

BRANCHVILLE BOROUGH
Regular Meeting
January 4, 2023
7:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Branchville Borough Council has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof sent to the New Jersey Herald.

FLAG SALUTE was led by Mayor Frato.

ROLL CALL was conducted by Clerk Leissler, Present were Council members Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Also present were Attorney Valenti, Jeff Lewis, Keith Whitehead, Michelle Shelton, Jeff Lewis, Charles Smith, Heather Klimas, William Bathgate, Mike Little, John Newcomer and the Van Stones.

PROCLAMATION – None

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

1. December 2022 minutes

Motion to approve the December meeting minutes was made by Councilwoman Whitesell, seconded by Councilman Doremus. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

CONSENT AGENDA – None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion was made by Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilwoman Whitesell to enter in public session. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

No Comment.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bathgate, seconded by Councilman Doremus to close the public comment portion of the meeting. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

REGULAR SESSION

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bathgate, seconded by Councilman Doremus to approve Resolution # 11-2023, Refunding Tax Overpayment. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

(Resolution follows minutes)

Motion was made by Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilman Bellis to approve the Space Farms Agreement for deer carcass pickup. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Motion was made by Councilman Van Stone, seconded by Councilman Doremus to approve the Animal Control agreement between Branchville and Wantage. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

The project packet from Simmons is being tabled until the February meeting. Mayor Frato is waiting for return calls from Josh Gottheimer's office.

Motion was made by Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilman Orr to approve the Tax Assessment Proposal for the Assessor to change to BRT. The cost is \$2241.00. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Motion was made by Councilman Bellis, seconded by Councilman Doremus to approve the BHC raffle as presented. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bathgate, seconded by Councilman Van Stone to approve the resolution that was provided by Harold Pellow office. The resolution includes improvements with requested amount of \$100,000. Items requested are a playground and basketball stanchions-nets. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Councilman Bellis stated that the car at 24 Church Hill is registered.

Councilman Bellis stated that a car is left in the municipal lot belongs to a tenant at 6 Main Street. Motion was made by Councilman Bellis, seconded by Councilwoman Bathgate to send a letter to the owner asking her to move her vehicle within 10 days. The Borough of Branchville will tow the vehicle at her cost if it is not moved. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

(Resolution follows minutes)

The following bills were presented for payment. On motion of Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilwoman Whitesell they were ordered paid after being properly audited, paid out of correct account and subject to the availability of funds. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

(List of bills follows minutes)

BRANCHVILLE BOROUGH RESOLUTION # 11-2023
REFUNDING
TAX OVERPAYMENT
BLOCK 705 LOT 13

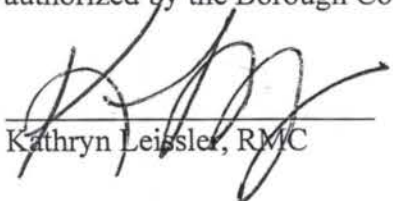
WHEREAS, property owned by Buchell, 56 Broad Street, has received over payments due to bank error(letter attached),

WHEREAS, the overpaid amount is \$3013.72, which is the exact credit on same account,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Branchville on this 4th of January, 2023 that a check be sent to Pennymac, LLC refunding same.

CERTIFICATION

I, Kathryn Leissler, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Branchville, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a resolution duly authorized by the Borough Council on this 4th day of January, 2023.


Kathryn Leissler, RMC

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Branchville Borough Mayor and Council
(formal name of organization)
desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
for approximately \$ 100,000
(dollar amount of request) to carry out a project to _____

place a playground behind the Branchville Borough Municipal Office.
(briefly describe the project)
basketball stanchions and nets


Be it therefore RESOLVED,

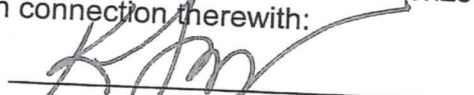
1) that the Branchville Borough Mayor and Council
(formal name of organization)
does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,

2) recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore,
upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does
further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully
executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant
to the terms of the agreement between _____

Branchville Borough Mayor and Council
(formal name of organization)
and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Be it further RESOLVED, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are
authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to
sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

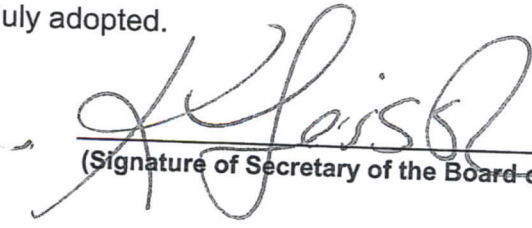

(signature)
Anthony Frata Sr.
(type or print name)
Mayor
(title)


(signature)
Kathryn Lussler
(type or print name)
RMC CMA CTC
(title)

CERTIFICATION:

I, Kathryn Lussler, the clerk
(name of Board Secretary / Government Clerk) (title of position - Board Secretary or Government Clerk)
of Branchville Borough Mayor + Council
(formal name of organization)
hereby certify that at a meeting of the Board of Directors / Governing Body held on 1-4-2022
(meeting date)
the above RESOLUTION was duly adopted.

