



**City of Varnell  
Council Meeting Minutes  
August 16, 2022**

Members Present: Mayor Tom Dickson, Bill Caylor, Mayor Pro Tem, Sandy Pangle  
Clyde Williams, Bob Roche

Absent Members: Richard Lowe

City Administrator: Mike Brown  
City Clerk: Jamie Nance

**Executive Duties**

The Mayor and Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm and a quorum was confirmed by Mayor Dickson. The invocation was given by Pastor of McFarland Hill Baptist Church, Charles Rogers. Mayor Pro Tem Caylor led the pledge of allegiance.

A representative from the charity organization, Camp Southern Ground addressed the Mayor and Council about the upcoming Jeep Show and request two Varnell Police Department officers to help maintain traffic control on September 24, 2022. The event is estimated to receive over 1500 participants.

**Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Councilman Williams to approve the presented agenda, financial reports for July 2022, and minutes for the July 19, 2022, meeting and Special Called meeting for August 2, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pangle and carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

**New Business**

Councilman Williams presented the Public Safety Committee key points for July 2022.

Councilman Pangle with the recreation committee stated that he is currently gathering information about what the local community would like to see the Varnell Ballfield area turn into. Councilman Pangle will be making suggestions in the September meeting.

Ordinance 2022-08 was approved, changing Varnell Municipal Court's dates and times. The motion was made by Councilman Williams, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Caylor and was approved with a 3-1 vote, Councilman Roche in opposition.

The L.O.S.T. Distribution was approved to be set at 1.894% for Ten years, with Whitfield County, Dalton City, Tunnel Hill and town of Cohutta. Motion for approval was made by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Pangle and carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

The Memorandum of Understanding agreement with Whitfield County has approved with a motion being made by Councilman Roche, seconded by Councilman Williams and passed unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Discussion was had that due to all the upcoming community events the Police Department may need another budget amendment. The cost accrued were unplanned at the time the budget was set in 2021 but will be added to the 2023 budget.

Alcohol license for Aakash Patel, Varnell Wine and Spirits was approved, motion for approval was made by Mayor Pro Tem Caylor, seconded by Councilman Roche and carried unanimously by a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Dickson discussed Varnell City's 2<sup>nd</sup> distilled package sales license. The Mayor encouraged the Council Members to think about if they would like to open the second license for another business. Also, to decide if they would like to maintain a lottery system or do a first come first serve basis, so the City may prepare an amendment to the Ordinance if needed.

## **Public Comment**

Mrs. Brown from Village Drive requested the Mayor and Council take into consideration helping a local resident with cutting a diseased tree on their property. The resident stated that the tree belongs to is unable to afford a tree service company due to family health issues. The tree in question is located on Mrs. Brown's neighbor's property but are at a risk of falling on her house.

Mayor Dickson told Mrs. Brown that the City would have to review the options we have available to be able to help with this issue.

Mr. Daniel of Village Drive addressed the Council requesting to know a time estimate on when the roundabout at Highway 2 & Highway 201 would be installed.

Mayor Dickson assured Mr. Daniel that the city asks frequently for a date and are still unable to receive an exact answer.

Mr. Cole of Broadacre Drive approached the Mayor and Council addressing the issues of his family's property and abandoned house on Cedar Street. Mr. Cole is unable to afford the demolition of the house but has received a quote from an individual for \$7,500.00, he requested the Mayor and Council's help with the cost of demolition.

Mayor Dickson told Mr. Cole that the city will review what options are available and that an asbestos test would have to be completed before the demolition is able to take place.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business a motion for adjournment was made by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Pangle, and carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:49pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Jamie Nance  
City Clerk