

**City of Varnell
Council Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2018**

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

City Administrator: Mike Brown
City Clerk: Pam Garrison

The City Council meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm and a quorum was confirmed by Mayor, Tom Dickson.

Invocation was given by Reverend Randy Parker. The Pledge to the Flag was led by local Boy Scout, Trey Williams.

Reports from City Administrator

City Administrator Mike Brown gave update on the following projects:

- Cricket Fields are abiding by restrictions set by the Mayor & Council.
- Whitfield County has agreed to take down the light poles around the Varnell ballfields for an estimated cost of \$1500.00 and should be completed by the end of August. North Georgia Electric has agreed to remove one dangerous pole at no charge.
- Farmer’s Market at the Pavilion will open for 2018 season on June 4th. The market will be open from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m. Days of operation will be Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday
- City of Varnell has 5 new residents that have moved in on Mulligan Drive which is the new development adjacent to Nob North Villas.
- SPLOST suggestion list needs to be turned in to Mike Brown by late August so that it can be passed along to Whitfield County.
- The property located at the corner of Hwy. 201 and Varnell Main Street is now listed for sale. Ms. Laura Hammontree, owner has the property listed at \$120,000.00.
- The Boys & Girls Club has moved their summer camp to another location.
- Display of flags will be placed at City Hall on Memorial Day weekend.

AGENDA, MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORT

A unanimous vote by Council was made to approve agenda for May 15, 2018, the minutes and financial reports for April 24, 2018. There was no opposition.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance & Budget – Everything is in order per Chairman Ashlee Godfrey.

- Charter & Long-Range Planning – Chairman Ashlee Godfrey and David Owens will be getting together and going over the city charter as well as discussing long-range planning for the city.
- Annexations - Discussion was held regarding the rezoning of property owned by John Davis. The property was originally zoned R-A and rezoned to C-2. Then property was posted and rezoned in 2006 but proper signatures were never made on the rezoning request nor ever changed through Whitfield County or noted on the rezoning map. Motion was made by Clyde Williams to approve the rezoning from R-A to a C-4 parcel. The vote was 4 (yes) and 1 (no) made by Bob Roche.
- Recreation & Community Outreach – Bob Roche presented an update on Recreation events in the city. Bob Roche proposed a suggestion that the City of Varnell co-sponsor Fireworks with Highland Forrest. The Council voted to donate \$2,500.00 with the contingency that the City of Varnell be named on the signage. Ashlee Godfrey stated that in her opinion, it might possibly work better if the City of Varnell partnership with the City of Cohutta due to the fact that other developments might request help with their fireworks display as well. The vote was 3 yes and 2 no. David Owens thinks that if the City of Varnell does agree to come together with Highland Forrest, he sees it as an opportunity to bring more annexations into the city.
- Public Safety - Clyde Williams & Chief Lyle Grant presented figures of local arrest for the month of April 2018 (see attached). Clyde Williams also suggested that we get bids from someone to re-line the parking lot between City Hall and Community Center building.

A motion was made by Ashlee Godfrey to reappoint City Administrator, Mike Brown to a 5-year term On the Unified Board of Zoning Appeals. Bob Roche seconded the motion and the motion carried Unanimously.

Chief Lyle Grant made a special presentation to two Varnell Police Officers who assisted in two separate Lifesaving incidents. Officer Jason Mathis and Officer Scott Swilley were each presented a Life Saving Award.

There being no further business, Bill Caylor made a motion to adjourn. A second was given by Ashlee Godfrey and the vote was unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by
Pam Garrison
City Clerk