

TOWN OF BRANCHVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 11, 2014

The regular Town Council Meeting of the Town of Branchville was held on August 11, 2014 at 6pm 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 Miller. Mayor, Council, along with all those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer.

Roll call indicated that all Council members were present.

Mayor Miller welcomed the guest.

Approval of Minutes: Councilman Chris Ott made the motion to approve the July 14th minutes. Councilman Sam Whisenhunt seconded the notion. The motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Tom Jennings made the motion to approve the July 28th minutes. Councilman Michael Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Executive Session: Council went into executive session at 6:04pm. Council returned from executive session at 6:35pm. Mayor Miller said a vote was not necessary for what was discussed in executive session.

First Reading Ordinance Number 8-1-97: Councilman Whisenhunt made the motion to approve First Reading on Ordinance number 8-1-97 with the corrections being made from the July 28th work session. Mayor Pro Tem Jennings seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of Financial Reports: Councilman Whisenhunt said the carry over funds budget is \$193,885.00 and should show throughout the year as income for \$16,154.58 per month. He questioned the principal payment in Municipal Court for \$458.05. Town Clerk, Jenny Elliott, said it was for the car payment. Councilman Whisenhunt asked if a check wrote to Ott's Grocery was correct. Jenny Elliott said yes. Councilman Ott made the motion to approve the financial reports. Councilman Whisenhunt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Old Business: Mayor Pro Tem Jennings said he spoke with Branchville High School Art program and they agreed to make the signs for the Farmers Market. He said they will need supplies.

Councilman Gregory Oliver said the Town could ask a vocational school if they would build a counter for the clerk's office.

Mayor Miller said Steve Allen call from Dollar General and said he was not interested in building a Dollar General Supermarket in Branchville.

New Business: Mayor Miller said the pad at the spray park has to come up due to water leaking under it.

The playground committee (Brandi Boan, Audrey Cook, Marianna Street and Angel Whisenhunt) came to the Town Council Meeting to ask for permission to apply for a PARD grant for \$10,000-\$15,000 for the Horton Field Playground. Brandi Boan said the reasons to purchase a new playset include various levels of play, room for several kids to play at once, various types of play (slides, climbers, etc.) and steps allow for different ages and ability levels. Brandi Boan said they have found three possible playsets appropriate for Horton Field Playground. Council said for the Playground Committee to apply for the PARD grant.

Councilman Whisenhunt said that water department has been doing good. He said revenue has increase about \$10,000 over the last month. He said the increase is due to more consistent and accurate reading, reading of all meters, cut off fees, and on time collections.

Councilman Whisenhunt said DHEC had conducted its annual sanitary survey. He said Branchville received an overall rating of Needs Improvements. Councilman Whisenhunt said the DHEC survey stated that procedure manual needs to be updated to show sample siting plan and distribution plan, the last log entry for valve and hydrant maintenance was 2010, and the records for dead end flushing were not available. Councilman Whisenhunt said he and Cal Hartzog would meet later in the week to review these issues.

Councilman Whisenhunt also said the survey stated that there were low disinfectant levels and low chlorine residual for the cattle creek section. Councilman Whisenhunt said they will flush these areas more frequently.

Councilman Whisenhunt said the DHEC stated that the Branchville Public Water System is being operated in a safe and reliable manner.

Councilman Whisenhunt said that all known water leaks have been repaired by Nelson Goldsmith with the assistance of certified distribution operator Theodore Johnson. Councilman Whisenhunt said Nelson Goldsmith is doing an outstanding job.

Public Comments: Charlie Byrd said if the water line under the spray park is leaking the Town should contact the company who installed it.

Karen Williams asked if the where the Town was on the new personnel policy. Mayor Miller said there has to be three reading and they had the first reading tonight.

Edna Park said she was out of Town from June 6, 2014 to July 3, 2014 and her water bill was \$49.00. She said someone read her meter wrong. Councilman Whisenhunt said he investigated her water bill and the reading was correct.

Charles Bamberg questioned if a Dollar General didn't want to come to Branchville because of what is in the paper about Branchville. He said the Branchville needs a store. He said everyone is going out of town to shop.

Frank Osboure said he bought a house in September of 2012 with the knowledge of it having city water and sewage. Frank Osboure said the past homeowners and past renters were paying for sewage. He said it turns out the sewage was draining on the ground because it was never hooked up. Mayor Miller said

that a line was run from the house to the yard. Mayor Miller said the sewage was not tied to the Town's wastewater.

Councilman Oliver said he attended one of Bowman's Town Council Meetings. He said the meeting went very well he said that each councilmember had a task to do. He said the Town of Bowman has a mission statement and would like for Branchville to have a mission statement.

Councilman Oliver also said that we got together we could create our own cooperative and open a grocery store.

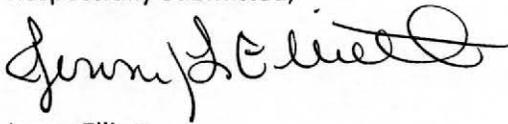
Ms. Luvenia Williams said she would like to commend Councilman Oliver on a job well done.

Karen Williams asked if council was going to consider Councilman Oliver's request. Mayor Miller said yes but he would like Councilman Oliver to have in on paper.

Desiree Connelly said her water taste better in the month than is has in a while.

At 7:36 Mayor Miller said the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jenny Elliott".

Jenny Elliott
Town Clerk