

Town of Branchville  
Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, May 13, 2019  
7:00 PM

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 7 PM at the Town Hall. A notice with the time, date and place of the meeting was posted on the exterior bulletin board 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 all were present with the exception of Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship.

**Welcome of Guest:** Mayor Dickson welcomed the guests. He introduced Shanika Aiken with Save the Children. Mrs. Aiken thanked the council for their time and for allowing her and Lakeisha Bowman to speak on behalf of Save the Children. "We need the council's help in getting the word out about our program. The program is for expectant mothers and children up to 5 years old. We go into the homes and spend time with the parents preparing them for their children's education as well as spending time with the children. We have a book exchange, in-school and after-school programs. We have opened an office in Orangeburg for Save the Children. We really need your help to reach out to the public and let them know that this program exists."

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilman Connelly made the motion to approve the April 8th, 2019 minutes. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion, motion carried.

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

**Council Reports:**

- 1. City Hall/License/Insurance:** Councilman Banks reports: Nothing at this time.
- 2. Water/Sewer/Streets:** Councilman Connelly reports: We have replaced the fire hydrant at the corner of North and Freedom. We had an issue with a sewer line and had to call in Spicer On Call due to our equipment not being strong enough to move the material. We had a leak on Dorange road that was struck when the owner while plowing his field, he was unaware there was a water line present. The meter was removed and the line was marked for future reference. I have asked Nelson and George to watch the storm drains and keep them cleaned, do not want any problems with debris.
- 3. Parks/Recreation:** Mayor Dickson and Councilman Banks informed those present that there was a softball game tonight. Baseball has finished and softball has approximately a week left. Mayor Dickson asked if he could use the Council Chambers for a meeting for an event for Raylrode Daze. All council present was in agreement that he could use the chambers.
- 4. Projects/Events:** Councilman Ott reports: Nothing to report at this time.

5. **Buildings/Grounds:** Councilman Oliver reports: The tennis courts were being cleaned up however, will need some repair. The court needs nets, and lines painted. Also some of the lights were not working at that area. Council asked that he please check on the lights, repair the cracks etc., before we move forward with purchasing a net for the tennis court. Also, at Edwards Wood Works a light needed to be placed. I believe at one time a light was there. A motion was made by Councilman Connelly to replace the light at the pole for that property. Councilman Ott seconded the motion, motion carried. Mayor Dickson asked Councilman Ott to check and see about the cost of some picnic tables, that perhaps we could place some on the property beside Councilman Ott's office so that the public would have a place to sit and eat ice cream.
6. **Police Department:** Councilman Dukes reports: In court 288 cases were heard. We are still in need of the new police car, approximately in two to three weeks the vehicle should be in. We did receive the check from the insurance company today for the loss of the Crown Vic and the monies were placed in the car fund account.

**Old Business:**

1. Mayor Dickson explained that we had the first reading last month on the Fair Housing Resolution as well as the Grievance Procedures/Reasonable Accommodation. Councilman Banks made a motion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> read of the Fair Housing Resolution. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Connelly made a motion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> read of the Grievance Procedure/Reasonable Accommodation. Councilman Oliver seconded, motion carried.

**New Business:**

1. Councilman Connelly informed those present that he had attended a meeting concerning the widening of Hwy 78 to Sub Road. They are planning on widening 4 feet to each side of the highway. They wanted to know where the water line and sewer lines are and the fire hydrants as well. I will get all of this information to them, all the information is not on the maps. The next meeting is in June and the work is schedule for January 2020.

**Public Comments Agenda:** None

**Public Comments Other:** None

**Items for Information:** Councilman Oliver informed those present that the Fire Department is holding a class on May 18<sup>th</sup> for chemical spills. The class is 8 hours long and anyone can attend.

**Executive Session:** Councilman Dukes made a motion to go to Executive Session. Councilman Banks seconded the motion, motion carried. Council left at 7:35 PM.

Councilman Banks made the motion to return to the regular Council Meeting at 7:50. Councilman Dukes second the motion, motioned carried.

Mayor Dickson explained that there were some personnel matters and turned the meeting over to Councilman Connelly due to Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship being absent. Councilman Connelly explained that Petitions had been filed with the Town Clerk for annexation of some property. A petition was filed by Edith Metts Kaufman, property owner of tax map 190-20-02-001, requesting annexation of her property into the town limits of Branchville, South Carolina. The Town Clerk has verified the ownership and description of this property. Councilman Connelly asked for Council's pleasure. Councilman Ott made a motion for the 1<sup>st</sup> read on the annexation. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion, motion carried. H. Franklin Dickson signed a recusal statement.

Councilman Connelly says a second petition was filed by H. Franklin Dickson, our mayor, requesting three parcels of land be annexed in the town limits of Branchville with tax map numbers of 190-20-01-001; 190-20-01-003; 0190-20-01-004.000 and 0190-00-09-003.000. The Town Clerk has verified the ownership and description of these properties. Councilman Connelly asked for Council's pleasure. Councilman Ott made a motion for the 1<sup>st</sup> read on the annexation of these properties. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. H. Franklin Dickson signed a recusal statement.

**Adjournment:** Motion was made by Councilman Dukes to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Banks seconded the motion, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Town Clerk  
Faye Connelly