

**City of Varnell
Council Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2018**

Members Present: Mayor – Tom Dickson
Council Members: Mayor Pro Tem – Ashlee Godfrey, Bill Caylor,
Bob Roche, Clyde Williams & David Owens

City Manager: Mike Brown
City Clerk: Pam Garrison

The City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm and a quorum was confirmed by Mayor, Tom Dickson.

Invocation and Pledge to the Flag was given by Bill Caylor.

Mayor Dickson recognized that there are in the process of trying to get a PA system into place.

Ashlee Godfrey made a motion for council to enter into executive session. The motion was seconded By Bill Caylor.

The council reentered into the meeting and Mayor Dickson announced the meeting would resume.

Reports from City Manager

Mr. Mike Brown, City Manager, reported that the emails for new City Council is being implemented and will be in operation within a few days. Mr. Brown also requested a Bio from each council member as well as a current picture for our website.

The city has collected all funds for the 2018 City Business License as well as the Beer and Wine license to those businesses which this applied, with the exception of one business. We will be collecting it within the next week.

The grant for the new playground which will be at Peacock Alley has been applied for. If it is awarded to the city, there will be matching funds of approximately \$25,000.00 from the city to complete the project.

Mike Brown, City Manager, distributed the 2016 Audit to council members for their review. No questions were presented.

The issue with the Cricket field which was heard by the previous year Council will be coming up again for discussion in March, 2018.

City of Varnell, Varnell Elementary School, Foster Wizard Products and Varnell United Methodist Church partnered together and were able to help furnish Christmas for approximately 90 kids and 31 families during the 2017 Christmas season.

The new sanitation truck is in operation and doing well.

The Northwest GA Crisis Center is asking for a donation from City of Varnell and is requesting that it possibly Be put on the agenda for 2019.

AGENDA, MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORT

A motion was made by Ashlee Godfrey to approve the Agenda, Minutes and Financial reports for August 15, 2017 and also for January 2, 2018. The motion was seconded by Bill Caylor, and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Ashlee Godfrey presented the 2018 proposed budget for the second reading. A brief discussion was made by David Owens suggesting that the City of Varnell amend the budget and add more quality of life projects in the upcoming year, as well as hiring a part time director to oversee the activities at the Community Center.

In reviewing the new sanitation truck loan, \$237,000 was cost of the purchase price. The city paid \$135,000 out of SPLOST funds and will pay monthly interest payment plus an annual payment of around \$34,000 for 3 years.

A list of the 11 alcohol licenses was presented for local business to sell alcohol following City/County protocol. A motion was made by Ashlee Godfrey and seconded by David Owens to renew the licenses for the year 2018.

A list of 5 homeowners requesting permission to annex into the city limits of Varnell was presented. A motion was made by Ashlee Godfrey and seconded by Bill Caylor to approve the annexations. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Bill Caylor and seconded by Bob Roche. The motion carried unanimously to adopt the 2018 budget as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ron Traverse expressed his appreciation of thanks to the Varnell Police Department and City employees for all that they do for the city.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ashlee Godfrey to adjourn the meeting, with Bill Caylor seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Pam Garrison
City Clerk