"Preserving Our Heritage, Shaping Our Future"









156 Old Sunbury Rd. Flemington, GA 31313

# **CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 4:30 pm. Flemington City Hall - 156 Old Sunbury Rd. 31313 **Public Participation in Person** 

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

(OR ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING)

Absent:

- 1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Paul Hawkins on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 4:39 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.

None

- The invocation was given by Councilman Logan and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Smiley. 3.
- 4. Councilman Edwards made a motion to accept the minutes from the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 regular meeting minutes as written. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.
- 5. Deputy Chief Al Hagen from the LCSO came before Council to introduce himself. The Council presented Mr. Hagen with a small token of appreciation. He was also presented with one to go for Sheriff Bowman. SGT Anthony Gallob was in attendance and provided the law enforcement report for the month of November.
- 6. Council reviewed the Expense Report for the month of November.
- 7. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Dr. Bell with Keep Liberty Beautiful ("KLB") presented Council with some small thank-you gifts for the support the City has shown KLB over the year. The Council presented Dr. Bell with a ham and a small token of appreciation from the City for her staff.

b. Mr. Jeff Ricketson with the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission ("LCPC") was present with two items for the Council. The first was a wall, entrance, and monument sign permit for the Fairfield Inn. Mr. Ricketson confirmed that the hotel was granted an easement when the hotel was built and was exercising that option now. *Councilwoman Harwell made a motion to approve the sign permits for the Fairfield Inn. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* 

The second item was informational and was regarding the county-wide Unified Development Ordinance ("UDO") that his staff had been developing over several years. The UDO would standardize zoning and ordinances throughout the County. He stated that his team was prepared for several workshops to review the UDO with the Council. He presented an extensive manual to the Council for their review.

Ms. Mardee Sanchez with the LCPC also came before Council with two items of business. The first was a request to remove two exceptional trees at the shopping center development on the corner of Flemington Village Blvd. and E. Oglethorpe Highway for Genesis Engineering. Her description and pictures showed both trees as being completely dead. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to permit Genesis Engineering to remove the two expired exceptional trees. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* 

Her second item of business was a request for the final plat for Shadow Pointe Phase 1 (10 units) located on Patriots Trail and developed by DR Horton. Shadow Pointe is part of the Flemington Village PUD and this phase included patio style homes with a 5 ft. setback. She recommended approval of the final plat with standard and special conditions, to include dedications of Hazy Lane and Dusky Court, and stormwater infrastructure; dedications to the City of Hinesville for water, sewer and reuse water, and letters of credit for primary and secondary improvements and their maintenance, fencing installed around the ponds, sidewalk installation and the deed and plat for the sewer easement along Mary Lou Drive. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to approve the final plat of Shadow Pointe subdivision (Phase 1) with all dedications, standard and special conditions. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* 

c. The last item of new business was a request via email from Ms. Glenna Smith, owner of Good to Go Jamaican Restaurant (located at 1050 E. Oglethorpe Hwy.) to extend their normal business hours on New Year's Eve from 1:00 am. until 3:00 am for their NYE and first anniversary party. Their request was approved, however, due to previous serious security issues, *Councilman Edwards made a motion to allow Good to Go Jamaican Restaurant to remain open until 2:00 am. on New Year's Day with the special condition that there must be two (2) Liberty County Sheriff's Office off-duty deputies present, no alcohol sales allowed from the hours of 1:00 to 2:00 am., and at 2:00 am. the premises must be fully vacated. Councilman Logan seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* 

## 8. <u>BUSINESS IN PROGRESS – Status Update(s)</u>

- a. Mayor Hawkins presented the rental agreement drafted by Wes & Sherri Storms, Owners of Old Savannah House located at 318 Old Savannah Rd, to hold outdoor events at their property. After reviewing their rental agreement, *Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve outdoor events at Old Savannah House in accordance with the policy and procedure submitted by Wes & Sherri Storms. Councilman Patel seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
- b. Mr. Larry Golden and Ms. Lisa Lee with Golden & Associates, CPA's, the City's financial auditing firm, came before Council to report that filing extensions had been made with the associated agencies for the FY22 audit, but that it should be completed by the end of February 2023. Mr. Golden stated that a governance committee should be formed to oversee the audit process. Councilwomen Smiley, Harwell and Evans volunteered. A first governance meeting was set for Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 9:00 am.

## <u>No Update(s)</u>

• Millage Rate – C. Stafford

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- Fire Truck Purchase Agreement C. Stafford
- Road Maintenance Priority List
- Old Sunbury Rd. to State Rd. (*next update expected in 2023*)
- Full Depth Reclamation of Wallace Martin Dr. (on hold for funding)
- Law Enforcement Office Expansion *(on hold for funding)*
- Speed Limit Signs in Tranquil South & Flemington Village D. Edwards
- City Hall Electronic Upgrade D. Edwards

#### <u>Completed Business</u>

• None

### 9. ON THE HORIZON

- *a. <u>December 2022</u>* 
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Holiday Parade
  - 13<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting
  - 26<sup>th</sup> thru January 2<sup>nd</sup> City Hall Closed

## b. January 2023

- 3<sup>rd</sup> City Hall Reopens
- 10<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> City Hall Closed in Observance of M LK Jr. Day
- 19<sup>th</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> Councilman Edwards to Cities United
- 10. Councilwoman Evans made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purposes of personnel. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed and closed session began at 6:08 pm. Open session was resumed at 6:21 pm. Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve holiday bonuses for the following personnel: SGT Anthony Gallob and Ms. Jenelle Gordon at \$800 each, Sheriff Deputy Riley Jarrett at \$500 and Ms. Nahalia Kennedy at \$250. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.
- 11. Councilman Edwards made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully Prepared and Submitted by:

Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk