

**City of Varnell  
Council Meeting Minutes  
September 17, 2019**

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

**City Administrator:** Mike Brown  
**City Clerk:** Pam Garrison  
**Absent Mayor Pro Tem:** Ashlee Godfrey

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. Albert Hill with Mt. Vine Baptist Church. The Pledge to the Flag was led by Mayor Tom Dickson.

**REPORTS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

City Administrator Mike Brown gave update on the following projects:

- Farmers Market is still open but will be closing for the season at the end of September.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Varnell Community Christmas Classic Car and Truck show will be held at the Varnell School Ballfields this year on September 28, 2019 from 8:00 am through 3:00 pm.
- The Community Kids Christmas distribution will be at the Varnell United Methodist Church on December 10th. A meal will be served to all the families who were recipients of the Community Christmas.

**AGENDA, MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORT**

A motion was made by David Owens to approve the Agenda, Financials for August 2019. The motion was seconded by Clyde Williams. The motion was carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Kathryn Sellers with the Dalton/Whitfield Public Library spoke to the Council regarding funding for the library which is funded by local entities and the State of Georgia. Last year, the funding reflects a deficit of \$96,703. She presented a request for the City of Varnell to make a donation to the Library fund. If the local counties who benefit from the library do not participate with increase funding, the Library could be forced to close due to lack of funding. Bob Roche made a motion to make an annual donation of \$3,000.00. The motion was seconded by Clyde Williams and carried unanimously.

Mr. Paul Wilson presented an update from the SPLOST 2020 Advisory Committee. The committee is still in the process of sorting through the Tier 1 requests and prioritizing the list. Two major request on the Tier 1 list is from Whitfield County to purchase a new security system for Whitfield County Jail and to update a couple of Whitfield County's fire trucks. The Committee will continue to meet and take request for the 2020 SPLOST.

Mr. Ralph Morgan wants to give thanks to those who helped him in getting the zoning of his property on Cleveland Highway behind Food Lion corrected. He stated that a national restaurant chain and a commercial business will be built on the property in the near future.

### **COMMITTEE REORTS**

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

No other Committee reports presented, other than the first reading of 2020 Budget.

The 2020 budget was given to all Council members to review. A unanimous vote was made to give all employees an increase in salary of 3% for 2020. Bob Roche made a motion to adopt the salary increase on the first budget hearing. Bill Caylor seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Clyde Williams made a motion to annex Parcel #11-263-01-176 for Teresa Chlinski into City of Varnell. The motion was seconded by Bill Caylor and carried unanimously.

There being no further discussion, Bob Roche made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Clyde Williams and was carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Pam Garrison  
City Clerk