#### BRANCHVILLE BOROUGH Regular Meeting April 5, 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, Mike Little, Mike Clune, Jim Ayers, Mr. Silverthorne, Sharon Marino, Sharing Network representatives, Melinda Tanzola and Keith Whitehead.

PROCLAMATION - National Donate Life Month presented to Mrs. Marino.

#### 1. March Minutes (Regular)

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

#### CONSENT AGENDA - None

Motion was made Councilwoman Bathgate, seconded by Councilman Bellis to approve the COLA ordinance on first reading. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

#### (Ordinance follows minutes)

Motion was made Councilman Van Stone, seconded by Councilwoman Bathgate to introduce the 2023 budget on first reading. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

NUMBER

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion was made by Councilman Bellis, seconded by Councilwoman Bathgate to enter into public session. 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 Bellis to approve Mike Clune's flower budget to be \$800 pending that our CFO can find the line item for the additional money to be taken from. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Mike Clune updated the council with Steve Leenheer's parking situation on Mill Street. The County of Sussex asked that the Branchville Council approve the decision of Branchville Planning Board on same. Motion was made by Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilman Orr to support the Branchville Planning Board on their decision for same. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Mike Clune updated the Governing Body on the vacant property ordinance.

Motion was made by Councilman Orr, seconded by Councilman Doremus to authorize the clerk to send a letter in support of the BHC with holding their annual block party on June 10, 2023. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Motion was made by Councilman Orr, seconded by Councilman Doremus to approve the Branchville 5K to be held on September 10, 2023 pending receipt of all items required for same. The clerk will forward a letter to the County of Sussex, Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Melinda Tanzola expressed her concerns with Branchville Borough water and the Branchville Borough website. No action taken.

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.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Whitesell, seconded Councilwoman Bathgate to approve the Resolution # 14-2023, Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. 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 Councilwoman Whitesell to approve Resolution #16-2023, Resolution authorizing approval to submit a grant application to Josh Gottheimer, Congressman, for the community funding grant. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

#### (Resolution follows minutes)

Motion was made by Councilwoman, Bathgate, seconded by Councilwoman Whitesell to open the public hearing on Ordinance #01-2023, An ordinance to provide engineering services for the water department within the Borough of Branchville and provide funding thereof. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

No public comment.

Motion was made by Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilwoman Whitesell to close the public hearing on Ordinance #01–2023, An ordinance to provide engineering services for the water department within the Borough of Branchville and provide funding thereof. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Motion was made by Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilwoman Whitesell to approve Ordinance #01-2023 on second reading. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Motion was made by Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilman Orr to approve the Branchville Borough Historical Society's request to hold the duck race-egg hunt on Good Friday, April 7, 2023. Roll Call Vote: Aye –Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – Bathgate, Bellis.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bathgate, seconded by Councilman Doremus to approve the Branchville Hose Company raffle applications. These two separate raffles will be held on April 22, 2023. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Councilman Doremus will get 2 more quotes for a service agreement regarding the furnace.

Motion was made by Councilman Bellis, seconded by Councilman Orr to approve the quote to repair the furnace from East Coast Combustion in the

WAVE

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bathgate, seconded by Councilman Orr to approve the Shared Service agreement between the County of Sussex and Branchville for Fire Marshal services. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Motion was made by Councilman Orr, seconded by Councilwoman Bathgate to approve the Frankford School PTA raffle application for a raffle ticket draw at the Branchville Hose Company on May 25, 2023. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Councilman Van Stone reported that Branchville - Frankford was awarded the discretionary funds.

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

Motion was made by Councilman Orr, seconded by Councilman Bellis to approve a 90 day extension of the Cerra property purchase. 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 Councilwoman Whitesell to approve getting rid of Cintas and to return all associated clothing. Motion also includes that each employee of the road department is now allotted \$600 to spend a year on clothing plus annual shoe allowance. Each employee must submit receipts before reimbursement of same. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Motion was made by Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilman Van Stone to allow Darren Haggerty, road department, to purchase a hydrant rebuild kit, not to exceed \$500. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

A committee consisting of Troy Orr, Lee Doremus and Rusty Bellis was created to work on the transition from Tier B to Tier A. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Discussion took place concerning when and who can contact Harold Pellow and Associate's office. A final determination has not been made yet. Discussion will continue in May.

Mary ...

Motion was made by Councilman Orr, seconded by Councilwoman Bathgate to approve Michelle Shelton to continue grant application with I Bank. 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 Councilwoman Bathgate to approve Mayor Frato and the clerk to complete the sheriff patrol application for summer patrols. 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 authorize Mayor Frato to write a letter to Assemblyman Space, Wirths and Senator Oroho for financial assistance for removal of Ash trees. 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 Councilwoman Whitesell to purchase a plague and memorial tree for Richard Walters. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Attorney Valenti updated the council on the PFAS litigation.

