

**City of Varnell
Council Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2019**

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

City Administrator: Mike Brown
City Clerk: Pam Garrison
Absent: Ashlee Godfrey

The City Council meeting was called to order at 5:57 pm and a quorum was confirmed by Mayor, Tom Dickson.

Invocation was given by Reverend Neil Hasty with Poplar Springs Baptist Church. The Pledge to the Flag was led by local Girl Scout, Zea Jensen, Troop #11622.

Reports from City Administrator

City Administrator Mike Brown gave update on the following projects:

- Qualify dates to run for Seats 3, 4 and 5 will be August 21, 22 and 23rd. The qualifying fee has been set at \$35.00.
- Audit for 2018 is under way and possibly be completed by the next Council meeting in April.
- Storm water report for 2018 has been completed and sent to the State.
- Varnell gym floors were recently refinished.
- Playground bids sent out recently and the opening of sealed bids will be April 10, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
- Election is underway today for SPLOST.
- Our next City Council meeting for April will be April 23rd.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Mayor Dickson read a quote from a book written by our first United States President George Washington.

AGENDA, MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORT

A motion was made by Clyde Williams to approve the Agenda, Minutes and Financial Report for February, 2019. The motion was seconded by Bill Caylor. The vote was approved by Bill Caylor, Rob Roche and Clyde Williams with David Owens voting as present only.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance & Budget – No report
- Bob Roche advised that letter to local businesses regarding unincorporated islands will be distributed in March & April following SPLOST vote.
- Bob Roche reported that himself along with Mike Brown, Larry and Jada Chasteen have been working together to organize an Easter Egg Hunt at the Varnell fields and walking track. The date is set for April 13th from 2 to 4 pm.
- Charter & Long-Range Planning – No report
- Clyde Williams & Chief Lyle Grant presented the monthly public safety report for the month of February, 2019.

A motion was made by Clyde Williams to amend the agenda regarding an ordinance on the sale of alcohol to minors. A second was made by Bob Roche and the motion carried unanimously. The amended agenda would reflect that the business where the alcohol was purchased would be fined \$850.00 with the fine amount remaining the same as recorded on the previous ordinance. Their alcohol license would be suspended for 21 days instead of 180 days as this new modification for the second offense. The clerk at the store who actually sold the alcohol would be fined as well and have to appear in court on the charges.

Ethan Calhoun was present at the meeting to advise that the Parcel #11-264-03-000 is eligible for re-zoning from C-1 To C-2. Property owners for this tract of land are Kinnamon Property Development and Butcher's Market. The structure conforms with C-2 already for a Micro-Brewery. A motion was made by David Owens to approve the rezoning from C-1 To C-2. Motion was seconded by Bob Roche and was carried unanimously.

A certificate of completion was presented to David Owens for his Continuing Classes with the Georgia Municipal Association.

Kyle Moreno with Cohutta Police Department made a request to the Mayor and Council asking City of Varnell to co-host the fireworks display this upcoming July to help with the cost. The amount requested was \$1500.00 to cover the cost of the fireworks. Mayor stated that this issue would be discussed and voted on at a special called meeting which will take place in a couple of weeks among other things to be discussed.

There being no public comment, Clyde William made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Bill Caylor.

Respectfully submitted by
Pam Garrison
City Clerk