Town of Branchville

Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Franklin Dickson Presiding

Monday, April 11th 2022

7:00 PM

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday, April 11, 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 call indicated that all Council were present except for Councilman Banks, who is on storm call.

**Welcome of Guest:** Mayor Dickson welcomed those present.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mayor Pro Tem Oliver made a motion to accept the March 14th, 2022 minutes. Councilman Connelly seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Dukes made a motion to accept the April 5th Special Meeting Minutes. Councilman Jumper seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report:** Councilman Connelly made the motion to approve the General Fund financial report. Councilman Jumper seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Dukes made the motion to approve the Municipal Court financial report. Councilman Connelly 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: Nothing at this time, have something to go over in Executive Session
2. **Water/Sewer/Streets:** Councilman Connelly reports: Problems at the pumping stations, will speak more on this in Executive Session. Will be speaking with Evans Electric about getting a quote to put emergency generators on the pumping stations this coming week. Mayor Dickson thanked Councilman Connelly for moving forward on the generator project as that has been in the works for some time. Mayor also mentioned that he had received an email from the RIA, who we had applied for a water sewer grant with wanting some information, but the matter was handled by Hussey, Gay and Bell, the engineering firm that submitted the grant for us.
3. **Parks/Recreation:** Councilman Banks reports: Councilman Banks not present, Mayor Dickson mentioned the baseball tournament played recently at the Sports Complex. Everything is done at the complex with volunteers, they are doing a fantastic job, if you see them thank them.
4. **Projects/Events:** Councilwoman Peeples reports: Easter Egg hunt cancelled, trying to organize a farmer’s market and a food truck event.

**5. Buildings/Grounds:** Mayor Pro Tem Oliver reports: Everything good with the buildings. Have

gotten quotes together for the fence that is needed at the Freight Depot between the RR

tracks and the building as required by the contract. One quote is for $12,000 and another quote from a fence company out of Orangeburg for $6,500 waiting for another quote

**6. Police Department:** Councilman Dukes reports: Good month for court, had 473 cases come

through court, our officers are out there working hard.

**Old Business:** No old Business

**New Business:** Mayor Dickson mentioned that the Town did receive a $25,000 grant from the Orangeburg County Tourism Board for the Freight Depot.

**Public Comments** – Agenda Items – 3 minutes per person: Audience member questioned what department tourism board’s grants were made from, Mayor Dickson explained that they came from accommodations taxes collected by the County. Lorianne Miller asked a question about the amount of days on her water bill, Mayor answered her concern. Discussion was had about the abilities of the new water meters that will be installed outside of town and eventually all throughout town.

**Public Comments** - Other Items – 3 minutes per person:

**Items for Information:** The town has lost two employees, taking applications for water department for maintenance and grass cutters. Another employee has been hired for the office, will start next week.

**Executive Session:** Mayor Dickson called for Executive Session due to Contractual Matters. Councilman Dukes made a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilwoman Peeples seconded the motion. Council left for Executive Session at 7:20 pm. Councilman Connelly made a motion to return to regular council meeting at 7:52 pm. Mayor said that in Executive session it was discussed that there are five underinsured properties in the town, will be making calls to see if changes are needed to the policy

**Adjournment:** Motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Dukes, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Oliver, motion carried, meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm

Clerk of Court

Emily Maynard