 2 state runner's up. He was awarded the South Carolina Track and Field 4-A Coach of the Year in 2002, the High School Coaches Association's highest honor, March 2006 inducted Coaches Classic Hall of Fame, July 2006 inducted Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame, October 2007 inducted Beaufort High Hall of Fame, Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors, and the founder of CAVE Heaven. Committee Assignments: Chairman of Public Facilities; a member of Community Services and Public Safety. He also is a member of the Lowcountry Council of Governments and Transportation Advisory Group.



William L. McBride (D)
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 Term expires December 2012

Mr. McBride, a retired high school science teacher, and a former high school department head, attended the South Carolina

State University, B.S., M.Ed. and The Citadel, Ed.S. He is a member of the American Civil Liberties Union (S.C. Chapter), Beaufort County Democratic Party, Lowcountry Council of Governments, St. Helena/Lady's Island Branch of the NAACP, South Carolina Science Council, Wesley United Methodist Church (Administrative and Trustee Boards). He is a board member and a past president of South Carolina Association of Counties. President of the SC Associations of Regional Councils (SCARC). Committee Assignments: Chairman of Community Services; Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee; and a member of Natural Resources and Public Facilities. He also is a member of Lowcountry Council of Governments.



Stewart Rodman (R)
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 Term expires December 2010

Stu was a founding partner in a private investment firm. Earlier he held manufacturing, finance and general management positions with several major corporations. Currently, Stu holds leadership positions on the boards of several national Christian ministries. In 2003, Stu served as Commissioner on the Governor's Commission on Management, Accountability and Performance. He has served on the Beaufort County Board of Education. Stu has a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from Cornell and an MBA from Harvard. He served as a Lieutenant in the US Army and is an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. Stu and Nina, his wife of 40 years, have two married children and reside in Sea Pines on Hilton Head. Committee assignments: Chairman of the Finance Committee; Member of Community Services, Natural Resources and Public Safety. He also services as Vice-Chairman of the Transportation Advisory Group.



Gerald W. Stewart (R)
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 Term expires December 2010

Mr. Stewart has a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Idaho, with post-doctoral studies at Washington University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has directed scientific programs at both public and private research facilities as well as co-founded and served for eighteen years as the Chief Executive of a technology-oriented, international publicly-traded corporation. For the past six years he has been and continues to be the principal in Cole Hill Associates, providing technical and financial management assistance to businesses and working with state and local governments to promote business, technology development and growth. Most recently Mr. Stewart consulted with New Hampshire's Office of Energy and Planning on the use of alternative energy sources for economic development.

Mr. Stewart has served as a Board Member for both public and private businesses; he is former Assistant Professor of Chemistry at West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV; Chief of Supporting Research at the U.S. Dept. of Energy's Morgantown Energy Technology Center; and Chairman, CEO of Industrial Technologies, Inc, Milford, CT. He has served on the Bluffton Economic Development Committee, Beaufort County Solid Waste and Recycling Board, Hilton Head Island/Bluffton's Government Affairs Committee, Sun City's Government and Business Affairs Committee, as well as a member of the Greater Island Committee. Committee Assignments: Chairman Public Safety; Vice-Chairman of Natural Resources; and a member of Finance Committee and Public Facilities.



Laura Von Harten (D)
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 Term expires December 2010

Ms. Von Harten was born in Freeport, Texas, in 1964. She is a daughter of H.H. "Bubba" Von Harten and Patricia Von Harten. After graduating from Beaufort High School, she earned a B.A. in anthropology from the University of South Carolina and an M.A. in applied anthropology from the University of Kentucky. Ms. Von Harten worked in the shrimp industry for twenty years and has additional private sector experience in product development and marketing. She served on the faculty of the University of South Carolina Beaufort and Eastern Kentucky University; she has also worked for over a dozen governmental and nongovernmental entities.

As a South Carolina Arts Commission Community Scholar, Ms. Von Harten collected oral histories of local seafood industry workers, and she continues to study and write about the Lowcountry. Ms. Von Harten is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Beaufort. Committee Assignments: Member of Community Services, Finance Committee and Public Safety. She is also a member of the Lowcountry Council of Governments.