

Town of Branchville
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, October 9th, 2017

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday, October 9th, 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, Councilwoman Bryant, Councilman Dukes, and Councilman Oliver was present. Councilman Blankenship and Councilman Ott came in after roll call, and Mayor Pro-Tem Jennings was absent.

Welcome of Guest: Was given by Mayor Dickson.

Approval of Minutes: Councilwoman Bryant made the motion to approve the September 18th, 2017 minutes. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried.

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

Fourth Penny Rollover: Mayor Dickson informed Council that the Third Penny Monies was due to roll over into Fourth Penny on November 26th. If Council wished to roll the remaining dollar amount into next year, a letter would need to be sent to Stephanie Grant stating this. Councilman Oliver made the motion to send the letter to Ms. Grant. Councilman Dukes seconded, motion carried.

Council Reports:

1. **City Hall/License/Insurance:** No reports at this time.
2. **Police Department:** Councilman Dukes presented the equipment options that had been selected to implement the changeover to E-Tickets, which is mandatory by January 1, 2018. The options selected were three each of the Asus Transformer Book T100HA-C4-GR Laptop at a price of \$284.22 each, three each of the Honeywell 1910IER-3 License Scanner at a price of \$511.40 each, and three each of the Brother PocketJet PJ-722 printer at a price of \$255.99 each for a total of \$3154.83. Councilman Dukes made the motion to purchase the equipment needed for the E-Tickets, Councilman Blankenship seconded, motion carried. Councilman Dukes also presented two quotes from separate mechanics to fix the 2008 Dodge Charger police car. The first quote was from George Price for \$1154.23 and included brakes, control arms, bushings and the water pump. The second quote was from Thomasson Motorsports for \$2318.84 and included all of these plus A/C lines, rotors, drums, driveshaft and thermostat. Also, Thomasson Motorsports has a Police Package 2008 Charger available for purchase with 40,000 miles and a bad transmission. Council discussed the idea of purchasing the available Charger and swapping the transmission out of the one

owned or possibly purchasing the available Charger outright and installing a new transmission, which would give the town four police cars. Officer Thompson was called upon to explain the merits of this. Officer Thompson stated that the 2008 Charger we own is still a solid car, and with the repairs quoted should fix the car completely. The Charger available for purchase is roughly \$4-5,000 for the car, a replacement transmission, and the lettering done on the new car. Officer Thompson also mentioned that Thomasson Motorsports guarantees his work. Council decided to fix the 2008 Charger, and look into the possibility of purchasing the available Charger. Councilman Dukes made the motion to allow Thomasson Motorsports to fix the 2008 Charger. Councilman Oliver seconded, motion carried.

- 3. Water Sewer and Streets:** Councilman Ott says everything is well in the Water/Sewer Department, had some lift valves that were not working correctly, but repairs are being made. Councilman Ott presented a park bench and safety bollards for purchase. The bollards are to be placed between the gas stations to prevent vehicles from driving from one to the other, and around the park bench to prevent damage to the bench. Six 42" bollards are \$107.95 each, for a total of \$647.70. The park bench is to be placed in front of the station to replace one that was damaged. The park bench is a 6' long and is \$1,065. Mayor Dickson stated that Streetscape Penny Monies could be used for this purchase. Councilman Ott made the motion to purchase the park bench and safety bollards. Councilman Dukes seconded, motion carried.
- 4. Parks and Recreation:** Councilman Blankenship reports that BYS is in the middle of soccer and football, and getting some big crowds. Playing Bamberg tomorrow night, and have 25 cheerleaders, ages 9-12. Please come support the kids. A letter was sent to Montieth Pole Bldg Systems, the company that was contracted to construct the storage/batting cage at BYS. To this date construction has not begun, and all attempts to contact them to determine a start date have failed. A certified letter was sent to the company instructing them to respond in writing within ten days of the date of the letter, or the contract would fall to the second bidder. No contact has been made by Montieth. Councilman Blankenship made the motion to roll the contract to the second bidder on the project. Councilman Dukes seconded, motion carried.
- 5. Project/Events:** Councilwoman Bryant says she is working on a Movie Night, but that may not be ready by Halloween. Also working on a Costume Contest for Halloween, but has not determined a place and time for the contest. Mayor Dickson suggested that the Ministerial Alliance be contacted to spread the word when time and place are determined. Updates will be coming on this. Councilwoman Bryant made the motion for \$100 to be used for four costume contest prizes. Councilman Oliver seconded, motion carried.
- 6. Buildings and Grounds:** Councilman Oliver reports everything running smoothly in Buildings and Grounds, Jake's Glass is working to replace the broken/cracked windows at the Railroad Museum and Eatery. The lines on the parking spaces on Freedom road in front of Town Hall and surrounding areas need to be repainted, they are faded out and it was noticed during the hurricane traffic that cars were treating that portion of Freedom Rd as a two lanes. Mayor Dickson mentioned that he had met with Al Jenkins, the liaison for Senator Scott, who requested that we send a letter to the Senator about resurfacing the main streets. Highway 21 and Highway 78 are US highways, not maintained by the county or the state. The Mayor also mentioned that Mr. Jenkins had spoken of doing a traffic survey in Branchville to possibly place some traffic lights, due to the influx of traffic seen during the recent hurricane.

Old Business:

1. Penny Monies will pay for the A/C replacement at the Eatery and for the replacement of the windows at both the Eatery and the Railroad Museum.

New Business:

1. None at this time

Public Comments Agenda: No public comments on the agenda

Public Comments Other: Ms. Vivian Fogle asks if Councilman Oliver will work with her concerning a dog on the hill that barks all day long. She is unable to sit on her porch during the day due to the dog's constant barking. She has noticed that the dog does not bark in the evening, and surmises that the dog's owners are working during the day and are not aware. The sound comes from the same area every day, so she believes that the dog is not a stray. "I am not trying to disturb anyone's personal business, but it's really disturbing me, so I'm asking if you can work with me on that, find out whose dog it is and ask them if they could please see what's wrong with him."

Items for Information: Howl at the Moon Third Annual 5k Run/Walk November 4th, please support

Executive Session: Councilman Dukes made a motion to go to Executive Session. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. Council left at 7:47 PM.

Councilman Dukes made the motion to return to the regular Council Meeting at 8:19 PM. Councilwoman Bryant seconded the motion, motioned carried.

Mayor Dickson stated that in Executive Session some personnel matters were discussed that could not be reported on at this time, reports to come. Councilman Oliver made a motion for the 2018 Budget in name only. Councilwoman Bryant seconded, motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Councilman Dukes to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Clerk of Court
Emily Maynard