Town of Branchville

Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Franklin Dickson Presiding

Monday September 9th, 2024

6:00 PM

The Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday September 9th, 2024 at 6 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 call indicated all were present.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Connelly to accept the August 12th 2024 minutes; Councilman Jumper seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report:** Councilman Bakermade the motion to approve the August General Fund

Financial report. Councilman Ott seconded the motion, motion carried. Mayor Pro Tem Connelly made a motion to accept the August 2024 Water & Sewer Financial report; Councilman Ott seconded the motion, carried. Councilman Jumper made a motion to accept the August Municipal Court Financial report; Mayor Pro Tem Connelly seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Council Reports:**

1. **City Hall/License/Insurance:** Councilman Baker reports everything is going smoothly nothing to report.
2. **Water/Sewer/Streets:** Mayor Pro Tem Connelly reports everything is going well. We do have a couple leaks but we are getting them taken care of. A company is in town doing smoke testing. As of the end month Mike is retiring.
3. **Parks/Recreation:** Councilman Ott reports football has started, working with the school, will be playing the games over at the high school field on Tuesdays.
4. **Projects/Events:** Councilwoman Peeples reports we have the pro wrestling event this weekend. We are in the process of talking to the Christian church about using the gym in case of rain.
5. **Buildings/Grounds:** Councilman Oliver reports everything is going well.
6. **Police Department:** Councilman Jumper reports we had a good month in August, no problems.

**Old Business:**  Mayor Dickson reports: We have been trying to purchase the buildings across the street from the bank. At their request we sent a letter with an amount and the agreement to pay all legal fees associated with the purchase. We have received a call back from the bank stating that the appraisal on the buildings were $75,000.00, if Branchville wanted to offer $50,000.00 they would take it.

**New Business:** No New Business

**Agenda Items/ Public Comments:** Mr. Al Lyons informed everyone that the Railroad Museum had taken in $52.19 for the month of August. Mr. Al said whoever did the painting of the carts did a great job. Mayor Dickson mentioned that we did some lumber replacement on the carts before they were painted. Mr. McKibben said he needed volunteers to help guide people to the inside of the museum during Raylrode Daze. Also Mr. McKibben mentioned he had contacted the Orangeburg Historical Society, who has donated a display cabinet to the Museum. Arrangements to pick it up were discussed. Chief Clark reported everything was going good.

**Items of Information:** None

**Executive Session**: Mayor Pro Tem Connelly made the motion to go into Executive Session. Councilman Oliver seconded, the motion, motion carried. Council left for Executive Session at 6:15pm. Council returned from Executive Session at 6:49pm. Councilman Ott made the motion to return to regular council meeting, Councilman Jumper seconded, motion carried.

Councilman Ott explained that we are working on a CDBG grant for the pickleball court and pavilion. In order to complete the application we have to pass a resolution that the Town will fund the 10% match that is a part of the grant. Councilman Ott made the motion, seconded by Councilman Jumper, motion carried.

Mayor Dickson said that during executive session they reviewed a letter from the Raylrode Daze committee concerning changes to their bylaws, which they were required to have council’s approval of. Councilman Baker made the motion to accept the bylaws as updated by the committee, Councilman Jumper seconded the motion, motion carried.

Mayor Dickson stated Council received a letter from Mr. Al Lyons about the breezeway between the Eatery and the Museum, suggesting that we needed a fence there to prevent anyone from getting to the railroad tracks from that direction. Mayor Pro Tem Connelly, Councilman Oliver and Councilman Baker will look into options and bring back suggestions for review.

**Adjournment**: Mayor Pro Tem Connelly made the motion to adjourn. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. Council was adjourned at 6:54 pm

Clerk of Court

Theresa Polin