Town of Branchville

Regular Council Meeting

Monday July 9, 2018

7:00 PM

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday, July 9, 2018 at 7 PM at the Town Hall. A notice with the time, date and place of the meeting was posted on the front door of the Town Hall at least 24 hours before the meeting.

Mayor Dickson called the meeting to order. Council, along with all those present, stood for the

Pledge of Allegiance, followed by prayer.

Roll called indicated that Mayor Dickson, Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship, Councilman Ott, Councilman Dukes, Councilman Oliver, Councilman Connelly was present. Absent was Councilman Banks.

**Welcome of Guest:** Mayor Dickson welcomed all guests and thanked them for coming. He addressed the agenda and the order of the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilman Dukes made the motion to approve the June 11, 2018 minutes. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report:** Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship made the motion to approve the General Fund Financial report. Councilman Ott seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Dukes

made the motion to approve the Municipal Court financial report. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Ott made the motion to approve the Water and Sewer financial report. Councilman Dukes second the motion, motion carried.

**Council Reports:**

1. **City Hall/License/Insurance:** No Reports at this time, Councilman Banks was absent. Mayor Dickson said he has spoken with Lori Salley and the 2017 Audit was completed. She wanted to let the Mayor and Council know that this audit was the easiest she had done here. Things went very smoothly and she was very pleased with the office staff and that they had done a great job.
2. **Water/Sewer/Streets:** Councilman Ott reports: The Spray Park is up and running again. No issues at this time with the water department.
3. **Parks/Recreation:** Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship reports: I want everyone to know that this past tournament was the biggest sports related event in this area. He thanked everyone for their support and help with the event. During this event they hosted 21 softball teams. It was a great success. He wanted to let the public know that three girl youths from Branchville were playing in the Dixie Bell State Tournament tonight. Councilman Banks’ daughter was one of them and that is why he is not here tonight. I want to let you know that a lot of Branchville youth played in different tournaments and that I am very proud of them.
4. **Projects/Events:** Councilman Connelly reports: I did get the military flags flying at the Town Hall, and I want to thank Mr. Glenn Miller for letting us know that the flags were here at the Town Hall. As stated, we didn’t know anything about them. I would also like in the future to be able to purchase collapsible flag poles for these flags, so keep that in the back of your mind.

The next thing I have is that a young gentleman whom is interested in perhaps shooting a film here in Branchville. The story is about a young gentleman going off to service, and a young lady becoming a journalist. He would like to shoot at night if possible. He is working on the finances at this time and if this occurs, I just wanted to get the Council’s opinion on this. Mayor Dickson asked that perhaps this gentleman could come and meet with us during Executive Session.

1. **Buildings/Grounds:** Councilman Oliver reports: We did have an electrical problem with the spray park, but it is up and running. Everything else is going good.
2. **Police Department:** Councilman Dukes’ reports: The officers had a good month, 359 cases heard in court. Had some trouble with the Crown Vic, the starter went out on it, however, it is now up and running.

**Old Business:**

1. Mayor Dickson explained the County Ordinance that the Town of Branchville adopted from County of Orangeburg on the litter control. Copies of the ordinance were provided for those present explaining each step and how it needs to be done.
2. Mayor Dickson also discussed the concerns Wanda Summers had last council meeting about her property and the Raylrode Daze. I spoke with Tom Jennings and red tape will be put up at her address to prevent anyone from parking on her property. The band that plays in that location can’t be changed. However, it is my understanding that they will shut down at 11:30PM.

**New Business:**

1. None at this time.

**Public Comments Agenda:** No comments from were made.

**Public Comments Other:** Mr. Glenn Miller asked why the street sweeper from Orangeburg County was not cleaning the streets. Town Clerk informed him they had been called, however they said the sweeper was not operational at this time. He also asked if a transit bus could starting running in the Town of Branchville. Mayor Dickson explained that perhaps a year from now that they might be able to get a bus to run once a week to each town. He was working on this however, they needed some buses to be able to do this, but he was working on it. Mr. Miller also wanted to know why Orangeburg could get speck buildings and Branchville could not. Mayor Dickson explained that the buildings came from penny monies, and penny monies are based on the population of the towns. Mr. Miller said that the council needed to be more aggressive about getting monies for Branchville. Mr. Miller asked when the corner stone going to be placed on Town Hall like it should have been placed when it was built. He was told by council that a corner stone could not be placed at this time, that a corner stone has to be placed while a building is going up. However, they could get a plaque mounted on the building. Mr. Miller wanted to know also why the town web’s page did not show the past council and mayor’s names like other towns. Council explained that the other towns didn’t provide this information on their site and that our site was being updated and information added at this time and that this information could be listed.

Mrs. Vivian Fogle says she agrees with Mr. Miller that our web page should have history about past mayors and council.

**Items for Information:** Mayor Dickson had two items for information. This first one he discussed was about a letter from ISO in reference to the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule Program. A copy of this letter was available for the guests present. Mayor Dickson also discussed a letter he had received about honoring Mrs. Betty A. Henderson. Mrs. Henderson has served our community over 50 years, and if it pleases the council I would like to name August 10, 2018 Betty A. Henderson Day, and would like to place this on our town sign that day. Councilman Dukes made a motion to make August 10th Betty Henderson Day. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried.

Councilman Oliver also reminded those present that if they knew of anyone that was hearing impaired to let them know he had the application that needed to be filled out for the fire department to receive a smoke detector. This detector would be installed by the fire department for those that are hearing impaired.

**Executive Session:** None at this time.

**Adjournment**: Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Ott seconded the motion, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55PM.

Town Clerk

Faye Connelly