

Town of Branchville
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2015

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on May 11, 2015, at 6:00pm at the Town Hall. A notice with the time, date, and place of the meeting was placed on the door of the Town Hall at least 24 hours before the meeting.

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

Roll call indicated all member of Council were present.

Mayor Pro Tem Jennings welcomed the guests.

Executive Session: Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made a motion for council to go into executive session for a personnel matter. Councilman Michael Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried. Council went into executive session at 6:02pm. Council returned from executive session at 6:04 pm. Councilman Gregory Oliver made the motion to return to public session. Councilwoman Amy Bryant seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said during executive session council had discussed a personnel matter that did not require a vote.

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Chris Ott made the motion to approval the April 13, 2015 minutes. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Financial Reports: Mayor Miller questioned why a check was written to Danny's Collison for \$1,400.00 from Operation and Maintenance for repairs to the town truck. He said the estimate was only \$1,200.00. Mayor Miller asked why Jon Sikes was paid \$40 per hour. Councilman Whisenhunt said Jon Sikes was working after hours. Councilman Blankenship made a motion to approve the financial reports. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Summer Feeding Program: Tina Bethea said they would like to use the community center for a summer feeding program Monday- Friday 11-12 from June 8th to July 31st. She said children in the community would receive a free meal. Councilman Blankenship asked who be responsible for cleaning. Tina Bethea said they would be responsible. Councilman Blankenship made the motion to approve the use of the community center for the summer feeding program. Councilman Ott seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sewage Line on Ellis Ave: Councilman Whisenhunt said he spoke with the town's attorney, Russ Blanchard, about the sewage line on Ellis Ave. He said Russ Blanchard said he believed it was not the town's responsibility to repair the sewage line. Councilman Whisenhunt said Russ Blanchard also thinks in the future the customer should get an easement when running lines through someone else's property. Mayor Miller said Russ Blanchard answer the question that he was asked but was not given the full story. Councilman Whisenhunt said Mayor Miller could call the town's attorney and ask him.

Truck and Trailer: The town received an email for a bid on truck for \$35,010.00 and on the trailer for \$3,810.00. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings asked if the AD had run in the Rock and Dirt. Clerk of Court, Lee Hendren said he did not know if the Ad had run yet. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to hold

off on the sale of the truck and trailer until the Ad runs in the Rock and Dirt. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2nd Reading of Election Ordinance: Councilman Sam Whisenhunt made the motion to approve the 2nd reading of the election ordinance. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Movie Night: Councilwoman Amy Bryant said she would like to have a movie night in Branch Junction on June 20th and watch the Apple Dumpling Gang. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to approve movie night on June 20th at Branch Junction. Councilman Whisenhunt seconded the motion. The motion carried. Councilwoman Bryant made a motion for \$50 for door prizes for movie night. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried. Councilwoman Bryant said she has borrowed the projector for movie night and would like for the town to look into buying one. She said she would have more information at the next meeting about a projector.

SCE&G Councilman Oliver said over the last few months SCE&G has added lighting to Branchville. He said the Town is brighter and the lights help deter crime. Councilman Oliver said SCE&G has done a good job.

Community Center: Councilman Oliver said the community center is in need of repairs. He said it needs a new refrigerator, painting, light figures needs to be replaced, and the glue for the tiles are coming up. Councilman Oliver said he would bring estimates for the repairs to the next meeting.

Negative Image: Councilman Oliver said he had received several calls regarding the decision from council to leave the truck Mayor Miller was driving at Town Hall. Councilman Oliver said the decision council made was not to punish the Mayor but there was a need for the truck at Town Hall.

Dog Kennel: Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said two individuals asked about the dog kennel the town owns. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to take bids on the dog kennel starting at \$175.00. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilman Whisenhunt said the town has two lawn mowers that are not in operation and Joe Breaker would like them. Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to sell the old lawn mowers that are not in operation to Joe Breaker at scape value. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Public Comments: Betty Glover said she would like to thank council the town lighting.

Betty Glover said there was a fight in the street by her house and there were no officers. Councilman Whisenhunt said to call 911. Chief Clark said if someone calls 911 they will dispatch a Branchville officer to respond.

Hiram Johnson said his lights are still not working property. Councilman Whisenhunt said he would take a look at it.

Beverly Berry thanked council for the clean-up around town.

Charlene Bright said the town needs a grocery store, a Family Dollar, a mall, a movie theater, and a college.

Marianna Street asked when the county would be back to spray for mosquitos. Councilman Blankenship said he would call the county.

Items for Information: Mayor Miller said he would like for the agendas to be on town letterhead.

Councilman Oliver said the Farmer's Market will reopen on the first Saturday in June.

Councilman Oliver said the town has the opportunity to help serve veterans by giving them a place to stay. He said he would like to use part of the old high school. Councilman Oliver said he would get information about funding.

Mayor Miller said on May 13th he is attending a meeting for the HUD program.

Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made a motion to move Items of Information before Public Comments. Councilman Whisenhunt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilman Oliver said he and Nelson Goldsmith had attended a class for chemical spills training.

Councilman Blankenship made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.

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