

TOWN OF BRANCHVILLE  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
September 9, 2013

The regular Town of Branchville Council Meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. on September 9, 2013. Mayor Glenn Miller called the meeting to order. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer.

Roll Call indicated that all council members were present.

Mayor Miller welcomed all the guests.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve the August minutes was made by Councilman Sam Whisenhunt and seconded by Councilwoman Amy Bryant. The motion carried.

**Public Comments:** Ms. Marianna Street questioned why the Town had not been sprayed for mosquitoes yet. Mayor Miller reported the county had come to spray, while in Branchville the truck had mechanical difficulties. Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Jennings asked if they still had the mosquito sprayer. Mayor Miller reported they did.

Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Jennings asked if the Highway Patrol had been notified of Raylrode Daze coming up. Mayor Miller stated that they had been notified.

Ms. Luvenia Williams asked if the Mayor had any news on a Library. Mayor responded he would speak on that in old business.

Ms. Naomi Mingo asked when we would have a spray park. Mayor Miller reported they would begin working on the spray park the next morning, September 10, 2013.

Councilman Whisenhunt wanted to know who the new employees are and what their responsibilities are. Mayor Miller reported we have 3 new employees. Mr. Nelson Goldsmith is maintenance. Mr. Lee Hendren is administrator's assistant and clerk of court. Mr. Joe Breaker from Experience Works is maintenance. Councilman Whisenhunt asked how many hours they were working. Mayor Miller responded Mr. Goldsmith and Mr. Hendren are working 35 hours, while Mr. Breaker is working 20 hours per week. Mayor Miller stated he would like to wait until they have been working for 30 days to report on how they are doing.

Councilman Whisenhunt stated that the two flag poles need lights, one at the Town Hall and the other at the Depot. Mayor Miller asked for permission to get lights on the flag poles so the flags could be flown at all times. Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to hire someone to put lights on the flag poles. Councilman Ott seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Financial Report:** The motion to approve the financial report was made by Councilman Whisenhunt and seconded by Councilman Ott. The motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**Library:** Mayor Miller reported that the Orangeburg County library director had stated there is not enough money in the budget for a Library in Branchville. Mayor Miller said he refuses to accept that as an answer. Mayor Miller stated the Bookmobile only comes to Branchville 6 hours a month and the Town has made do with just the Bookmobile long enough. Mayor Miller reported the Town has a building that can be used as a Library. Councilman Whisenhunt stated we need to find out what the requirements are in a building for a Library. Ms. Vivian Fogle questioned if the people of Branchville would support a Library. Mayor Miller states he and Council have done what they could to get a Library in Branchville. He stated the problem is not Branchville. Ms. Pam Jones questioned if the funds needed were for a building or for the things inside. Ms. Jones stated there is money out there, she questioned if we could use a grant. Mayor Miller said we have been trying to do this for the last two years. Councilman Whisenhunt stated we should call County Council.

**Lights on Butts Road:** Councilman Ott reported that Roy Judy with SCE&G will be down next week and he will have information then.

**Four Way Stop Sign for Ott Street:** Mayor Miller reported he spoke to Lamont at the Highway Department and Lamont said his supervisor would perform a study to see if a four way stop sign is needed on Ott Street near the Baptist Church.

**New Business:**

**Horton Field:** Councilman Chris Ott stated he would like Horton Field to be mowed every Monday in August, September, and October for Branchville Youth Sports. Mayor Miller said he would try to have the field mowed every Monday.

**Progress Report/ Capital Improvements:** Mayor Miller reported that a state law will require the Town to join the 811 utility line location service by the year 2015. He said he spoke with Orangeburg County GIS Director Bill Addison about GIS mapping. He stated that in future this is something we will need.

Mayor Miller reported that D and R Music Academy would like to rent the old Rescue Squad Building. He said it would be positive for the community. They would offer instrument and vocal lessons. Councilman Ott questioned if that was the building he intended to use for a Library. Mayor Miller responded that he would use the old fire station for a library, not the rescue squad building. Councilman Sam Whisenhunt made the motion that D and R Music Academy could rent the old rescue squad for \$100.00 month, and D and R Music Academy would be responsible for the lights and water. Mayor Pro-Tem Jennings seconded the motion.

Councilman Whisenhunt questioned how long the \$250,000.00 penny tax is available. Mayor Miller stated he would call Harold Young. Councilman Whisenhunt said this year is almost over and we need to make requests for next year. Mayor Miller asked if anyone had any suggestions. Councilman Whisenhunt stated the open air market.

Council went into Executive Session.

After the executive session, Mayor Miller stated that we have a lot of grass grown up around town and something needs to be done about it. Mayor Miller stated we need volunteers for a committee to help enforce that the grass is cut.

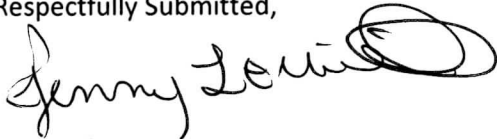
The following people volunteered to serve:

1. Ms. Pam Jones, 241 Ellis St., 682-0246
2. Ms. Luvenia Williams, 350 Essie St., 682-2624
3. Ms. Vivian Fogle, 231 Hughes St., 664-5549
4. Mr. Gregory Oliver, 1111 Barton St., 347-1604
5. Ms. Marianna Street, 7026 Freedom Road, 274-8725

Mayor Miller reported that there is a town ordinance that the Fire Department can not fill up your pool. Mayor Miller said if you want your pool filled you have to use water from your tap and notify the town so we can deduct a portion of your wastewater bill.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenny Elliott", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Jenny Elliott  
Town Clerk