

Council Meeting Minutes  
For  
February 4, 2008  
Branchville Town Hall  
7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT**

Mayor Tim Cooner  
Mayor Pro Tem Glenn Miller  
Councilman Charles Dukes  
Councilwoman Amy Bryant  
Councilman Chris Ott  
Councilwoman Georgianna Harmon

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Rhonda Thompson Town Clerk

**GUESTS**

Phyllis Overstreet	Beverly Berry	Dan Campbell
Debra Perugini	Carolyn Campbell	Betty Blaylock
Betty Skolasky	Gidget Vickers	

Mayor Cooner called the meeting to order and asked that all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Mayor Cooner welcomed everyone out tonight and mentioned that it felt like spring today.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Cooner asked the pleasure of Council on the approval of minutes. after questions from Councilwoman Harmon, Mayor Cooner explained in detail how grants and loans were obtained from Rural Development and how grants were obtained from CDBG. Councilman Dukes motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Miller seconded. After that Councilman Miller abstained from voting because he did not attend the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Councilman Ott then seconded the minutes from the special meeting.

Mayor Cooner said that the Regional Water project was put out on bid and has been awarded to G. H. Smith Construction and should start the end of February or first of March.

Mayor Cooner said Senn Construction moved into Town on Friday and should start this week on the Streetscape.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS/NON AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor Cooner asked for public comments. hearing none.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS OF OTHER MATTERS**

Mayor Cooner asked for public comments Ms. Berry Blaylock said that the hedges needing trimming on Bridge Street and Fairey Road because you had to pull out into the street at the stop sign to see oncoming traffic. Ms. Blaylock also mentioned some cement blocks lined up down part of Bridge Street.

## **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mayor Cooner asked the pleasure of Council for approving the financial report. Councilwoman Harmon had many questions regarding the financial statement. Councilwoman Harmon wanted to know why Council wasn't notified when the Town had to transfer large sums of money. Councilman Dukes said that the Council appointed the Mayor last year, to handle the day-to-day operations of the Town. Mayor Cooner said the Town needs to consider hiring C.C. McGregor to come and do our financials for us, at the cost of approximately \$1000.00 per month. Several Councilpersons admitted that the Town could not afford that at this time.

Councilwoman Harmon offered to up date the Ordinance Books and the Mayor asked for a vote from Council on this issue. Councilman Miller asked Councilwoman Harmon what kind of guidelines would she use in updating these books and Councilwoman Harmon replied by saying she would have to call the Municipal Association and get a guideline.

Mayor Cooner said that he would suggest that Council call another meeting in two weeks to detail the budget and also update the Ordinance books. Councilwoman Bryant said that we need to make a motion on the approval of the financial statements before we vote on something else. Councilwoman Bryant motioned to approve and Mayor Pro Tem Miller seconded, and Councilwoman Harmon Nay.

Councilwoman Harmon agreed to call C. C. McGregor to see what the costs would be for the Town to have an outside company come in to do the financial statements.

Council agreed on the 18<sup>th</sup> they would have a workshop organizing and indexing the Ordinance Books. Mayor Cooner asked Mayor Pro Tem Miller to chair the meeting in his absence. The Clerk asked if she needed to be present and it was agreed that no minutes would need to be taken at the workshop. The findings from the workshop would be discussed at the next Council meeting and the minutes would be taken then.

## **COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **Police Department –**

-Mayor Cooner said the only item he had for the Police Department was that the insurance would pay the Town a total of \$4953.25 for the 2000 Police car that was totaled.

*on welcome sign*

**Administrative Office**

-Mayor Cooner asked Mayor Pro Tem Miller if he had anything. Mayor Pro Tem Miller said the streetlights were out coming into Town on 78 and 21 north. Mayor Pro Tem Miller said he received a phone call from Sheriff Larry Williams and said he had been trying to get in touch with the Mayor. Mayor Cooner said we received the letter from the Sheriff in the mail today.

**Public Works**

-Mayor Cooner said we have already covered this tonight.

**Mayors Report**

-Mayor Cooner said he did not have anything in his report tonight.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mayor Cooner asked about old business and Councilwoman Harmon had questions regarding rent on the financial statements.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Cooner asked if Council wanted to have a reading on the Business License Ordinance. Councilwoman Bryant said that she would like to have proof by someone from the Municipal Association that the Town's current Ordinance is illegal.

**PROGRESS ON CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Mayor Cooner said this item has already been covered tonight.

**ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

Mayor Cooner said he had nothing and then asked the Clerk, the Clerk said there was a lady who wanted to rent the Town sign for a Thank You Note. This lady's daughter had passed away and a lot of people helped her grandchildren have a wonderful Christmas. It was then discussed amongst Council and decided that individuals could not rent the sign. The purpose for the sign was for civic and religious organizations. Mayor Pro Tem Miller said there should be some type of rules for the Town sign. Ms. Carolyn Campbell spoke to say she worked with Bill Silverthorne years ago cleaning up trash and they were awarded the money that bought the sign for the Town and it was to be used for the Community not for individuals. Mayor Cooner said an Ordinance needs to be made for this and asked Councilwoman Harmon to write this one.

Mayor Cooner advised Council he has no other business at this time and asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Dukes motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Miller seconded.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Thompson  
Town Clerk