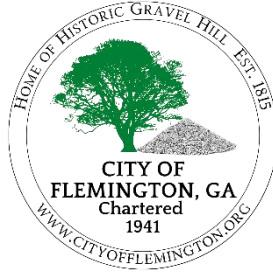


*"Preserving Our Heritage,  
Shaping Our Future"*

Historic Home of Gravel Hill  
Est. 1815

*Paul Hawkins*, MAYOR



*City Hall*  
156 Old Sunbury Rd.  
Flemington, GA 31313

912.877.3223  
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## CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 4:30 PM.

FLEMINGTON CITY HALL • 156 OLD SUNBURY RD.  
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN PERSON

Present at City Hall: Mayor Paul Hawkins  
Councilwoman Rene' Harwell  
Councilman Larry Logan  
Councilwoman Gail Evans  
Councilman Hasit Patel  
Councilwoman Leigh Smiley  
Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk  
LT Anthony Gallob, Liberty County Sheriff's Office ("LCSO") – *entered at 5:23 pm.*

Present via Telephone: None

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem ("MPT") David Edwards  
Craig Stafford, City Attorney

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Paul Hawkins on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 4:32 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.
3. The invocation was given by Councilwoman Harwell and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Larry Logan.
4. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
5. Mayor Hawkins gave a brief law enforcement report for the month of January.
6. Council reviewed the general fund transaction report and fund balances for the month of January 2024.
7. NEW BUSINESS
  - i. Mr. Jeff Ricketson with the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission ("LCPC") came before Council to share that every ten years, the Comprehensive Plan for cities and the county are updated. He stated that there would be twelve community planning meetings, with Flemington's coming up first. He said that it takes about two years to complete the joint plans and that this was last adopted in 2016. The Flemington Community Planning Meeting would be held on February 26<sup>th</sup> at the Performing Arts Center.

- ii. Ms. Glennis Smith, owner of Good to Go Jamaican Restaurant, came before Council to get a variance to allow her to stay open and serve alcohol until 3:00 am. She stated that Hinesville's restaurants stay open until that time and that Jamaicans do not go out before midnight. She also reported that since the hours of 0100 were instituted, there have been no security issues. Mr. Ricketson stated that a variance would not be appropriate as a change to the ordinance for all would be needed. There were concerns from the Council about staying open so late, security, as well as Flemington and Hinesville's alcohol ordinances. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to table the discussion of changing the ordinance hours for Class II businesses with alcohol licenses until a future meeting once more information is available. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion to table passed.*
- iii. Dr. Karen Bell with Keep Liberty Beautiful was in attendance and the Council presented her with an Arbor Day Proclamation, declaring April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Arbor Day in the City of Flemington.
- iv. Ms. Leah Poole with the Liberty County Chamber of Commerce and the Convention and Visitors Bureau was in attendance to give her bi-annual presentation which highlighted events, staff and accomplishments over the last six months.
- v. Mr. Trip Duke with the Liberty County Emergency Management Agency ("LCEMA") came before Council with a State Mutual Aid Agreement. The agreement would allow LCEMA to ask the state for aide in the case of an emergency and allow the state to request help from LCEMA. Mr. Duke said the term of the agreement is four years and that the City had always previously participated. *Councilwoman Harwell made a motion to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement with LCEMA. Councilman Logan seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
- vi. Ms. Jenelle Gordon, the City Clerk, presented Council with a proposal and resolution for Telecommunications and Right of Way Management through the Georgia Municipal Association ("GMA"). The services provided include ensuring the City receives the proper franchise fees from all companies utilizing Flemington's right of ways, cell towers and would set jurisdictional boundaries to ensure franchise fees are remitted to the City and not to the City of Hinesville. The service also provides auditing for the last three years at no additional charge. Records indicate immediately that the City has not received any franchise fees from Hargray or Brightspeed (formally CenturyLink). The cost of the management program is based on population and would be \$1,050.00 per year. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to approve the Telecommunications and Right of Way Management Agreement with GMA and to execute the resolution. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

8. BUSINESS IN PROGRESS – Status Update(s)

- a. Mr. Marcus Sack, the City Engineer, gave an update on the Local Mileage Improvement Grant ("LMIG") funded full-depth reclamations of Old Sunbury Rd, Joseph Martin Rd, and Wallace Martin Rd. He reported that all bores for the roads have been completed and the bid documents would be presented soon. He hopes for a summer start time.
- b. LT Anthony Gallob entered the meeting and reported to Council that there is not an update on a second Deputy assigned to Flemington, however, that there were seven currently going through field training.
- c. Ms. Glennis Smith returned to the podium to request the Council approve a Special Event Permit for February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for a birthday party at Good to Go Jamaican Restaurant. She stated that there would be off-duty LCSO deputies and private security. Her request was to remain open until 2:30 am. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to approve the special event request for Good to Go Jamaican restaurant for a birthday party on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 until 0200 (alcohol sales to cease at 0100). Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

No Update(s)

- Old Sunbury Rd. to State Rd. or Possible 144 Spur (*next update expected in 2024*)

- Law Enforcement Office Expansion *(on hold for funding)*
- Millage Rate – R. Harwell *(on hold due to illness)*

9. ON THE HORIZON

a. January 2024

- 19<sup>th</sup> – City Hall Closed in Observance of Presidents Day
- 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> – UGA Planning & Zoning Training 101 & 102 @ Richmond Hill

b. March 2024

- 17<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick's Day
- 31<sup>st</sup> - Easter

10. Executive Session – Not needed

11. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.*