

**City of Varnell
Council Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2019**

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

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

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. Jeremy Brewer. The Pledge to the Flag was led by Girl Scout Carmen Caudill.

REPORTS FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

City Administrator Mike Brown gave update on the following projects:

- The 5th Annual Varnell Community Christmas Classic Car and Truck show was held on September 28, 2019. Attendance was down from previous years but donations continue to come in.
- The Community 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. The Foundation letters from Neighbors to Neighbors have also been mailed out.
- The distribution list from Varnell Elementary with names of families in need will be given to City of Varnell beginning November 1st and all gifts turned back in by December 6th. The donation for each child in years past has been \$50.00 but will increase this year to be \$75.00 per child.
- Mr. Brown has spoken with Department of Transportation recently regarding the roundabout to be built in Varnell. He was advised that the DOT is still working on the plans.
- The next City/County SPLOST meeting will be held on October 30th.
- Kathryn Sellers forwarded her gratefulness to the City Council regarding the donation to help fund the Dalton/Whitfield Public Library in the upcoming year.
- Election day will be November 5th. Polls will be open from 7 am to 7 pm. Be sure to make your vote count.
- The employee/Council member Thanksgiving lunch will be held on November 22nd at Logan's.

AGENDA, MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORT

A motion was made by Clyde Williams to approve the Agenda, Financials for September 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 September, 2019 (see attached). Bill Caylor made a motion to begin process of searching for Chief of Police as current Chief Grant has stated he will be resigning at the end of 2019. Motion was seconded by Clyde Williams and the motion carried unanimously.

Recreation and Public Outreach – Bob Roche presented information for development of full size Soccer Field and also developing a court for the sport of Pickleball. (See attached)

Budget and Finance - (see below)

No other Committee reports were presented.

Bill Caylor made a motion to approve alcohol license for Peach Spot, who is changing ownership. A second was made by Clyde Williams and carried unanimously.

Mayor Dickson presented the first reading of the no parking ordinance on the following streets: West Parliament, Kings Row, Village Place, Abbey Lane and Village Drive. The ordinance would put limitations on parking/no parking on sides of roadway during specific times. The time frame listed on the ordinance represents weekday modifications. Bob Roche made a motion to adopt the motion and was seconded by Bill Caylor and carried unanimously. The second reading and approval for the no parking ordinance is set for the November 2019 meeting.

Mayor Tom Dickson presented the final reading of the 2020 budget that was presented at the first reading in September, 2019. Bob Roche made a motion to approve the 2020 budget. Bill Caylor seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor presented a recommendation to amend the 2019 budget to purchase one new Patrol vehicle - \$45,000; customize the white charger, furnish radio/cage/lights etc. - \$12,000. Also \$8,000 for new computer and software upgrade for the office and patrol cars – for a total of around \$65,000. Motion was made by Bill Caylor and seconded by Clyde Williams. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made to annex Parcel #11-263-01-140 for Abel Martinez into City of Varnell by Clyde Williams. 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 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Pam Garrison
City Clerk