

TOWN OF BRANCHVILLE  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
FOR  
JUNE 7, 2010

PRESIDING Mayor Timothy Cooner

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Glenn Miller  
Councilman Tom Jennings  
Councilman Charles Dukes  
Councilwoman Benita Gibbs

Mayor Cooner called the meeting to order and asked that all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence

The Mayor then welcomed everyone to the meeting and said that he needed to add to the Agenda that Council will have an Executive Session tonight

Mayor Cooner asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting  
Mayor Pro Tem Miller made the motion to approve and Councilwoman Benita Gibbs seconded the motion  
Motion Carried

There were no Public Comments on Agenda items

Public Comments on Other Matters

Mrs. Veronica Bowman and family came to the meeting to discuss a letter that they received from the Town office concerning the Water User Agreement that they had signed On July 26, 2006

Mrs. Bowman said that they have not paid their tap fee nor have they trenched in to the tap because they do not want the water

The Water User Agreement states:

IN THE EVENT THE MEMBER SHALL BREACH THIS CONTRACT BY REFUSING OR FAILING, WITHOUT JUST CAUSE, TO CONNECT A SERVICE LINE TO THE ASSOCIATION'S DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AS SET FORTH ABOVE, THE MEMBER AGREES TO PAY THE ASSOCIATION A LUMP SUM OF 1000.00 TO THE ASSOCIATION AS LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

Mayor Cooner then explained the entire procedure of the Cattle Creek Water Project starting with the survey that took place in 2006

He said that it costs 1,000.00 to 1,200.00 for each meter tap that is placed in the ground and the people that signed the Agreement should pay the fee of 195.00 for the tap and be trenched in so they can be hooked up to the Town's water

He also said that he realizes times are tough right now but the Town is also having tough times and the contract is legal and binding

Mayor Pro Tem Miller said that he was sorry but they did sign the contract and it is binding

Mayor Cooner stated that USDA will be doing an Audit on the Town for this project

Mayor Cooner then said that Mr. Richard Freeman had concerns that he would like to bring before Council about a speeding ticket that Chief Randy Clark had issued to him The questions and concerns were heard and answered and Mayor Cooner said that this case had already been heard by the Judge and that it is time to move on

Mayor Cooner asked the pleasure of Council for the Financial Report

Mayor Pro Tem Miller made the motion to approve the Financial Report

Councilman Charles Dukes seconded the motion

Motion Carried

Mayor Cooner said that tonight Council needs to take a closer look at the Towns Water and Sewer Impact fees, right now we are charging 450.00 for water and 450.00 for sewer, he then discussed other Towns close to Branchville and what their charges are. In comparison the Town of Branchville is charging way less than any other Town

Mayor Cooner said he is asking Council tonight to raise the Impact fees to 1200.00 water and 1200.00 sewer and 1000.00 for water in the County unless they already have a tap he said he realizes this is a tremendous increase

Mayor Pro tem Miller said that it is our fault that we have allowed this 450.00 impact fee to go on for so long

Mayor Cooner said that at these increased prices we will now be in line with neighboring Towns

Councilman Charles Dukes made the motion to raise the rates

Councilman Tom Jennings seconded the motion

Motion Carried

Mayor Cooner said Thank You to Council and that now for the Ordinance we will know where to start, we can put it in the Ordinance as Cost basis and there will be 3 readings on this Ordinance

Mayor Cooner then stated that he has good news about the Asbestos testing with Safety Professionals

There has been NO Asbestos found at the former Town Hall property and 3 samples the size of a quarter were found at the Campground site and hopefully we can have that cleaned up for 5000.00

Mayor Cooner said that the Town advertized in the T&D for bids on pressure washing and painting the Museum, only one contractor gave a bid and that was 14,750.00 and he is ready to start immediately is there a Motion from Council

Councilman Tom Jennings made the motion for Maxwell Construction to do the work

Councilwoman Benita Gibbs seconded the motion

Motion Carried

Retract  
in  
following  
meeting  
1,000

Mayor Cooner then stated that he has spoken with John Mclauchlin with the County of Orangeburg in reference to the County's penny money and that it is projected that we will receive over the next 7 years aprox. 850,961.00

500.000.00 for Town Hall

50.000.00 Water and Sewer

50.000.00 Streetscape

250.000.00 Sports Complex

We are hoping to get a Grant then we can buy some property and build the Town a true sports facility does that sound good to everyone?

All of Council said yes

Mayor Cooner said that next month we will be taking quotes on the District office bldg.

That we can possibly use as a temporary Library, it needs a new roof, heating and air and carpet etc. Possibly about 30,000.00 would fix it up. We are going to write a letter to our County Councilman to see if they can give us any money. We need to get some prices on getting the roof fixed and move on from there

Mayor Cooner said that last month our insurance man came to talk to us and explained the difference between the MED 350 and MED1000 plan. The Town can no longer afford to pay 100% of the employee's insurance, there was much discussion from Council

Councilman Tom Jennings suggested that each employee pay 40.00 weekly to offset some of the Towns expense

Mayor Cooner made the motion to have employees deduct 40.00 out of each weekly paycheck

Mayor Pro Tem Miller seconded the motion

Motion Carried

Mayor Cooner made the motion to go into Executive Session

Councilwoman Benita Gibbs seconded the motion

Motion Carried

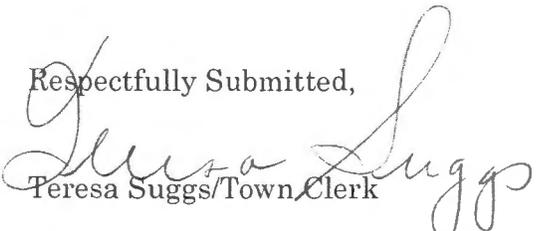
After Executive Session Mayor Cooner called the meeting back to order and asked for a motion to Adjourn

Councilwoman Benita Gibbs made the motion to Adjourn

Mayor Pro Tem Miller seconded the motion

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Teresa Suggs/Town Clerk