

Town of Branchville
Council Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2014

The regular Town of Branchville Council Meeting was held on July 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 call indicated all Councilmembers were present with the exception of Councilwoman Amy Bryant.

Mayor Miller welcomed the guest.

Approval of Minutes: Mayor Pro-Tem Jennings made the motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Councilman Michael Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Public Comments (Agenda Items): Tina Herndon said she would like to thank the Mayor for the Mosquito Sprayer.

Public Comments (Other Items): Harriett Hughes asked about the break-in at the Baptist Church. Ira James said it was not a break-in it was trespassing. Ira James said the individual was given a no trespassing notice.

Mayor Miller said he had hoped Bill Staley would be there but he was unable to make it.

Approval of Financial Reports: Councilman Whisenhunt said that carry over funds and depreciation should balance out. The budget is showing that we are over spending. Jenny Elliott said she would speak with the Auditor, Lori Salley. Councilman Whisenhunt questioned the transfer of \$19,000.00 to Municipal Court from Gross Revenue, when General Fund had more money. Jenny Elliott explained that the General Fund was also low on money when the transfer was made. She said the General Fund later received funds. Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to approve the financial report for June. Mayor Pro-Tem Jennings seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Old Business: Councilman Gregory Oliver said the Farmers Market should open in the Fall before Raylroad Daze. Councilman Oliver said the Farmers Market will be opened on Saturdays between The Churn and the former Barber Shop. Mayor Miller said the Farmers Market needed to be advertised. Councilman Oliver said signs should be placed at the entrances to town. Mayor Miller said someone should contact the school to see if the art class would help with the signs. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said he would contact the school.

Councilman Oliver said he has not been able to find a standalone warning system. He said he spoke with someone that has a system that will send a warning to all who are signed up, they are getting prices for him.

Councilman Whisenhunt said all the water park leaks are fixed, the problem is the drainage. He said he has an informal quote from Metts for \$4500. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to contact Metts. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Jennings asked if people from Hunting Road have sign up. Mayor Miller said 3 people have signed up for water service. Mayor Miller said the price to have water installed increases on August 12th.

New Business: Mayor Miller said he saw we had a new employee. Councilman Whisenhunt said Jamie Preacher's license had expired and the Town needed someone with a Class C license to assist with the water leaks. Councilman Whisenhunt said the employee is Theodore Johnson. Mayor Miller said he did not have any information on this person and he needs Council to tell him how much they are to pay him. Councilman Whisenhunt said his fee for helping the Town is \$21/hr. Councilman Michael Blankenship questioned if someone with a Class C license had to be present when the leaks were fixed. Councilman Whisenhunt said DHEC requires someone with a Class C license to be there when a leak is fixed. Councilman Blankenship said it seems this is someone the Town has to have. Mayor Miller said he didn't have a problem with hiring him but he should have known first. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to use Theodore Johnson on retainer. Councilman Chris Ott seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mayor Miller asked who should Theodore Johnson report to. Councilman Whisenhunt said since council voted for him (Councilman Sam Whisenhunt) to run the Water Department then Theodore Johnson would report to him. Mayor Miller said until Council amends the ordinance he is still in charge of daily activities and he plans to enforce it tomorrow. Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to start the proceeding to review and amend the ordinance. Councilman Ott seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings, Councilman Whisenhunt, Councilman Ott, Councilman Blankenship voted yay. Councilman Oliver voted nay. The motion carried.

The Town Clerk, Jenny Elliott, asked to pay bills once a week rather than once a month. She said bills are late due to paying them once a month. Mayor Miller asked why the all the bills were being paid once a month. Jenny Elliott said the pervious Town Clerk told her to pay them the third week of the month. It was decided that the credit card bill, the light bills and the phone bills would be paid when they are received and the vendor bills will be paid once a month.

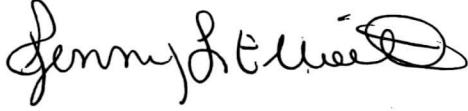
Jenny Elliott said the Town Employees need a handbook because the town employees have not been properly trained and need something to go by. She said she made a copy of one the last clerk had but she is not sure if it is a current one. Mayor Miller said he had a copy where Jenny Elliott had signed that she had received a handbook. She said she had not signed where she had received one. Mayor Miller excused himself to get the paper. Mayor Miller came back with a paper and explained that it was something else. Mayor Miller said that she would get a handbook and he would enforce it to the limit.

Items for Information: Mayor Miller said he is on the agenda for July 15th to speak with the Orangeburg Consolidated School District 4 Board of Trustees about the money missing from the account. Mayor Miller said there is nothing he could speak on but he was still going to attend because he is on the agenda.

Councilman Oliver said he knows it is past the time for public comments but someone is in the audience that would like to speak. Lateshia Mack said she lives at 105 Carrie Street and for the last 30 years her parents have been paying for water disposal but they are not connected to the Town's wastewater line. Mayor Miller said the Town had run the wastewater line to their property line and it's the homeowner's responsibility to run the line from their house to the Town's line.

Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to adjourn. Councilman Whisenhunt seconded the motion. The motion carried. The July 14th meeting adjourned at 7:09.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jenny Elliott". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jenny Elliott
Town Clerk