Town of Branchville

Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Franklin Dickson Presiding

Monday, 14th 2022

7:00 PM

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday, 14th, 2022 at 7 PM at the Town Hall. A notice with the time, date and place of the meeting was posted on the exterior bulletin board 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 the Mayor and all council was present.

**Welcome of Guest:**

Blaine Heffelfinger, President of Raylrode Daze, requested that one beer wagon be able to sell alcohol during Raylrode Daze. The one person will be drawn from a lottery held by Raylrode Daze committee. Blaine said he would bring names before council prior to the name being drawn. Golf Tournament will be held May 15th. Festivul will be held Sept. 22-24th.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mayor Pro Tem Oliver made the motion to approve the January 2022 minutes. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report:** Councilman Connellymade the motion to approve the General Fund

Financial report. Councilman Banks seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Dukes made the motion to approve the Municipal Court financial report. Councilman Banks seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Connelly made the motion to approve the Water and Sewer financial report. Mayor Pro Tem Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Council Reports:**

1. **City Hall/License/Insurance:** Councilman Jumper reports: No reports at this time.
2. **Water/Sewer/Streets:** Councilman Connelly reports: 4 water main leaks. There are 2 outstanding as of 2/14/2022. We are waiting for clearance so they can been repaired.
3. **Parks/Recreation:** Councilman Banks reports: Baseball & softball practice starting this week. T-ball will start later. Jamboree will be in March.
4. **Projects/Events:** Councilwoman Peeples reports: Good turnout for arts/crafts sale. Next one will be March 5th. Would like to see more turn out from the town
5. **Buildings/Grounds:** Mayor Pro Tem Oliver reports: Everything going well.
6. **Police Department:** Councilman Dukes reports: Good month in January. Judge Quattlebaum will have a full docket in March.

**Old Business:**

 1. Mayor Dickson explained how we got to the point of raising water rates. The floor was opened up for citizens to speak. Kim Merritt, Charlie Byrd, Vivian Fogle, Clifton Ott, Craig Hughes, Betty Skolasky, and Blaine Heffelfinger spoke. Public was upset due to the increase. Have you checked into refinancing the loans? Reply back from council was it would be looked into and see what answers they could get.

**New Business:**

1. None

**Executive Session: Mayor Pro Tem Oliver** made a motion to go to Executive Session. Councilman Jumper seconded the motion, motion carried. Council left at 8:17PM.

Councilman Dukes made the motion to return to the regular Council Meeting at 8:47 PM. Mayor Pro Tem Oliver second the motion, motioned carried.

Mayor Dickson asked for a motion to have an Open House for the public at the Old Freight Depot February 27 at 12:30. Norris from the Eatery will prepare and donate the refreshments. Councilman Banks made the motion for this event to take place. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion.

Councilman Banks made the motion to raise insurance rates on the Healthplex and old rescue squad building. Mayor Pro Tem Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried.

Councilman Connelly made the motion for water meter upgrade. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Adjournment**: Motion was made by Councilman Banks to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Town Clerk

Gwen Harbeson