

"Preserving
Our Heritage,
Shaping Our
Future"



Paul Hawkins, MAYOR

City of
FLEMINGTON
★
GEORGIA



City
Hall

156 Old Sunbury Rd.
Flemington, GA 31313

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 12th, 2022 at 4:30 pm.

Flemington City Hall • Public Participation in Person or via Facebook Live

Present at City Hall: Mayor Paul Hawkins
Mayor Pro Tem David Edwards
Councilman Hasit Patel
Councilwoman Gail Evans
Councilman Larry Logan
Councilwoman Leigh Smiley
Councilwoman Rene' Harwell
Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk
SGT Anthony Gallob, Liberty County Sheriff's Office ("LCSO")
Craig Stafford, City Attorney

Present via Telephone: None
(OR ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING)

Absent: None

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Paul Hawkins on Tuesday, April 12th, 2022 at 4:35 p.m. in the Council Room at Flemington City Hall. A quorum necessary to conduct business was visibly present.
2. Mayor Hawkins welcomed all attendees, both in person and virtually.
3. The invocation was given by Mayor Hawkins and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Harwell.
4. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 8th, 2022 regular meeting minutes as written. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
5. SGT Anthony Gallob was in attendance and presented Council with a list of law enforcement statistics for the month of March.
6. Council reviewed the Expense Report for the month of March. The City Clerk presented Council a draft Quarterly Food & Beverage Reporting for Alcohol License Holders. Mr. Stafford, the City Attorney, stated that he had forwarded the form to the Counsel at Georgia Municipal Association ("GMA") for approval. Ms. Gordon also informed Council that payroll was to be transitioned to in-house processing. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion continue Council receiving 1099's. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* The final item was a draft of the FY23 budget which was informational only.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Ms. Gabriele Hartage with the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission (“LCPC”) came before Council with seven items of business.

First, Ms. Hartage presented a business license request for Coastal Real Estate Academy, LLC, located at 115 Patriots Trail. The for-profit business aids veterans and their families. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to approve the business license with the special condition that a certificate of occupancy must be submitted before the license is issued. Councilman Patel seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

She then presented a business license request for Veteran Voice and Visions, Inc., located at 115 Patriots Trail. The non-profit aids veterans with disability claims. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the business license with the special condition that a certificate of occupancy must be submitted before the license is issued. Councilman Logan seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

The third item was a business license request for Lovely Reflections, located inside One11 Beauty at 1705 E. Oglethorpe Hwy. The business offers eyebrow micro blading and micro shading. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to approve the business license. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

Next on the agenda was a rezoning petition Rezoning Petition 2022-018-FL & Conditional Use 2022-019-FL. Requests to rezone ±2.65 acres of land from A-1 to AR-1 (both agricultural) at 318 Old Savannah Rd to operate a Bed and Breakfast Inn named Old Savannah House (and other events), Owner: Old Savannah Oaks, LLC. Wes and Sherry Storm are the owners of the property. At the LCPC, there was some opposition to the rezoning due to possible noise, especially during outside events. The house was built in 1878 and altered in 1956. The Storm’s stated they will leave the sound buffers. Mayor Hawkins asked for public comment on the rezoning. Hearing no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to approve the rezoning action. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* The Mayor asked everyone in attendance for public comment on the Conditional Use. Hearing no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing. The final request was for a business license for Old Savannah House. *Councilman Patel made a motion to approve the business license with the special conditions that there would be no outside events and a certificate of occupancy must be submitted before the license is issued. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed. *Councilman Logan recused himself due to being a close neighbor to the applicants. He refrained from discussion and abstained from the vote.*

Moving along, Ms. Hartage presented a request for a special exemption (2022-030-FL) for Thomas L. Carter, owner of Carter Funeral Home to operate a crematorium at 1822 E. Oglethorpe Hwy. Mr. Carter stated that the crematorium would run off of propane and there wouldn’t be any smoke or odor. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the special exemption. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

The last item of business was a revision to the Alcohol Beverage Ordinance to regulate open and closing hours. The revision includes the verbiage that restaurants serving alcohol shall close at 1am. This was the first reading and minor changes were needed before adoption.

b. Ms. Mardee Sanchez with the LCPC presented a preliminary plat for the Flemington Village extension on Patriot Trail. The plat shows 41 lots and has a 5-foot setback in the patio style homes. There will be fountains in the retention ponds and culverts will carry the water to the retention ponds. The PUD was previously approved for 6 homes per acre. DR Horton is waiting to develop the full property until new flood maps can be drawn up. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to approve the preliminary plat. Councilman Logan seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

c. Ms. Glennis Smith is the owner of Good to Go Restaurant and came before Council due to the violence at their business. Ms. Smith stated that they have filled out the paperwork with the Sheriffs Department to contract a deputy, however, no one signed up for the extra duty. There have been fights, shootings, officer assault, damage

to neighboring business and tasers deployed. The Council was very concerned for the safety of patrons or businesses nearby but Ms. Smith stated that she can't control the crowd. Council's response was that they want Good to Go to prosper...safely. Council also let Ms. Smith know that very soon they would be required to close their doors at 1 am.

d. There were two donation requests presented to Council. First was a request from Long County High School JROTC. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to disapprove the request because they are out of the county. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* The next donation request was from Taylors Creek Elementary. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to disapprove the request because they requested donations for gifts. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

8. BUSINESS IN PROCESS

Status Update(s)

- a. The Fire Committee reported to the Council that they recommended efforts cease for the pursuit of a fire station in Flemington. They had met with Mr. Kenny Howard from Hinesville and Mr. Joey Brown from the county (separately) and learned of many critical issues regarding the operation of a fire station. The committee recommended creating a proposal to present to the City of Hinesville.

No Update(s)

- Old Sunbury Rd. to State Rd. (*next update expected in 2023*)
- Signalization @ McLarry's Curve
- TSPLOST Highway 84 Sidewalk Project
- Full Depth Reclamation of Wallace Martin Dr.

Completed Business

- Street Light Installation on Old Hines Rd.

9. ON THE HORIZON

a. April 2022

- 13th – Fire Committee Work Session @ 1pm
- 14th – Public Hearing re: Impact Fee CIE Draft @ 11:30 am
- 22nd – ARPA Award and Draft Impact Fee Transmittal Work Session @ 2pm
- 28th & 29th – GMA's 2022 Small Cities Conference in Dublin
- 28th – City Hall Closed
- 29th – Annual ARPA Reporting Due

b. May 2022

- 1st Week in May – Municipal Clerks Week
- 10th – Council Meeting
- 30th – City Hall closed in observance of Memorial Day

10. Adjourn – *Councilman Edwards made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.*

Respectfully Prepared and Submitted by:



Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk

Approved by City Council: May 10th, 2022 as written/~~corrected~~.