

Town of Branchville  
Regular Council Meeting  
January 11, 2016

The regular Council meeting for Town of Branchville was held on January 11, 2016 at 6:00 pm 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 Tom Jennings. Mayor, Council, along with all those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer.

Roll called indicated that all members of council were present with the exception of Councilman Frank Ott.

Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said that Council needed to elect a Presiding Officer. Council Charles Dukes made the motion that Mayor Frank Dickson preside over the meeting. Councilman Michael Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilman Blankenship made the motion to approve December 14, 2015, December 30, 2015 and January 4, 2016 minutes. Councilwoman Amy Bryant seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Reports:** Councilman Sam Whisenhunt made the motion to approve the financial reports. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Lori Salley:** The Town's Auditor, Lori Salley, went over the Town's audit for the year ending 2014.

**BYS:** Councilman Michael Blankenship said Council had approved for Cattle Creek to clear the land for the new sports complex but he said that DHEC said that there had to be an additional 1.6 acres cleared for drainage. He said Council approved, by email, to let Cattle Creek clear the extra 1.6 acres for the same rate per acres as the rest of the clearing. He said this was something that had to be voted on last week and could not wait. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said he abstain from voting.

**Mutual Aid Agreement:** Councilman Blankenship said the new sports complex sits outside of the Town Limits. He said as the property sits it is under Orangeburg County jurisdiction. Councilman Blankenship said for Branchville Police Department to be able to patrol the complex Orangeburg County and the Town of Branchville needs a mutual aid agreement giving Branchville Police Department jurisdiction over the complex. Councilman Blankenship made the motion to give a mutual aid agreement to Orangeburg County Sheriff Department giving Branchville and Orangeburg County jurisdiction. Councilman Charles Dukes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Bids for Truck:** Jenny Elliott said she had one bid for the 1999 F-150 Truck. Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to accept the bid on the truck. Councilman Blankenship seconded the motion. Mayor Dickson, Councilman Whisenhunt, Councilwoman Bryant, Councilman Blankenship, and Councilman Dukes voted yea. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings voted nay. The motion carried.

**Shoe Drive:** Lori Miller said the playground committee is having a shoe drive. She said they are collecting shoes; she said they need 100 bags of 25 pairs of shoes. She asked if they could place a box to collect shoes in the Town Hall and if they could store the shoes collected in the maintenance shed. Councilman Blankenship made the motion to allow the playground committee to place a box to collect shoe in the Town Hall and to allow the playground committee to store the collected shoes in the maintenance shed. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Items for Information:** Councilman Whisenhunt said the playground on Freedom Rd has a piece new playground equipment. He said it is set up and ready.

Councilman Blankenship said he had a quote from Waste Haulers for the garbage contract and he would like for everyone to look over it before the next meeting.

Mayor Dickson said on January 19 at 2:00pm Stephanie Grant with Orangeburg County is coming to Branchville to discuss the one cent sales taxes.

**Public Comments:** Glenn Miller said council had decided to take the yard trash off. Councilman Blankenship said it was locked into the contract.

Charlie Byrd asked if there was garbage pickup available on Cattle Creek Rd. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said that there is not garbage pickup on Cattle Creek Rd now.

Lori Miller asked when the grill for the Freedom Rd playground would be installed. Councilman Whisenhunt said the grill had already been installed.

Glenn Miller said he was impressed with the playground.

**Executive Session:** Council went into executive session. Council returned from executive session. Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to return to the regular meeting. Councilman Dukes seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mayor Dickson said that while council was in executive session they discussed a personnel matter that did not require a vote.

**Adjournment:** Councilman Dukes made the motion to adjourn. Councilman Whisenhunt seconded the motion. The motion carried. The regular Council Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenny Elliott  
Town Clerk/Treasurer