



City of Varnell
Council Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2024

Members Present: Mayor Tom Dickson, Bill Caylor Mayor Pro Tem,
Bob Roche, Sandy Pangle, Howard Kash
Absent: Sarah Harrison
City Administrator: Mike Brown
City Clerk: Kai Clayton

Executive Duties

The Mayor and Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm and a quorum was confirmed by Mayor Dickson. The invocation was given by Rev. Chris Branscomb and the pledge was led by Mayor Dickson.

Consent Agenda

Councilman Caylor made a motion to add to the agenda a discussion regarding blinds for the windows of the Council Chamber; this was seconded by Councilman Kash and approved unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

A motion was made for the approval of the agenda, the minutes for the executive session and the regular meeting from January 16th, 2024, and the January 2024 financial reports. The motion was made by Councilman Caylor, seconded by Councilman Pangle, and carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

New Business

Councilman Pangle presented the Public Safety updates for the month of January 2024. The Police Department was praised for their recent GCIC Audit.

A discussion was opened to seeking quotes for the purchase and installation of window shades for the Council Chambers/City Courtroom. A motion was made by Councilman Caylor, seconded by Councilman Kash, and passed unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

There was a discussion regarding a proposed ordinance of the Rules governing Council Agendas. A motion was made by Councilman Roche to reject the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Kash, and passed 3-1 with Councilman Caylor opposed.

Councilman Roche made a motion to approve the rezoning of the Dempsey property, Parcel 11-22-01-003 from C-2 to C-1A. The motion was seconded by Councilman Pangle and approved 4-0.

Jean Garland spoke on behalf of the Zoning Department, explaining the status of UZO text amendments. She stated the current draft includes updates on language, and potential updates to Parking standards.

A motion was made by Councilman Caylor to approve Alcohol Licenses for the Varnell Store, Peach Store, and El Sueno. The motion was seconded by Councilman Roche and passed unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Councilman Pangle opened discussion regarding the next step of the park development, with a focus on the Clyde Williams Pavilion, and the infrastructure needed. It was agreed to continue collaboration with the Carlson & Carlson firm to pursue and finalize planning, with a goal of beginning the bidding process following the next council meeting.

A discussion was opened by Nichole Turner to begin planning our next annual Varnell Days community festival. A tentative date was set for June 15th, 2024. A public notice will be distributed requesting volunteers to serve as a Planning Committee. Councilman Roche moved to add an additional \$5,000.00 to this year's Community Activities budget; the motion was seconded by Councilman Pangle and was approved unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Public Comment

Whitfield County Sherrif Candidate Travis Presley spoke to the Council regarding his campaign goals, including open communication with the Sheriff's Department, a renewed fight against drugs within the county, and community involvement with all residents of Whitfield County.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion for adjournment was made by Councilman Pangle, seconded by Councilman Caylor, and carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Kai Clayton
City Clerk