

TOWN OF BRANCHVILLE
COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 11, 2013

PRESIDING: MAYOR GLENN MILLER

Mayor Miller called the meeting to order all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer by Mayor Pro Tem Tom Jennings.

Mayor Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that he was not pleased to see so little guest at the Council Meeting.

Councilwoman Amy Bryant made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction of Mr. Blackmon name being corrected on the January 14 minutes. Councilwoman Benita Gibbs seconded the motion.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt asked about Ms. Lavenia Williams getting an answer about using the cafeteria for the Senior Citizens lunch program. Mayor Miller said that he spoke to Ms. Lavenia Williams and she said she decided to stay at the Ott's Branch Community Center.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt asked about the date for the Grand Opening of the New Town Hall. Mayor Miller said he was looking at April 2, 2013 for the Grand Opening date due to the date when we are expecting to receive the doors. The time should be from 5pm-7pm.

Mayor Miller said that he will not allow anyone to over charge the town. He said he will change the price to make the hand rails because \$400 is a low price for today.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt asked about the proactive approach to make people more aware of the spikes in their water bills. Mayor Miller said that it's already a system in place for the town to be aware of leaks on Nicholson Business System. In the future we are to make the proper records to keep residents up to date. We will make every effort to let the customer know if they have a leak.

Fire Chief Allen Oakly questioned if the Fire Dept. could use the Rescue Squad Ambulance to go on fire calls. Chief Oakly stated that all they have is the fire truck and the ambulance would not be used to transport people.

Councilman Tom Jennings asked who owned the ambulance. Mayor Miller said he wasn't sure but would find the title tomorrow.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt asked Chief Oakly what would they use the ambulance for and Chief Oakly explained that they would only use it for medical calls until an EMT comes on the scene. Chief Oakly also said that the fire dept. has five people trained to answer medical calls and once all volunteers are trained it will be 12 to 15 people able to answer medical calls.

Councilman Tom Jennings asked who would be responsible for the insurance and fuel for the ambulance. Chief Oakly said that the Fire Dept. and County would be responsible for it.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt made a motion to let the Fire Dept. use the Rescue Squad ambulance after the town transfers the title if the title is in Branchville Rescue Squad name.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt is concerned about the lack of street lights on Buttes Rd. Mayor Miller said that yes lights can be provided on Buttes Rd. however make sure we put the lights in the right spot. Mayor Miller also said that we will not be putting lights all over town. Councilman Chris Ott made a motion to get SCE&G to put two lights on Buttes Rd. Councilman Sam Whisenhunt Second the motion. Motion was carried.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt asked about the holes on Miley Rd. but Councilman Benita Gibbs said that the state already has it under control.

Officer Johnson had a complaint about street signs not being able to be identified or in sight. Mayor Miller said we as a town all need to be helpful and report street signs that are down and street lights that are out. Councilman Benita Gibbs said she would look into who responsibility it was to maintain the street signs and forward the information.

Mayor Miller explained that the Dodge Charger has a rear end problem and is down. Mayor Miller said that he would like to see if the Chrysler Dodge dealership can fix it under warranty because the town just spent \$7,000.00 on fixing one of our utility trucks. However Mayor Miller asked council what did they think should be done about the car.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt made a motion to get the Dodge Charger repaired by the Chrysler Dodge dealership as long as the work being done is under warranty. Councilman Chris Ott second the motion. Motion carried.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt asked about returned checks and how they should be controlled. Mayor Miller said that he would take full responsibility for any return checks. Councilman Sam Whisenhunt said that before we pay a check we should make sure we have the money in the bank.

Councilman Tom Jennings made a motion not to approve the financials until we speak with McGregor and McGregor. Motion was carried

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt made a motion not to have the second reading of the 2013 budget until they talked to someone from McGregor and McGregor. Councilman Tom Jennings second the motion. Motion was carried.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt asked about the FEMA Project. Mayor Miller asked Councilman Sam Whisenhunt would he work on that project and Councilman Whisenhunt agreed. Councilman Tom Jennings made a motion that Councilman Sam Whisenhunt contact Mellissa Potter about the FEMA Project. Motion carried

Councilman Benita Gibbs asked that council allow the town to barricade Lanie and Evans St. on March 30, 2013 from the hours of 12pm-4pm for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt in the park on Evans St. Council agreed

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt asked if the people who tore down the house on Freedom Rd. had a Business License. Mayor Miller said that he was not sure but didn't think so and he would look into it.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt asked if the town have had any broken water lines. Mayor Miller said that the town had had one 2 inch water line broken.

Councilman Sam Whisenhunt also mentioned if another company breaks a water line after it has been marked it should be a \$1200.00 fine. Council said that they would have to put that as a Ordinance before it became into affect.

Meeting adjourned

Respectively submitted

Myra Gaskin, Branchville Town Clerk
