

TOWN OF BRANCHVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2015

The regular Council Meeting for the Town of Branchville was held on October 12, 2015 at 6:00pm at the Town Hall. A notice was placed on the door of the Town Hall with the time, date, and place of the meeting at least 24 hours before the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Jennings. Mayor, Council, along with all those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer.

Mayor Pro Tem Tom Jennings welcomed the guests.

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Michael Blankenship made the motion to approve September 14, 2015 and September 22, 2015 minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of Financial Reports: Mayor Miller made the motion to approve the August 2015 financial reports. Councilman Whisenhunt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mayor Glenn Miller questioned why the financial reports from September 2015 show a turn-on fee of \$200.00. It was explained that it was more than one reconnect fee. Councilman Whisenhunt said Jeremy Gunnells is posted under outside labor but his check should be posted under repair and maintenance and Cal Hartzog needs to be posted under professional fees. Mayor Miller questioned why three checks were deposited at one time. Lee Hendren said he was correcting an error. Mayor Miller made the motion to approve the September 2015 financial reports with the noted corrections. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Executive Session: Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to go into executive session for a personnel matter. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried. Council went into executive session at 6:11pm.

Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to return to the regular council meeting. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried. Council returned to the regular meeting at 7:48pm. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said a vote was not required after executive session.

Movie Night: Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said Councilwoman Amy Bryant wasn't there but the screen Council already approved was not going to be big enough and Councilwoman Bryant would like to purchase a bigger one for an extra \$50. Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to purchase the larger screen. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Update on Timber: Mayor Miller said the price of timber has gone since Caw-Caw Land and Timber placed their bid and the town should not stand by that price. Councilman Blankenship said the reason Caw-Caw had not cut the timber yet is because they were misled on gaining access to the timber. He said the manager at Valley Proteins could not give permission for access. Councilman Blankenship said Caw-Caw just received permission for access a month ago. Councilman Blankenship also said the bid is under contract until December 31st.

Community Center: Councilman Oliver had two quotes for the hand rails at the Community Center: Donald Valentine for \$759 and V&L Home Repair for \$1350. He also had a quote from ServPro to clean the walls and clean and wax the floors for \$707.21 and a quote from Johnny's Home Improvement to repair the ceiling, paint the ceiling, glaze windows and paint all window trim outside for \$4300.00. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings asked if the rails at the Community Center meet requirements for building code. Councilman Oliver said they did not. It was discussed if a hand rail was required at the Community Center. Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to get bids on the Community Center again but to bid on the same things so the bids are comparable. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mayor Miller made the motion to see if hand rails were required at the Community Center if they are not to take them down. Mayor Pro Tem seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Council Salary Ordinance: Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to approve the second reading of 2015-02 Council Salary Ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Playground: Councilman Whisenhunt said the Town has a PARD Grant for the Playground in the amount of \$8867.00. He said it needs to be signed. Councilman Whisenhunt said it is very difficult to find playground equipment at that cost that is installed. He asked if the Playground Committee could raise funds for the playground and if they could what should they do with the money. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to allow the playground committee to raise funds for the playground and to deposit the funds in an account through the Town of Branchville. Mayor Glenn Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilman Whisenhunt said it was about \$7000.00 in penny tax money to be split between the two playgrounds. Mayor Miller said he saw a piece of playground equipment for about \$7000.00 but that did not include the installation or ground covering. He said he thought they could put the equipment together themselves. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings questioned if the equipment would be covered under warranty if they installed it themselves. It was decided that the playground committee would see if the warranty would be void if the town installed the equipment.

Councilman Whisenhunt asked if the playground fell under Councilwoman Bryant. Mayor Miller said he would take over until someone else would do it. Councilman Whisenhunt asked if the playground committee had any guidelines to follow. Mayor Miller said he would just ask that the playground committee let council know what they were doing.

Roundtable Discussion: Councilman Oliver said he, Mayor Miller and Councilman Chris Ott met with several professors from OC Tech to discuss the feasibility study. Councilman Oliver said they discussed the Brown property that needs to be cleaned up and the use of the old elementary school. He said the professors said there was funding for that. He said they also discussed that many of the young adults in the area are not working and they can take a Work Keys program to help them get work. Councilman Oliver said they also discussed the issue of transportation. He said many young people do not have transportation. Councilman Oliver said they discussed what could be done with the Industrial Park. He said they plan to begin the feasibility study in January.

Police Car Quotes: Chief Randy Clark said the 2008 Crown Victoria has front end damage and the decals are peeling off the door. He said he has a quote to repair the decal for \$192.60 from Kick Booty and a quote to repair the front end damage for \$712.00 from Danny's Collision. Councilman Blankenship made the motion pay for the lettering on the door and to pay for the repair to front end. Councilman Oliver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Items for Information: Mayor Miller said the Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce is having a Legislative Breakfast on Friday, Oct 30th. He said he tickets are \$25 and he would like to attend. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion that any Councilmember that would like to attend could do so. Councilman Whisenhunt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mayor Miller said he received a letter from DHEC but had not opened it yet. He said the letter was a violation and Councilman Whisenhunt would have to attend a meeting.

Councilman Oliver said the Farmer's Market signs were complete but the cost would \$222.21 not \$43.00 that was voted on in the previous meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said it was his understanding that the signs were going to be a school project. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said he thinks council needs an explanation as to why the bill is \$221.21. He said the bill includes labor for Lillie Dunning for \$120.00 but council was told that the school would do it as a project and the town would pay for materials. Charlie Byrd said the material cost was \$83.00. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said the minutes state the sign will be completed by the following Friday and the cost would be \$43.00. Mayor Miller said it was a misunderstanding. Councilman Blankenship made the motion to pay the bill for the Farmer's Market Signs. Mayor Miller seconded the motion. Mayor Miller, Councilman Whisenhunt, Councilman Oliver and Councilman Blankenship voted yay. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings voted nay. The motion carried.

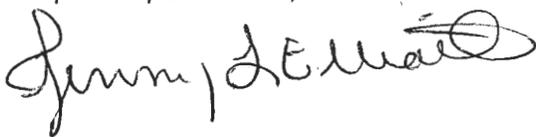
Public Comments: Lee Hendren asked what time did council want to Trick-or-Treating. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to have Trick-or-Treating from 6pm-9pm. Mayor Miller said he abstained from voting. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings, Councilman Whisenhunt, Councilman Oliver, Councilman Blankenship voted yay. The motion carried.

Charlie Byrd asked if executive session should be moved to the end of the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings made the motion to executive session to the end of the agenda after public comments. Mayor Miller seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Jenny Elliott said the September 14, 2015 minutes said she did not send an email to a member of council and that she did not get the quotes for the trash can for RaylRode Daze. She said she sent the email to every member of council. She also said that someone else was supposed to get quotes for the trash cans for RaylRode Daze.

Adjournment: Mayor Miller made the motion to adjourn. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:51.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenny Elliott", written in a cursive style.

Jenny Elliott
Town Clerk