



City of Varnell Council Meeting Minutes October 21, 2025

Members Present:

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

Executive Duties

The Mayor and Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and a quorum was confirmed by Mayor Dickson. The invocation was given Pastor Shane Pierce, and the pledge was led by Councilwoman Harrison.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda, minutes from September 19, 2025, and financial reports for September 2025. The motion was made by Councilwoman Harrison, seconded by Councilman Caylor, and carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

New Business

Varnell Police Chief Moreno presented the Public Safety updates for September 2025.

There was the First Reading of the Budget for 2026. Councilwoman Harrison made a motion to preliminarily accept the proposed budget, to include the proposed total amount of Capital improvements; the motion was seconded by Councilman Kash and passed unanimously, 5-0. The second reading of the Budget for final approval will be scheduled for November's meeting.

Mayor Dickson provided the Council with an update regarding the City's TAD Account Funds.

A motion was made by Councilman Kash to table the request for annexation of Parcel 11-245-01-006 until November's meeting. Councilman Roche seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by Councilman Caylor to approve annexation of Parcel 11-192-02-020. Councilman Pangle seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

Councilman Caylor made a motion for the following budget amendments:

SPLOST 24-\$21,374.03 (Motorola Radios), (Sign Guy installed sign at Peeples pavilion)

SPLOST 20 – \$548.24 for Walking track sign.

LMIG 2025 \$23,217.97, 2025 Supplement \$28,484.55 and 2026 LMIG \$26,487.83. Total LMIG

\$78,190.35 - \$20,500.00 (Already in budget) = \$57,690.35.

Councilwoman Harrison seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by 5-0.

City Manager Mike Brown provided the Council with an update regarding the Varnell city park Courts. The project is planned to go out for bids in 3 weeks, with bids to be returned middle December.

Public Comment

Several concerned non-residents of Varnell spoke on behalf of the Mountain Oaks neighborhood against the annexation of Parcel 11-245-01-006. Most objections were regarding the impacts of potential rezoning; the Council suggested they voice any zoning concerns to the Whitfield County Planning Commission.

Councilman Kash made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Harrison, to “un-table” the annexation request. After further discussion, the Council voted unanimously 0-5, leaving the request tabled until the November meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Councilwoman Harrison made a motion for adjournment that was seconded by Councilman Roche; the motion carried with a 5-0 vote and the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m

Respectfully submitted by
Kai Clayton,
City Clerk