



**City of Varnell  
Council Meeting Minutes  
May 16, 2023**

Members Present: Mayor Tom Dickson, Bill Caylor Mayor Pro Tem,  
Sarah Harrison, Bob Roche, Sandy Pangle,

Absent Members; Richard Lowe

City Administrator: Mike Brown  
City Clerk: Kai Clayton

**Executive Duties**

The Mayor and Council meeting was called to order at 6:00pm and a quorum was confirmed by Mayor Dickson. The invocation was given by Varnell United Methodist Church Pastor Chris Branscomb, and the pledge was led by Mayor Dickson.

**Consent Agenda**

A swearing-in ceremony was held for Seat #4 Sarah Harrison by Rev. Chris Branscomb.

A motion for the approval of the agenda was presented after some additions. A motion to approve the April 17th, 2023, meeting, the executive sessions for April 12<sup>th</sup> and the financial reports for April 2023 were made by Councilman Sandy Pangle, seconded by Councilman Bill Caylor, and it carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

**New Business**

Kai Clayton was appointed to fill the remaining unexpired term for Court Clerk and City Clerk. A motion was made by Councilman Bob Roche and seconded by Councilman Bill Caylor and it carried unanimously 4-0 vote.

The committee report for Public Safety as of May 2023 was presented by Councilman Bob Roche.

The TAD Intergovernmental Agreement with Whitfield County Public Schools will be discussed by the Mayor and Council after it is approved by the school board in their June 2023 meeting.

A Discussion was held on opening a new banking account for the TAD funds at FirstBank. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Bill Caylor and seconded by Councilwoman Sarah Harrison and it carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

A Budget amendment for the Maintenance Account for the A/C unit at the gym was made in the amount of \$36,015.00. Councilman Bob Roche made a motion to approve, and Councilman Sandy Pangle seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

A Budget amendment was made for the ARP account for the City Hall Server in the amount of \$10,161.00 A motion was made by Councilwoman Sarah Harrison to approve and seconded by Councilman Bob Roche and it carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

A Budget amendment for the SPLOST account in the amount of \$98,333.00 for the playground equipment, outfitting the patrol cars, and lettering for the new sanitation truck. A motion was made by Councilman Bob Roche to approve the budget amendment, and seconded by Councilman Bill Caylor, and it carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Councilman Bob Roche made a motion to approve the health insurance supplement for full time employees in the amount of \$300.00 monthly. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sarah Harrison, and it carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. The insurance supplement will begin June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

A discussion was held on the amount to be spent on the Varnell Park Development from the ARP accounts. Councilman Bob Roche made a motion to approve the amount of \$500,00.00 from the ARP funds, and seconded by Councilman Sandy Pangle. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

A discussion was held on the Co-sponsorship with Highland Forest July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks in the amount of \$3,000.00. Councilwoman Sarah Harrison made a motion to approve and seconded by Councilman Bill Caylor. The motion was carried with a unanimous vote 4-0.

A Discussion was held on the of closing Varnell City Hall on July 3<sup>rd</sup> for Independence Day. A motion was made by Councilman Bill Caylor, and seconded by Councilman Bob Roche, and it carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

## **Public Comment**

Carl Hooker with Nob North Villas had questions concerning sewage fees and when the sewer line would be connected to the Whitfield County sewer system.

Paul Lafourte addressed the Council and had questions concerning the entrance and exit of the Varnell Spring area.

Nicole Turner gave an update on the Varnell Fun Day activities for July 8 and requested the need for volunteers.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business a motion for adjournment was made by Councilman Bob Roche, seconded by Councilman Sandy Pangle, and it carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Kai Clayton  
City Clerk