Town of Branchville

Regular Council Meeting

Monday December 10, 2018

7:00 PM

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on Monday, December 10, 2018 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 was present, except Councilman Banks.

**Welcome of Guest:** Mayor Dickson welcomed those present and explained the agenda for tonight.

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilman Dukes made the motion to approve the November 2018 minutes. Councilman Ott seconded the motion, motion carried.

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

Financial report. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship 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 was absent, no reports:
2. **Water/Sewer/Streets:** Councilman Connelly reports: all is going well at this time. The maintenance employees are replacing meter heads that were not responding to radio reads. I want to let the council know I have a dry eraser board going up in the maintenance building that the employees will use to write down where they are working at. During grass cutting they can’t always hear the phone, but this will let everyone know where they are if needed. Both maintenance men have cell phones now. He also reports that the letters were mailed explaining the procedures for the cut off, late charges, etc. I did come to Town Hall in case there were any more questions, no one came. Councilman Connelly asked Mr. Glenn Miller if they were ok and he responded yes. He also spoke of Kid’s Night with Santa, he was pleased and spoke of such a great job Santa did. Mayor Dickson said that the staff gave Santa a fruit basket, but he would like to give something else if possible. He was also going to do our parade and that it takes his time, gas and cleaning of the suit. Councilman Connelly made a motion to give Santa 75.00. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. Councilman Connelly said they would pick up with the Senior Safety Night with the Fire Department in January. Mayor Dickson explained that during the Christmas meal with the Fire Department that the Fire Department was a level 4 ISO and that they wanted to stay at Level 4. He asked Councilman Connelly to speak with the maintenance department so that the Fire Department could stay at the level 4 ISO.
3. **Parks/Recreation:** Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship reports: We are between seasons at this time. Soccer tryouts will begin December 15th time will be 10-12 at Horton Field, also on January 5 & 12 from 10-12 at the Sports Complex.
4. **Projects/Events:** Councilman Ott reports: Parade is December 16th at 4:00PM.
5. **Buildings/Grounds:** Councilman Oliver reports: The window at the Healthplex has been fixed. I am still working on the railings at the Healthplex, I have spoken with someone and he thinks we can get a better offer. I wanted to let you know at the Community Center the electrical meter head is broken loose and leaning forward. We spoke of this earlier, however we were trying to wait on penny monies. He was asked to get a price on getting it fixed. Councilman Ott says penny monies may not cover that expense.
6. **Police Department:** Councilman Dukes reports: Good month, we had 314 traffic violations. Chief Clark said at this time of the year things get more active. He told those present that the Police Department was assisting SLED in the investigations, that SLED had the lead in those cases. Councilman Dukes informed also that the Med Drop box had been installed and was ready and today the fridge was delivered for the Evidence room.

**Old Business:**

1. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship said he had spoken with someone about the work the town wanted to do on the Old Freight Depot. He said he did not recommend a Tech-School for that. He gave me a name of Jody Munnerlyn, he is supposed to be the R.R. Depot guy. I spoke with Mr. Munnerlyn he is really busy now would be sometime in January before he could do anything, however, if we could get some pictures and get them to him. I will get with him next month and speak again after he looks at some pictures. Councilman Ott also has some one that could look at it but it would also be next month for him. Steps were spoken of, perhaps we should get some. Chief Clark is to take some pictures. Mayor Dickson explained that with some penny monies they were going to repair the old Freight Depot for perhaps for rental for events.

**New Business:**

1. None at this time.

**Public Comments Agenda:** No comments.

**Public Comments Other:** Mr. Glenn Miller had 4 topics he would like to bring attention to. 1st was a house across from Ott’s Branch Housing, weeds have taken the place. He had tried to find out who owned the property but he could not. The Town Hall staff will see what they can do to find out this information and move forward with that. 2nd thing Mr. Miller had was the sidewalk on Hwy. 78, you can’t walk on it. Councilman Connelly said he would get that taken care of. 3rd thing was SCE&G had placed new poles on Hunter Street however the telephone wires are still up on the old poles and could someone please contact SCE&G and have them contact telephone company and get these poles down after the telephone had removed their lines. Mayor Dickson said he would contact Roy Judy about this. 4th thing is a light pole at the corner of Hunter and Hampton Street was replaced however, they did not install the light back on the pole. This is a bad area and we need that light back. Councilman Connelly said he would check into this and speak with Mr. Roy Judy.

**Items for Information:** Parade Sunday December 16th at 4:00PM. Councilman Oliver says there are 2 advanced classes he would like to continue with that will start next year.

**Executive Session:**  Mayor Dickson said that we need to add one more thing to the Executive session that is not on the agenda; cleaning of the Town Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship made a motion to go to Executive Session. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion, motion carried. Council left at 7:30 PM.

Councilman Oliver made the motion to return to the regular Council Meeting at 8:15. Councilman Connelly second the motion, motioned carried.

Mayor Dickson explained that 3 topics were discussed during the session. 1st topic was to whom was the 90% percent to be given to. Councilman Connelly made a motion to give the 90% to Orangeburg County’s Victim Assistance Fund. Mayor Pro Tem Blankenship seconded the motion, motion carried. 2nd topic spoken of was the cleaning of Town Hall and the bid that was placed. Councilman Connelly made a motion to accept the bid given. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion, motion carried. 3rd topic was the property at the Industrial Park, Mayor Dickson says the topic was the Green Project, nothing more could be said on this at this time, they would bring it back in the future.

**Adjournment**: Motion was made by Councilman Dukes to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Town Clerk

Faye Connelly