



**City of Varnell  
Council Meeting Minutes  
June 20, 2023**

Members Present: Mayor Tom Dickson, Bill Caylor Mayor Pro Tem,  
Sarah Harrison, Bob Roche, Sandy Pangle, 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 Evangelist Bart Ponders, and the pledge was led by Councilwoman Harrison.

**Consent Agenda**

A motion for the approval of the May 16<sup>th</sup> agenda was made by Councilman Caylor and seconded by Councilman Lowe; the motion was carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

A motion for the approval of minutes and Executive Session April 24, and regular meetings for April 24 and May 16, 2023, was made by Councilman Caylor and seconded by Councilman Lowe; the motion was carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

A motion for the approval of the financial reports for May 2023 was made by Councilman Caylor and seconded by Councilman Lowe; the motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

**New Business**

Councilman Pangle presented the FBI LEEDA Agency TRILOGY Award to Varnell Police Department's Chief Kyle Moreno.

A motion was made to approve the Alcohol License for the Family Dollar Store was made by Councilman Pangle and seconded by Councilman Roche. The motion was carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

A motion to rezone parcel 11-229-01-025 to C 2 was made by Councilman Caylor. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Harrison; the motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Ethan Calhoun, with Community Affairs updated the council on the Unified Zoning Ordinance which the timeframe to having the signage posted was changed from fifteen to forty-five days to fifteen to thirty days. A motion was carried by Councilman Caylor to approve the new ordinance, and it was seconded by Councilwoman Harrison, and was carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

A discussion was had concerning the TAD Intergovernmental Agreement with Whitfield County Public School, which was approved at the June 2023, Whitfield County Board meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Harrison, and seconded by Councilman Pangle, and was carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

A motion for a budget amendment for \$9,300.00 for SSI for the Police Department was made by Councilman Roche and seconded by Councilman Lowe. The motion carried 5-0.

A motion for a budget amendment for \$12,016.00 from the ARP Account for tree cutting and outdoor exercise equipment was made by Councilwoman Harrison. The motion was seconded by Councilman Roche. The motion carried 5-0.

A motion for a budget amendment for \$6,300.00 for Administration Insurance Supplement was made by Councilman Lowe and seconded by Councilman Roche. The motion carried 5-0.

A motion for a budget amendment for \$2,100.00 for Maintenance Insurance Supplement was made by Councilwoman Harrison and seconded by Councilman Caylor. The motion carried 5-0.

A motion for a budget amendment for \$12,600 for Varnell Police Insurance Supplement was made by Councilman Caylor and seconded by Councilman Pangle. The motion carried 5-0.

## **Public Comment**

Paul Lafourte addressed the Council with questions concerning the grading and gravel resurfacing of the path at Varnell Springs. He also disapproved the rezoning request, questioning what value a potential Dollar Tree/Family Dollar would bring to the area, and the effects rezoning would have on local "green space."

Chris Taylor voiced concerns of the potential traffic increase that might result from the rezoning request.

Timothy Daniel also expressed disapproval of the rezoning.

Lisa Taylor voiced concerns over the request for Alcohol License for Family Dollar.

Ron Tavares requested clarification of the term "Todd Johnson Varnell Cause."

Jason Hall asked about the possibility of blocking or barricading the newly graveled path at Varnell Springs to prevent it from being used for vehicle traffic.

Connie Pittman of Main St requested playground equipment be installed at the Pavilion area.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business a motion for adjournment was made by Councilman Sandy Pangle, seconded by Councilman Bob Roche, and it carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Kai Clayton  
City Clerk