Town of Branchville

Regular Council Meeting

September 18, 2017

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on September 18, 2017 at 7:05 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 Blankenship, and Councilman Oliver was present. Absent from meeting was Mayor Pro Tem Jennings, Councilman Ott, Councilman Dukes.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilman Oliver made the motion to approve the August 14, 2017 minutes. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report:** Councilman Blankenship made the motion to approve the General Fund

Financial report. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Blankenship made the motion to approve the Municipal Court financial report. Councilwoman Bryant seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilwoman Bryant made the motion to approve the Water and Sewer financial report. Councilman Blankenship second the motion, motion carried.

**Council Reports:**

1. **City Hall:** No reports as this time.
2. **Police Department:** No reports at this time.
3. **Water, Sewer, Streets:**  No reports at this time
4. **Parks & Recreation:** Councilman Blankenship reports that the kids are now playing soccer. Four teams are playing other towns. Football tomorrow night hosting Bamberg. They will be playing now through November 1st. Please come out and watch the kids play.
5. **Project Events:** Councilwoman Bryant reports she is still working on Halloween Event. Mayor Dickson explained we had an issue last year with showing movies.
6. **Buildings & Grounds:** Councilman Oliver reports that he has bids for the road safety signs, but due to the expense with the A/C at the Eatery we were beyond our budget. Council Blankenship request that we check with Streetscapes monies to see if they will allow those funds for that.

**Old Business:**

1. Councilman Oliver reports that he has two bids for the windows. Councilman Blankenship suggested again we use streetscape monies if allowed. Councilman Oliver made a motion to allow Jake’s Glass to perform the work if Streetscapes monies was available. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motioned carried.

**New Business:**

1. Mayor Dickson reports no new business at this time. However, he did want to say that for the past two news articles that Mr. Glen Miller was reported as being the mayor. Mr. Miller was unaware.

**Public Comments Agenda:**

Mr. Glenn Miller told Councilwoman Bryant that he hated that she was not running again for council, that they had always gotten along and that he hated to see her go. Mr. Miller also suggested that if the town’s attorney would write a letter informing the ones making the issue from last year; that the town was not making any monies from the movies and that would probably help.

Mayor Dickson at this time announced who was running for the council seats and where the voting places were.

**Public Comments Other:**

Ms. Vivian Fogle wanted Faye the Town Clerk to know that she did contact Waste Management, and that she had gotten good results from whom she spoke with and wanted to double check that her address with the town was correct they had a different address. Clerk Connelly’s response was that the water, sewer, garbage bill was all on the same bill and that it was being mailed to her residence and she was getting it, therefore, they had something wrong in their system. Ms. Fogle also wanted to know if it was too late to sign up for youth sports. Councilman Blankenship said for soccer, football and cheer leading that it was too late. Ms. Fogle asked how do you notify people when to register? Councilman Blankenship’s response was, Mr. Hess did the one call, paperwork was sent home by the schools, the towns sign, etc.

Mr. Glenn Miller wanted to know if the Town Hall would place on the sign again about the leash law for pets and also had questions about the cleanup ordinance. Town Hall will put leash law back on the sign. Mayor Dickson explained the cleanup ordinance. Town Clerk ask that they drop by, that paper work had to be filled out first by person making complaint. Councilman Oliver said the two places that Mr. Miller was talking about on his street had been reported. Town Clerk reported she is waiting on reports and pictures to move forward.

Councilman Blankenship was concerned about the crime rate going up. It is like it was when I first ran for council. It is getting bad. As a councilman I think it is time we need to push hard, to get us additional law enforcement. He then spoke about several people he knew personally that had gotten something stolen or broken into. We need 24-7 police coverage. Mayor Dickson said we had 3 full time officers now, and one part time. For the next council meeting he wanted the council to talk with Chief Clark, we only have part of a council tonight. Mayor Dickson asked that this be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Items for Information:**

Mayor Dickson announced Howl at the Moon. It is a benefit walk and run for the Orangeburg Animal Shelter. Correction on the date, it has been changed to November 4, 2017. Mayor Dickson also reported that a Block Grant for a library that Councilman Ott had worked hard on. To be eligible to meet the low and moderate income area (LMA) national objective, the service area would have to be at least 51% LMI, the town of Branchville is only 50.5%. Mayor Dickson also asked Pastor Green to say a word about the listing in the Raylrode Daze Book. Pastor Green with Up-Start Ministries invited everyone to come out and tour the Old High School on the improvement to the building, this Saturday. We are not finished but wanted to give the public an opportunity to come out and for some have a trip down memory lane.

**Executive Session:** Mayor Dickson states that in Executive Session topics to be discussed was Property owned by the town and a matter with the Fuelman Account. Mayor Dickson made a motion to leave for the Executive Session. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. Left at 7:35PM.

Councilman Blankenship made the motion to return to the regular Council Meeting. Councilman Oliver second the motion, motioned carried.

Mayor Dickson reports that while in Executive Session, property was discussed, however, before they went any further that they needed to know the price the company was offering. Second matter discussed was our Fuelman Account, that it coststhe town to use their card. At this time we will look into perhaps checking out some other type of card that holds no fees for the town.

**Adjournment**: Motion was made by Councilwoman Bryant to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried. The meeting adjourned 8:00PM.

Faye Connelly

Town Clerk