

Town Council 2015 meeting schedule

In compliance with the state law cited below, the Branchville Town Council hereby announces its intention to hold its regular monthly meetings at the Town Hall at 7644 Freedom Road, starting at 6:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month, unless rescheduled or canceled.

Monday, January 12	Monday, April 13	Monday, July 13	Monday, October 12
Monday, February 9	Monday, May 11	Monday, August 10	Monday, November 9
Monday, March 9	Monday, June 8	Monday, September 14	Monday, December 14

In addition, special and emergency meetings may be called in accordance with the rules set forth in the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. Work sessions to develop the budget for the coming year can be expected at various times in the last four months of the calendar year.

All council meetings are open to the public except when the council votes to go into “executive session” in accordance with the provisions of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

The customary methods of announcing regular and special called meetings are as follows:

- A notice posted on or near the Town Hall’s front door.
- A notice posted on or near the Town Hall’s drive-up payment window.
- A brief notice on the electronic marquee sign outside Town Hall.
- A notice sent to “The Times and Democrat and TheTandD.com” via fax (803-533-5595), e-mail (news@timesanddemocrat.com), personal delivery and/or otherwise. The T&D routinely prints meeting notices in its “Community Datebook” column but has no legal obligation to do so.
- A paid advertisement in The Times and Democrat newspaper on occasions when specifically authorized by the council or mayor or whenever state law requires “proof of publication.”
- A notice posted on the Town’s website, www.branchville.sc.gov.
- A notice (preferably delivered via e-mail) sent to any individual, group, or news media outlet that requests such notification under the S.C. Freedom of Information Act (section e below).

South Carolina Freedom of Information Act (portions)

SECTION 30-4-80. Notice of meetings of public bodies.

- (a) All public bodies, except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section*, must give written public notice of their regular meetings at the beginning of each calendar year. The notice must include the dates, times, and places of such meetings. Agenda, if any, for regularly scheduled meetings must be posted on a bulletin board at the office or meeting place of the public body at least twenty-four hours prior to such meetings. All public bodies must post on such bulletin board public notice for any called, special, or rescheduled meetings. Such notice must be posted as early as is practicable but not later than twenty-four hours before the meeting. The notice must include the agenda, date, time, and place of the meeting. This requirement does not apply to emergency** meetings of public bodies.

(d) Written public notice must include but need not be limited to posting a copy of the notice at the principal office of the public body holding the meeting or, if no such office exists, at the building in which the meeting is to be held.

(e) All public bodies shall notify persons or organizations, local news media, or such other news media as may request notification of the times, dates, places, and agenda of all public meetings, whether scheduled, rescheduled, or called, and the efforts made to comply with this requirement must be noted in the minutes of the meetings.

(* The subsections identify legislative committees and certain subcommittees. ** Emergency meetings are allowed only if the situation at hand is so dire that council cannot wait for 24 hours before taking action to deal with it.)