

Town of Branchville
Regular Council Meeting
Mayor Franklin Dickson Presiding
Monday Sept 14th, 2026
6:00 PM

The Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday Sept 14th, 2026 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.

Mayor Dickson had a few announcements before we moving forward into a meeting. Mayor Dickson announced that Chief Randy Clark is stepping down from chief and Lieutenant Platt is stepping up to Chief of Police.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilman Jumper to accept the August 10th, 2026 minutes; Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report: Councilman Baker **made** the motion to approve the August 2026 General Fund Financial report; Mayor Pro Tem Connelly seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Oliver made a motion to accept the August 2026 Water & Sewer Financial report; Councilman Jumper seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Jumper made a motion to accept the August 2026 Municipal Court Financial Reports; Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried.

Council Reports:

1. **City Hall/License/Insurance:** Councilman Baker reports that everything is going well.
2. **Water/Sewer/Streets:** Councilman Connelly reports things are going alright. Meters are still getting put in. We had a couple places in the street that needed to be repaired. We still have one that we don't have the stuff to repair it.
3. **Parks/Recreation:** Councilman Drumheller reports Branchville youth sports had their first football game today. This is taking place now at the high school field with the cheerleaders as well. Tomorrow night the tackle teams begin their season. Councilman Drumheller reported from former Councilman Ott about the pickleball courts the hurdle now is choosing a contractor. They are doing all the red tape now to get that done. Hopefully it will be done by the spring of 2027.
4. **Projects/Events:** Councilwoman Peebles reports the Raylrode Daze had its kick off this Sunday. Then after that we're going into Halloween, if anyone would like to help please reach out to me.

5. **Buildings/Grounds:** Councilman Oliver reports everything is going well. We have one window at the health plex that has a hole in it, looks like a BB went through it. We got a quote to fix it for 500.00. It's only one pane that is broken so we can try to patch it. The lights on the deck at the freight depot were donated.
6. **Police Department:** Councilman Jumper reports we covered everything in the beginning of the meeting. Everything else is going well.

Old Business: Brendon McKibben asked about the signs, Mayor Dickson mentioned that we had a court date on this matter on 8/18/26 and 20 minutes before we were leaving our lawyer called and said they agreed to send us the signs. We're waiting on the signs now. This is the second time this has happened.

New Business: Councilman Drumheller read a letter from The Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce. Through our "Orangeburg's 17 Bright Spots" grant, we've funded 17 colorful custom-made iron signs depicting the name of the town- one for each town in our county. These beautiful pieces were handcrafted by students at Cope area Career Center. Each piece is approximately 32 in long and 22 in tall. Once the signs are in place, the Chamber will launch a social media 'scavenger hunt,' encouraging residents and visitors to visit each town hall. "Mayor Dickson will be contracting the Chamber of Commerce about moving forward.

Comments Agenda/Other Items: Mr. Al reports that \$258.00 was collected for the month of August.

Items of Information:

Executive Session: Mayor Dickson called the Council into executive session at 6:16 pm. Councilman Drumheller made a motion to go into session. Mayor Pro Tem Connelly seconded the motion, motion carried.

Mayor Dickson called the meeting back to order at 7:38 PM. Mayor Pro Tem Connelly made the motion to return back to a regular Council Meeting. Councilwoman Peebles seconded the motion, motion carried. Mayor Dickson; we talked about a couple of things. The 1st thing was about zoning, some of you know we had a meeting with Stewart Haig from Orangeburg County. He suggests the town come up with some zoning laws to keep trailer parks out of the town. The 2nd thing is since our last meeting; we had talked to four different property owners in town about the possibility of buying some land so a gentleman can put a grocery store in town. The town of Branchville owns a piece of property; Council is giving me the okay to meet with Howard Young about cleaning up one piece of the property we own. Also, most of you know we're getting ready to build about 12 homes and go up to 40 homes on the south side of town. We have to move the recycle site down there to another place before the homes can be built, there, so I'll be meeting with Howard about cleaning up another piece of property in town we own also. We have an update on our meeting with the lawyer about the signs. We talked about raises for some staff members that got a promotion. We talked about Raylode Daze coming up, about the mulch and stuff in the flower beds. We will be talking to him tomorrow about that. Mayor Dickson reported we did have a good meeting with our new chief. She's got some good ideas.

Councilman Oliver made a comment that the Fire Department is now called South Point and not Branchville fire department.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Councilman Oliver to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Peeples seconded the motion, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.