

Town of Branchville  
Regular Council Meeting  
March 13, 2017 7:00 PM

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on March 13, 2017 at 7 PM at the Town Hall. A notice with the time, date and place of the meeting was posted on the front door 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 called indicated that Mayor Dickson, Mayor Pro Tem Jennings, Councilwoman Bryant, Councilman Blankenship, Councilman Ott., and Councilman Oliver was present, Councilman Dukes came in late.

**Welcome of Guest:** Was given by Mayor Dickson.

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilman Oliver made the motion to approve the February 13, 2017 minutes. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report:** Councilman Ott made the motion to approve the General Fund financial report. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Dukes made the motion to approve the Municipal Court financial report. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Ott made the motion to approve the Water and Sewer financial report. Councilman Blankenship second the motion, motion carried.

**Council Reports:**

1. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings says he has no detail report for City Hall/License/Insurance. He reports that the Quick Book Software Program we are currently using in the future will not calculate payroll deductions correctly and that the staff would like to purchase a two user version instead of a single user. With the single user version the staff can't get on the system if the other one is on, therefore they are limited. Mayor Pro Tem made the motion to obtain the 2 user version of 2017 Quick Books cost of \$389.95. Councilman Ott seconded the motion, motion carried. There is also a class that Emily, our Clerk of Court, can take that is offered in Florence, SC for Law Trak. The class has no cost and she will be driving back and forth. Classes will be held April 4, 5<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 am each morning. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion for Emily to go the classes. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion.
2. Councilman Dukes reports on Police Department. Everything is running good. The reserve officer is to start in the next week or two.
3. Councilman Ott reports on Water, Sewer, and Streets. He reports that the fire hydrant testing is complete and that we have 57 hydrants that are not tagged with numbers. We have found some tags that would work for this. The tags are 2.5"x2.5" Outdoor engraved plastic tags cost is 3.69 each total for tags are 210.33. Councilman Ott made a motion to purchase tags. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. A while back a swing for toddlers was damaged. The swings were removed and placed in storage at Town Hall, however swings can't be found at this time and it has been requested that we put them back up. There are funds in the playground account which would cover the cost of the

toddler swings, the swings cost 155.00. Councilman Ott made a motion to purchase 3 swings. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried.

4. Councilman Blankenship reports on Park and Recreation. We are really cranking up at the new ball park. Major and minors tomorrow night, Wednesday and Thursday, we have 14 teams. We have a lot going on and invite everyone to come out and support our teams. Next week we will be hosting 21 to 23 teams. We can charge \$2.00 at a jamboree. Also Relay for life will be taking Easter Bunny Pictures the background will be the Caboose. Pictures will be taken on March 26 from 12:00PM until 2:00PM.
5. Councilwoman Bryant reports on Projects and Events. No reports at this time.
6. Councilman Oliver reports on Buildings and Grounds. Nothing new to report on at this time. We do have two basketball nets that we need to replace cost is less than 10.00 each.

#### **Old Business:**

1. **Number of Readings for Town-Ordinances:** Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made a motion for the town ordinance. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried.
2. **Adoption Ordinance Orangeburg County:** Councilman Blankenship made a motion for the ordinance with Orangeburg. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings seconded the motion, motion carried.
3. **FEMA Meeting:** Mayor Dickson announced that he would have another meeting with FEMA in hopes to collect monies from the Hurricane Matthew.
4. **Eatery A/C:** Councilman Oliver states that no one else has entered a bid to repair the A/C at the eatery. The one bid he has is for \$5600.00. Councilman Oliver made a motion to have the A/C fixed. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings seconded the motion, motion carried.
5. **Town Signs:** Councilman Oliver says he has a quote from Kick Booty to repair signs with a metal inlay as discussed in last month's meeting cost is 770.00. Councilman Oliver made a motion to have signs fixed by Kick Booty. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried.
6. **Doors At Fire Station:** Councilman Oliver states that the cost to fix doors would be \$95.00 plus material cable approximately \$130.00. Councilman Oliver made motion to fix doors for safety reasons. Councilwoman Bryant seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Public Comments Agenda:** Ms. Vivian Fogle questioned where were the toddler swings taken from. Councilman Ott stated they had been removed and taken to the town hall for storage when the frame for the swing was damaged. She thanked Greg Oliver for the lights on Hughes Street.

**Public Comments Other:** Mr. Hurley Mattis Jr wanted to know about sewage at the site where they want to build Jerusalem Holiness First Born Church. Mr. Mattis says DHEC will not allow septic tank. Councilman Ott says the gravity line creates a problem. Underground imaging is very expensive. At this time we are still working on a solution. Mayor Dickson asked if a pump station perhaps could be placed on Church property, need to check this with Mr. Goff.

#### **Items for Information:**

1. Kickball Tournament April 29, 2017.
2. SC Disaster Recovery will be at the Town Hall for victims of 2015 Storm will be March 28, 29, 30 at 10:00 to 4:00 each day.
3. Councilman Oliver wanted to know what date for the Christmas Parade. Mayor Dickson says to come up with date and bring it up at next meeting.

**Executive Session:** Councilman Blankenship made a motion to go into Executive Session, Councilman Oliver seconded. Left for executive session at 7:45PM.

Back to regular council meeting at 8:45 Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to return to council meeting. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made known that Upstart Ministries lease was renewed as is until December 31, 2027. No rent monies due now continue lease as is. Mayor Dickson announced that the Town of Branchville would have a police officer starting part time.

**Adjournment:** Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Jennings to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried. The meeting adjourned 9:48PM.

Faye Connelly  
Town Clerk