The following bills were presented for payment. On motion of Councilwoman Whitesell, seconded by Councilman Doremus 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, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – Orr.

(List of bills follows minutes)

On motion of Councilman Van Stone, seconded by Councilman Doremus the meeting was adjourned. Roll Call Vote: Aye – Bathgate, Bellis, Doremus, Orr, Van Stone, Whitesell. Nay – None. Absent – None. Abstain – None.

Kathryn Leissler-CMR CTC RMC Borough Clerk

avaive"

# CALENDAR YEAR 2023 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Branchville in the County of Sussex finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2023 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council hereby determines that a 2.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$25,812.60 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Borough Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Branchville, in the County of Sussex, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2023 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Branchville shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$36,137.64 and that the CY 2023 municipal budget for the Borough of Branchville be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

TAKE NOTICE that the above ordinance was passed on the first reading at a regular meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Branchville held on April 5, 2023 and that a public hearing on said Ordinance will be held at a regular meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. on May 3, 2023 at the Branchville Borough Municipal Office, 34 Wantage Avenue, Branchville, NJ at which time and place all interested parties may appear and be heard.

Kathryn Leissler, CMR CTC RMC Branchville Borough Clerk

yuga men

### BRANCHVILLE BOROUGH

## PROCLAMATION

#### NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

Whereas: Realizing the urgent need for organ and tissue donors across the country, the

NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH observance promotes a greater understanding about the life-saving benefits of donation and transplantation. Moreover, the need is increasing. NJ Sharing Network is committed to

addressing that need through increased awareness; and

Whereas: The transplantation of organs and tissue is a miracle of modern medicine made

possible through the compassion of organ and tissue donors, enabling surgeons to save thousands of lives every year. One organ donor can save eight lives and one tissue donor can enhance the lives of over 75 others. People of all ages, ethnic backgrounds and religions are touched by donation and by the serious shortage of organ donors that exists. Currently, there are nearly 4,000 New Jersey residents

and over 100,000 Americans awaiting life-saving transplant operations; and

Whereas: Every capable person should support this vital effort by registering as an organ and tissue donor, making their family aware of their wishes and being willing to

give the precious gift of health, sight and life to people in need; and

Whereas: Registering as an organ and tissue donor at a local Motor Vehicle Agency or

online at www.NJSharingNetwork.org signifies our fundamental human

responsibility to help others; and

Whereas: As Mayor of Branchville Borough, I recognize NATIONAL DONATE LIFE

MONTH as an opportunity to join NJ Sharing Network in its life-saving mission.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anthony Frato Sr., Mayor, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as:

#### DONATE LIFE MONTH

In Branchville Borough, New Jersey, and I urge all residents to join me in promoting organ and tissue donor education throughout NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH.

SIGNED anthon

#### Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle FY2024

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Borough Council of the Borough of Branchville, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Sussex;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough of Branchville, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a revised strategic plan for the Central Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2024 in the amount of:

DEDR \$ 3,028.00 Cash Match \$ 757.00

In-Kind \$ 2,271.00

2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

APPROVED: 4

WH.

WITH

Anthony Frato, Sr., Mayor

#### CERTIFICATION

I, Kathryn L. 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 the day of April 2023

Kathryn L. Leissler, Municipal Clerk

#### Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2023-June 2024

FOR	COUNTY	USE	ONLY	
Approv	red:			
	YES		NO	
Date:				

#### STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FUNDING MUNICIPAL ALLIANCES

Grant Year: FY2024	Alliance Tier1
APPLICANT MUNICIPALITY/IES: Branchville, Frankford, Lafayette	COUNTY: Sussex
ALLIANCE NAME: Central	ALLIANCE WEBSITE: N/A
ALLIANCE STREET ADDRESS: 151 State Highway 206	
TOWN: Augusta STATE:NJ ZIP: 07822	
TELEPHONE: (973)948-5566 Ext.	FAX:
ALLIANCE CHAIRPERSON: Jessica Imhof	ALLIANCE COORDINATOR: Gerard Fazzio
STREET ADDRESS: 299 Pidgeon Hill Road	STREET ADDRESS: 178 Beaver Run Road
TOWN: Sussex STATE: NJ ZIP: 07461	TOWN: Lafayette STATE: NJ ZIP: 07848
EMAIL: jimhof@hpregional.org	EMAIL: gfazzio@ltes.org
DATE OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STRATEGIC PLALLIANCE STREY	LAN (MM/DD/YYYY): / /
Frankford	SIGNATURE  ATO, Sr./ MAYOR  SIGNATURE  SIGNATURE
Jessica Imhof	
ALLIANCE CHAIRPERSON SIGN	ATURE DATE

<sup>\*</sup> If a municipality is part of a consortium, a signature and resolution is required from all participating municipalities entering into the agreement. Signatures hereby accept all components of this grant including membership terms, Statement of Assurances and Fiscal Requirements.

