



City of Varnell Council Meeting Minutes February 17, 2026

Members Present: Mayor Tom Dickson, Sandy Pangle Mayor Pro Tem,
Howard Kash, Sarah Harrison, Casey Mathews, Brittany Sewell
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 by Rev. Chester Edward, and the pledge was led by Mayor Dickson.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda, minutes from January 20, 2026, and financial reports for January 2026. The motion was made by Councilman Kash, seconded by Councilwoman Harrison, and carried with a vote of 5-0.

New Business

Varnell Police Chief Moreno presented the Public Safety updates for January 2026.

The mayor reviewed the proposed amendment to the Unified Zoning Ordinance regarding Biohazard Waste, Biological Waste, Data Center and Hazardous Waste. Councilwoman Harrison moved to accept the amendment. Councilman Pangle seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Dickson announced the appointments of City Council Committee members.

City Manager Mike Brown advised that Municode is currently working to ensure the Alcohol ordinances are in compliance with the State. They are hoping to finalize everything within the next 1-2 months.

The Council considered a donation amount of \$10,000.00 as invoiced from the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Library. Councilman Kash made a motion to deny the requested amount and proceed with the already budgeted amount of \$3,000. Councilwoman Sewell seconded the motion, which carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Councilwoman Harrison motioned to authorize the purchase of an SUV by the VPD to replace the Charger, with Councilman Kash seconding. The motion passed with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

Mike Brown provided an update on the Varnell Courts, after having met with the County Engineer regarding having County Public Works handle the grading and stormwater work. The engineer will bring the matter to the County Commissioners at their March meeting. At that point, the Council will seek further bids on the remainder of the work needed.

Councilwoman Sewell made a motion to approve 2026 Alcohol Licenses for Peach Stop and El Suenos #2.
Councilwoman Harrison seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 4-1 with Councilman Matthews opposed.

Public Comment

No public comment

Adjournment

There being no further business, Councilwoman Harrison made a motion for adjournment that was seconded by Councilman Kash; the motion carried with a 5-0 vote and the meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Kai Clayton,
City Clerk