Town of Branchville

Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Franklin Dickson Presiding

Monday, May 11, 2020

7:00 PM

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday, May 11, 2020 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 Mayor Dickson, Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship, Councilmen Oliver and Banks were present. Councilman Dukes was absent.

**Welcome of Guest:** Mayor Dickson welcomed those present.

**Approval of Minutes:**  Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship made the motion to approve the April 13, 2020 minutes. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried.

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

Financial report. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Banks made the motion to approve the Municipal Court financial report. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Oliver made the motion to approve the Water and Sewer financial report. Councilman Banks second the motion, motion carried.

**Council Reports:**

1. **City Hall/License/Insurance:** Councilman Banks reports: We will discuss at a later date when we will open Town Hall back up.
2. **Water/Sewer/Streets:** Councilman Oliver reports: We have replaced the walkways at the Lagoon. We had a problem with the sewer on Gunter Court. Spicer on Call was called in they had to come out two times to fix the problem. Nothing else at this time.
3. **Parks/Recreation:** Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship reports: Not a lot to report at this time we are closed down due to Covid-19. We only have tentative dates at this time.
4. **Projects/Events:** Nothing at this time
5. **Buildings/Grounds:** Councilman Oliver reports: We still have some repairs to restrooms at Town Hall, other than that we are good.
6. **Police Department:** Councilman Dukes reports: Councilman Dukes is absent. Chief Clark reports they have started writing tickets again since, some of the restrictions have been lifted by the Governor.

**Old Business:**

1. Mayor Dickson suggested the council start looking for prices for picnic tables for the playground at Horton Field, some of the wooden ones were rotted and Nelson has removed them. I did get some information on some picnic tables but have not had the time to look at thoroughly.
2. I also heard back from Farmers and Merchants about the building on Hwy 21 they own. They said they could not donate these building to the Town but we could make them an offer on them. At this time we do not have any monies to purchase said buildings.

3. Councilman Banks, along with other councilman, discussed the bleachers at Horton Field. It was determined that they are too big for Sports Complex, also too big for any Church. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship made a motion that they be donated to Branchville High School. Councilman Banks seconded the motion, motion carried.

**New Business:**

1. None at this time.

**Public Comments Agenda:** Mr. Leon Holmes asked Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship and Councilman Banks if they lived in Branchville and where did they live. He then proceeded to inform those present that he got around and that he saw lot of things and that a lot of things in Branchville was being neglected around here and that there was an issue on Essie Street about a leak. He said the one full time employee needed a raise and that he saw what all he does. Councilman Oliver explained the issue on Essie Street was being addressed at this time. Mayor Dickson explained that he could not discuss salary of an employee, he would be glad to discuss any issues or problems. Mayor Dickson explained that we only had one employee working full time and due to what the Town could pay we were having trouble finding someone to work.

**Public Comments Other:** Mr. Chad Williams wanted to know if the Junction could be used for vendors more than once a year at Railroad Daze. He said we needed to do more to bring people to our Town, he would like to see the youth get involved. Mayor Dickson asked him to get a committee together with some ideas and that he would be glad to set up a meeting with the Railroad Committee, that he would give him his business card so that he could get in touch with him.

Mayor Dickson announced that we had a guest with us, Mayor Johnson from Holly Hill. He turned the floor over to Mayor Johnson. Mayor Johnson said he was running for a Senate seat and that we needed a voice that would speak up for small towns. He encouraged everyone to complete their 2020 Census because it is important for different grants, and funding for small towns. Mayor Dickson said he was backing Mayor Johnson and named other towns that also supporting him.

Mrs. Beverly Berry wanted to know the progress of the light that was discussed in a previous meeting, she had her property cleaned and it was ready. Councilman Oliver said he was still working on it.

**Executive Session:** Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship made a motion to go to Executive Session. Councilman Banks seconded the motion, motion carried. Council left at 7:45 PM.

Councilman Banks made the motion to return to the regular Council Meeting at 8:10. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship second the motion, motioned carried.

**Adjournment**: Motion was made by all to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Town Clerk

Faye Connelly