

Town of Branchville
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, March 11, 2019
7:00 PM

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday, March 11, 2019 at 7 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 all were present.

Welcome of Guest: Mayor Dickson welcomed the guests.

Mayor Dickson also presented from McGregor & Company a contract continuing for the year 2018, 2019, and 2020 for their auditing services. He explained that we have been with the company for a while now and would like to know the council's pleasure of continuing their services. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship made a motion to continue the contract. Councilman Oliver seconded, motion carried. Mayor Dickson also informed those present that there would be an audit on the WWTP as well as the financial audit, one this month and the second one in April.

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Oliver made the motion to approve the February 11, 2019 minutes. Councilman Connelly seconded the motion, motion carried.

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

Council Reports:

- 1. City Hall/License/Insurance:** Councilman Banks reports: Nothing to report at this time. I do have a price on an Exterior Bulletin Board that would be mounted outside at the Town Hall. We would place notifications and material for the public to view. Material posted on the doors would be displayed in this locking Bulletin Board. The cost is \$340.95. I make a motion to purchase this bulletin board. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried.
- 2. Water/Sewer/Streets:** Councilman Connelly reports: The water and sewer department took a hard hit this month. At the lift station on Hunter Street we lost electrical service due to a squirrel. The cost was 4,800.00 to repair the electrical service. We also had two PLC control panels to go out at two pumping stations. The cost per PLC with installation is \$3,000.00 each. We also have pumps that are going bad and will need to be replaced, perhaps get these in next year's budget. Mayor Dickson asked Councilman Connelly to get some quotes.

3. **Parks/Recreation:** Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship reports: Baseball will start Wednesday, softball this weekend and soccer has been going on. A fund raiser for softball was held at the Complex and it was a great turn out. Branchville has some really good athletes. We have good athletes because they start with T-Ball and the little Darlings and right on up, this leads to good athletes. Councilman Ott reports that soccer has two games left to go. This season of soccer was one of the biggest seasons. Councilman Banks reports that Park and Rec. as well as soccer have improved and increase in the last ten years, the sports complex is an asset to Branchville.
4. **Projects/Events:** Councilman Ott reports: I was considering doing an Easter event, however, one of the churches beat me to it. Perhaps the weekend before Memorial Day we might have an event at the Splash Pad. Nothing else for now.
5. **Buildings/Grounds:** Councilman Oliver reports: All is good, nothing to report as far as buildings and grounds are concerned.
6. **Police Department:** Councilman Dukes reports: Our 2008 Crown Vic was totaled. We voted last month to purchase a new Dodge Charger. Tom Jennings with Farmer's and Merchants has agreed to finance this vehicle, securing it with a CD with a finance rate of 2.15%. Upon discussion of this matter Councilman Ott made a motion that the funds we were setting aside monthly be used in payment for the new 2019 Dodge charger and perhaps in the future we will look at refinancing with part of the funds from the car account. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried. Mayor Dickson said he had spoken with Chief Clark and it was Chief Clark's request to run the new car to be purchased unmarked for a while. Councilman Dukes made a motion to operate the new car unmarked. Councilman Banks seconded the motion, motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Councilman Dukes reports that in our packets we have a quote from the insurance explaining the value of the totaled 2008 Crown Vic. What the insurance company needed to know was it the council's pleasure to dispose or keep the said vehicle. After discussion, Councilman Dukes made a motion to dispose of the 2008 Crown Vic. (let insurance company have it). Councilman Connelly seconded the motion, motion carried.
2. Councilman Oliver reports that the carpet had been cleaned at Town Hall and that it looks a lot better. He also reports that he checked on dates that was still open in the community for our Christmas Parade. December 14, 2019 was open and we will have our parade on the 14th at 4:00.

New Business:

1. Mayor Dickson explained that Missy with LSCOG has inspected our buildings and that she was checking for ADA Compliance. Councilman Connelly reported that the Self Evaluation Plan and the Transition Plan was drawn up by Missy and that her findings and recommendations were listed, and that council needed to vote on these reports. I have installed the Handicap Parking signs on the buildings listed in these reports. I make a motion that we accept and approve these reports. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried.
2. Councilman Oliver said that in our packets we have a request for a donation for Lockett Elementary for playground equipment. I have spoken with our representative with MASC and he sees no problem with a donation if we so choose to give. Councilman Ott made a motion to donate from General Fund line item 5130 the amount of \$250.00. Councilman Connelly seconded the motion, motion carried.

3. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship had a question about mosquito control, they are already started. Mayor Dickson says we have the equipment but don't have any one qualified for the chemicals. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship said he would speak with (Paul) and see what perhaps could be worked out.

Public Comments Agenda: None

Public Comments Other: None

Items for Information: Councilman Oliver said the Fire Department was having a class on chemical spills and that he was planning on taking it and if someone else was interested they could also take it.

Executive Session: Nothing at this time.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Ott seconded the motion, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.

Town Clerk
Faye Connelly