

Town of Branchville  
Council Meeting Minutes  
April 14, 2014

The regular Town of Branchville Council Meeting was held on April 14, 2014 at 6pm at the Town Hall. A notice was placed on the door of the Town Hall with the time, date, and place of meeting at least 24 hours before the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Glenn Miller. Mayor, Council, along with all those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer.

Roll called indicated that all council members were present.

**Minutes:** Councilwoman Amy Bryant said her vote to demolish the old elementary school was nay but in the minutes it is yay. Councilman Chris Ott made the motion to approve the March 10 and March 19, 2014 minutes with the correction being made. Councilman Michael Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Public Comments:** Ms. Harriett Hughes questioned if a four way stop sign could not be placed on Ott Street if a speed limit sign be put up. Councilman Blankenship said he had submitted a proposal to Lamar Thomas with the Highway Department for a four way stop sign. Councilman Blankenship said a study has to be done. Mayor Miller said if a petition is signed by the community he will take it himself.

Ms. Harriett Hughes said she notice a Time Warner Cable truck speeding on Ott St.

Ms. Desiree Connelly questioned if the Town had anything in place to spray for mosquitoes. Mayor Miller said Branchville has a sprayer and the town has an agreement with Orangeburg County to spray Branchville twice a week. Ms. Betty Skolasky asked if all of the town would be sprayed. Mayor Miller said yes.

Ms. Betty Skolasky asked if the clean-up of the town was done. Mayor Miller said no.

**Approval of Financial Report:** Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to approve the financial report. Councilwoman Bryant seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**New Business:** Mr. Herbie Witherspoon said he came to the council meeting to discuss his water bill from January 24, 2014. He said his water bill was \$154.51 and stated he used 17070 gallons of water. Mr. Witherspoon said he did not use that much water and he does not have a leak. Mr. Witherspoon said he spoke with Jenny Elliott, the town clerk on March 10 and she gave him a paper to fill out for an adjustment. Mr. Witherspoon said an adjustment was made in the amount of \$41.16. Mr. Witherspoon said he felt that he should have more of an adjustment because his normal bill runs about \$44.31. Mr. Witherspoon said he was told by Mayor Miller that it could not be adjusted anymore. He said he felt he was treated unfair.

Mayor Miller said if the meter had a malfunction it is to Mr. Witherspoon's benefit. Councilman Whisenhunt said that he would look into the issue. Councilwoman Bryant made the motion to adjust Mr. Witherspoon's water bill to a 3 months average. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion. Mayor Pro-Tem Jennings, Councilwoman Bryant, Councilman Ott and Councilman Blankenship voted yay. Councilman Whisenhunt and Councilman Oliver voted nay. The motion carried. Councilman Whisenhunt said that water adjustments need to be case by case and needs to be investigated.

Mayor Miller said Mr. Billy Staley would be at the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss reverse 911.

**Progress Report/ Capital Improvements:** Mayor Miller said on next month's financial report there would be a stop payment on a check that was sent in by mistake.

Mayor Miller said the town hall needs new computers. Mayor Miller said Microsoft Windows no longer supports XP. He said NTInet gave a quote of \$7087.92 for the new computers. Councilman Whisenhunt asked why the town clerk has two computers. Councilman Whisenhunt said the town should look into combining the town clerk's computers and get a quote for a laptop for the radio reads. Mayor Miller said he would ask about combining two the computers in the clerk's office.

Mayor Miller said resident on Hunting RD need to come into town hall and fill out an application for water beginning tomorrow.

Mayor Miller said that a saving account in the amount of \$52,000.00 was closed in 2012 and the money was put into the capital account. Mayor Miller said Rural Water states the saving account has to be re-opened.

**Items for Information:** Mayor Pro-Tem Jennings asked if the officers could control the siren more during funerals. Mayor Pro-Tem Jennings said the officer used the siren a lot during a funeral last week. Mayor Miller said he would ask the officer why it was done.

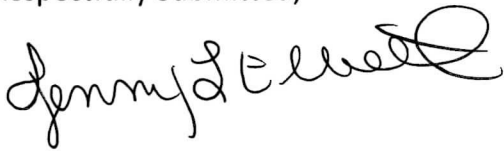
Councilman Whisenhunt asked if we flush the hydrants annually. Mayor Miller said yes. Councilman Whisenhunt asked if the town has a schedule for flushing the hydrants. Mayor Miller said they flush the hydrants as they receive call about the water. Councilman Blankenship asked if the water lines had been replaced on Orange St. Mayor Miller said they had not. Councilman Blankenship asked if that was the reason they were having problems with the water on Orange and Ott St. Mayor Miller said no that DHEC checks the water. Councilman Whisenhunt said maybe the lines on Orange St should be replaced.

Mayor Miller said a man came by to look at the backhoe but the tank was full of water. Mayor Miller said Mr. Joe Breaker got the water out of the tank and he put fuel in it. Mayor Miller said he would start it tomorrow.

Mayor Miller said the town has a zero turn mower, a John Deere Mower, and a push mower. Mayor Miller said the John Deere would cost more to fix than it is worth. Mayor Miller said the push mower needs to be replaced. He said the town has a golf cart that Mr. Breaker had fixed for \$110.00. Mayor Miller asked for Councilman Gregory Oliver to get a list of the town's equipment to the rest of council and for council to let him know at the next council meeting what to do with the equipment.

**Adjournment:** Councilwoman Amy Bryant made the motion to adjourn. Councilman Gregory Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried. The council meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jenny Elliott". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Respectfully Submitted," text.

Jenny Elliott  
Town Clerk