AFFIX GOV'T,
CORPORATE OR
NOTARY SEAL
(12/03)


(Signature of Secretary of the Board of Directors or Government Clerk)

Report Printed 2023-01-04 12:42:41 Borough of Branchville

Check Register - (0110101001000) Cash Checking

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	VOID AMOUNT	VOID DATE	REASON
8/03/2022	3882	11 Allied OIL, LLC				
12/09/2022	162	229 MORRIS, DOWNING & SHERRED, LLP	32,839.30	1,941.57	12/14/2022	Lost
12/09/2022	163	149 STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND	15,968.00			
12/14/2022	164	11 Allied-Griffith Trucking	1,941.57			
12/31/2022	165	83 Abcode SECURITY	240.00			
12/31/2022	166	11 Allied-Griffith Trucking	719.17			
12/31/2022	167	15 Century LINK/ Brightspeed	677.08			
12/31/2022	168	59 DOLAN & DOLAN P.A.	1,389.80			
12/31/2022	169	59 DOLAN & DOLAN P.A.	1,039.00			
12/31/2022	170	425 Elizabethtown Gas	758.63			
12/31/2022	171	2 HAROLD E. PELLOW & ASSOC INC.	362.66			
12/31/2022	172	502 HBCBS of NJ	132.84			
12/31/2022	173	51 JCP&L	2,434.71			
12/31/2022	174	116 LAFAYETTE AUTO PARTS SUPPLY	64.71			
12/31/2022	175	205 Lowe's	475.18			
12/31/2022	176	558 Lumen	1,121.30			
12/31/2022	177	64 MONTAGUE TOOL & SUPPLY CO.	82.04			
12/31/2022	178	320 R&L Data Centers Inc	640.00			
12/31/2022	179	104 RR DONNELLEY	43.00			
12/31/2022	180	69 STAPLES ADVANTAGE	104.52			
12/31/2022	181	409 Stavola Beaver Run	465.73			
12/31/2022	182	290 Sussex County Fire Sales	145.00			
12/31/2022	183	86 Sussex County Muni. Utilities Autho	2,949.15			
12/31/2022	184	1 Times Herald-Record Localiq	27.87			
12/31/2022	185	75 VERIZON WIRELESS	37.29			
12/31/2022	186	418 Viking Termite & Pest Control, Inc	54.46			
12/31/2022	187	6 WASTE MANAGEMENT OF NJ, INC.	9,726.16			

			74,439.17			
			=====			
			74,439.17			
			-1,941.57	**	Voided checks issued in an earlier period	
			=====			
			72,497.60			

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Check Register - (0710101001000) Cash Checking

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	VOID AMOUNT	VOID DATE	REASON
12/31/2022	1269	51 JCP&L	337.89			

			337.89			
			=====			
			337.89			

Report Printed 2023-01-04 12:41:56 Borough of Branchville

Check Register - (0910101001000) CASH CHECKING

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	VOID AMOUNT	VOID DATE	REASON
12/31/2022	1270	7 Coyne CHEMICAL COMPANY	1,237.66			
12/31/2022	1271	31 GARDEN STATE LABS INC.	200.00			
12/31/2022	1272	2 HAROLD E. PELLOW & ASSOC INC.	5,209.20			
12/31/2022	1273	51 JCP&L	1,587.94			
12/31/2022	1274	381 SeptiCare	2,013.25			
12/31/2022	1275	72 Sussex Rural Electric	69.26			
12/31/2022	1276	74 USA BLUEBOOK	341.71			
12/31/2022	1277	107 STATE OF NEW JERSEY-PWT	57.15			

			10,716.17			

			10,716.17			

Report Printed 2023-01-04 12:45:33 Borough of Branchville

Check Register - (1210101001000) CASH-DOG LICENSE

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	VOID AMOUNT	VOID DATE	REASON
12/31/2022	1106	479 Branchville COUNTRY VET CLINIC	228.00			
12/31/2022	1107	115 MGL PRINTING SOLUTIONS	543.00			
12/31/2022	1108	525 Michelle Shelton	30.00			

			801.00			

			801.00			