

**City of Varnell  
Council Meeting Minutes  
July 16, 2019**

**Members Present:** Mayor, Tom Dickson  
**Mayor Pro Tem –** Ashlee Godfrey  
**Council Members:** 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 6:00 pm and a quorum was confirmed by Mayor Tom Dickson.

Invocation was given by Rev. Michael Watkins with Northwest Christian Fellowship Church. The Pledge to the Flag was led by Troop #67.

Mayor Dickson read quotes of inspiration and wisdom from a book of quotes written by George Washington.

**REPORTS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

City Administrator Mike Brown gave update on the following projects:

- Farmers Market is open for the 2019 season and will go through September 28, 2019. days of operation is Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 7:00 am until 1:00 pm.
- Playground equipment has been completely installed. Once it has been inspected by DNR, we will receive grant funding in the amount of \$25,000.00.
- Fireworks displays were co-sponsored this year with City of Cohutta and Highland Forrest. Both events were well attended.
- Qualifying for office will be August 21<sup>st</sup> through August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Council seat Number 3, 4 and 5 will be open for office this year. The qualifying cost will be \$35.00 and be open from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Wednesday through Friday.
- Gutters have been installed at the Pavilion to help with the water run off of the building.

**AGENDA, MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORT**

A motion was made by Ashlee Godfrey to approve the Agenda, Financials for June 2019. The motion was seconded by Bill Caylor. The motion was carried unanimously.

## NEW BUSINESS

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Public Safety Report** - Clyde Williams presented the monthly public safety report for the month of June 2019, (see attached).

**Recreation and Community Outreach** – The playground has been completed. Bob Roche received some great ideas while attending convention on different ways to make the playground areas more appealing and will be meeting with David Owens to discuss this before presenting to the City Council

Mayor Dickson announced that he was re-appointed to the Legislative Policy Committee again for the upcoming year.

Ashlee made a motion to approve the amended resolution regarding parcels in the Vinyard Construction property. David Owens seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Clyde Williams made a motion to rezone the property to R-7. Bob Roche seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ashlee Godfrey made a motion to approve the continuance of the Whitfield County 2012 Hazard Mitigation Plan which is already in place. David Owens seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Ashlee Godfrey made a motion to approve usage of IGA for radios and which personnel has authority to use them. The motion was seconded by Clyde Williams and the motion carried unanimously.

The City of Varnell will be selecting an individual to represent City of Varnell for the SPLOST 2020 Advisory Committee. A special called meeting will be held in the next few weeks to interview the 2 individuals for that may be appointed to represent City of Varnell.

Ashlee Godfrey mad a motion to annex Parcel #11-263-01-041 for Daisy Rios Martinez into City of Varnell. The motion was seconded by Bob Roche and carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding Parcel #11-259-05-000 being rezoned from R-5 to C-2. Ethan Calhoun with North GA Commission explained that the origin of the current zoning could not be determined. The property was operated by Mr. Ledford for 30-40 years and was labeled as commercial property through the electric company. Ashlee Godfrey made a motion to zone property as C-2. Clyde Williams seconded the motion. The vote was taken with 4 aye and 1 absentia. It is required to show who voted for, against, or abstained when it is not a unanimous vote.

There being no further discussion, Ashlee Godfrey made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by David Owens and was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by  
Pam Garrison  
City Clerk