# RESOLUTION # 16 - 2023, AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO JOSH GOTTHEIMER, CONGRESSMAN, FOR THE FY 2024 COMMUNITY FUNDING GRANT

**WHEREAS**, Josh Gottheimer, Congressman, is accepting application for the FY 2024 Community Project Funding Grant which the Borough Council would like to apply for to help provide necessary water infrastructure improvements which are included in the grant application; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Branchville formally approves and supports the grant application for the FY2024 Community Project Funding Grant;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that they Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application to Josh Gottheimer's office on behalf of the Borough of Branchville.

#### 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 day of April 2023.

Municipal Clerk

### Report Printed 2023-04-25 09:24:25 Borough of Branchville Check Register - (0110101001000) Cash Checking

DATE	CHECK #	PAID	то	AMOUNT	VOID AMOUNT	VOID DATE	REASON
3/01/2023	234	524	Barry Norman	210.06			
3/01/2023	235		BKJ Productions, LLC	310.26			
3/01/2023	236		Bob VIERSMA & SONS, INC	1,437.15			
3/01/2023	237		Branchville Historical Society	1,050.00	1,050.00	3/08/2023	
3/01/2023	238	572	Branchwille Historical Society	100.00			
3/01/2023	239		Branchville United Metodist Church	100.00			
3/01/2023	240		Crystal MOUNTAIN SPRINGS	65.49			
3/01/2023			DANFORTH'S INC.	36.80			
3/01/2023	242		Elizabethtown Gas	1,231.73			
3/01/2023	243		FRANKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION	100,476.50			
3/01/2023			HAROLD E. PELLOW & ASSOC INC.	737.25			
3/01/2023	244 245		HBCBS of NJ	133.51			
	246		HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL	70,955.84			
3/01/2023	247		JCP&L	1,547.28			
3/01/2023			LAFAYETTE AUTO PARTS SUPPLY	5.98			
3/01/2023	248		Lowe's	372.41			
3/01/2023	249		Lowel and Morgan Tamayo	349.71			
	250		Lumen	1,131.62			
3/01/2023	251		MITCHELL HUMPHREY and Co.	1,090.00			
3/01/2023	252		MONTAGUE TOOL & SUPPLY CO.	44.71			
3/01/2023	253		North East Parts Group	31.99			
3/01/2023	254		R&L Data Centers Inc	687.74			
3/01/2023	255		STAPLES ADVANTAGE	113.85			
3/01/2023	256		Stavola Beaver Run	347.51			
3/01/2023	257		SUSSEX COUNTY ASSESSORS ASSOC.	100.00			
3/01/2023	258		SUSSEX COUNTY MUN. CLERKS ASSOC.	20.00			
3/01/2023	259		Sussex County Muni. Utilities Autho	2,458.14			
3/01/2023	260		Sussex Rural Electric	89.46			
3/01/2023	261		Times Herald-Record Localiq	32.76			
3/01/2023	262		VERIZON WIRELESS	38.01			
3/01/2023	263		Viking Termite & Pest Control, Inc	54.46			
3/01/2023	264		WASTE MANAGEMENT OF NJ, INC.	10,017.91			
3/01/2023	265	11	Allied-Griffith Trucking	6.33			
3/01/2023	266		Century LINK/ Brightspeed	686.89			
3/01/2023	267	222	FSC LEAK DETECTION	1,050.00			
3/24/2023	268	204	SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALIT	115.00			
				197,026.29			
				-1,050.00 ** Voide	ed		
			===				
				195,976.29			

### Report Printed 2023-04-25 09:25:20 Borough of Branchville Check Register - (0710101001000) Cash Checking

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	VOID AMOUNT	VOID DATE	REASON
	1292 1293	226 FOLEY, INC. 51 JCP&L	3,654.30 403.73 			

### Report Printed 2023-04-25 09:26:49 Borough of Branchville Check Register - (091010101001000) CASH CHECKING

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	VOID AMOUNT	VOID DATE	REASON
3/01/2023 3/01/2023 3/01/2023 3/01/2023	1288 1289 1290 1291	2 HAROLD E. PELLOW & ASSOC INC. 51 JCP&L 66 ONE CALL CONCEPTS 140 SCHMIDT'S WHOLESALE, INC.	2,687.73 747.92 42.90 396.49 3,875.04			

### Report Printed 2023-04-25 09:26:03 Borough of Branchville Check Register - (0810101001000) CASH CHECKING

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	VOID AMOUNT	VOID DATE	REASON
3/01/2023	1023	563 Ad Edge	4,753.20			
			4,753.20 4,753.20			

### Report Printed 2023-04-25 09:27:37 Borough of Branchville Check Register - (1210101001000) CASH-DOG LICENSE

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	VOID AMOUNT	VOID DATE	REASON
3/01/2023	1110	102 NEW JERSEY STATE DEPT. OF HEALTH	141.00			
			141.00			