

TOWN OF BRANCHVILLE  
COUNCIL MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

PRESIDING Mayor Timothy Cooner

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Pro Tem Glenn Miller  
Councilman Tom Jennings  
Councilwoman Amy Bryant  
Councilman Charles Dukes

Mayor Cooner called the meeting to order and asked that all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and then please have a seat

Mayor Cooner said he would like to add to the Agenda that Council go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting tonight

Mayor Cooner stated that at the August meeting it was voted by Council to offer prayer at the beginning of our Council Meetings, he then said that he thought it was Federal Law that prayer could no longer be given at such meetings he then read the Act to Amend Code

He said this is something that he doesn't like to talk about because when you pray it is very personal, and that other Municipalities have had lawsuits concerning this matter

He said that the law states that "GOD" may be used while praying in the meetings but "JESUS CHRIST" may not, due to the Freedom of Religion foundation  
The law states that we may offer a Generic Prayer

Mayor Pro Tem Miller said that he doesn't feel you can pray without calling Gods name and praying to Jesus Christ

Mayor Cooner then said tonight we will have a Generic Prayer and tomorrow we can contact the Attorney Generals Office

As a Town Council we can determine who will offer our Prayer among our Council Members, but allowing different denominations to come in and pray could present a problem

Our Town Council opened up with Prayer up until 5 years ago

Mayor Cooner asked if anyone on Council would like to offer the prayer for this evenings meeting before we get started

Mayor Pro Tem Miller stated that he could not offer Prayer if praying to “Jesus Christ” is not allowed

Mayor Cooner said there is a Motion on the table to NOT allow Prayer, do I have a second?

Not hearing a second...that Motion is dead

Mayor Cooner said he feels it is his duty to tell Council what the rules are, and now that we realize Prayer is allowable I am thankful for at least that much

Mayor Cooner then gave the Prayer for the Meeting

Mayor Cooner then asked the pleasure of Council to Approve the Minutes for August

Councilwoman Amy Bryant made the Motion to Approve

Mayor Pro Tem seconded the Motion

Motion Carried

Mayor Cooner then asked the pleasure of Council to Approve the Financial Report

Councilman Tom Jennings made the Motion to Approve

Mayor Pro Tem Miller seconded the Motion

Motion Carried

Mayor Cooner said that the Police Department is on track for Raylrode Daze and they are doing a fine job

Mayor Cooner said that the Shriners called and asked to be removed from the Agenda and that they had wanted the Town to allow them to have a temporary beer licenses for Raylrode Daze

Mayor Cooner stated that the Town Will allow drinking at the Festivul as long as it is in a cup, and that we will not allow sloppy drunks, we try to give everyone the benefit of the doubt, and that the Town will have assistance from the State Highway Patrol, Orangeburg County Sheriff's office and of course our own Police Department

Mayor Pro Tem Miller stated that we need to make it known once again what our Town marquis sign is used for

Mayor Cooner said it is to be used for Community business only!

Nothing personal is to be put on that sign

Mayor Pro Tem Miller made the Motion that the Marquis be used for Community Business

Councilwoman Amy Bryant seconded the Motion

Motion Carried

## PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor Cooner said that he has brought in two new people to help with Town clean-up before Raylrode Daze and that we may hire a couple more and that Mrs. Kathy Rivers will be feeding the Law Enforcement Officers again this year at the Community Center during Raylrode Daze

Mayor Cooner stated that the Town needs a Chaplin for the Police Department and that Rev.Scott ONeal from the Baptist Church has shown interest in that position Mayor Cooner then said at this time he would like to welcome Rev.ONeal to the Branchville Police Department as Chaplin

There were no items of information at this time

Councilwoman Amy Bryant stated that she has not forgotten about the Town signs and that she is still working on that

Mayor Cooner then said that he is asking for a 2 minute recess

Mayor Pro Tem Miller made the motion to recess and then resume the meeting for Executive Session

Councilman Charles Dukes seconded the Motion

Motion Carried

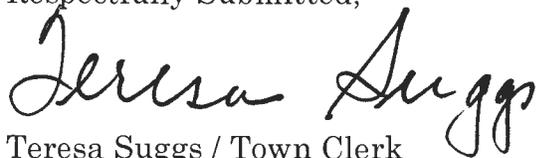
Mayor Cooner called the meeting back to order after Executive Session and stated that there was nothing to take a vote on

Mayor Pro Tem Miller made the Motion to Adjourn

Councilman Charles Dukes seconded the Motion

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Teresa Suggs". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Teresa Suggs / Town Clerk