







City Hall

156 Old Sunbury Rd. Flemington, GA 31313

Paul Hawkins, MAYOR

# **CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

February 8th, 2022 at 4:30 pm. Flemington City Hall • Public Participation in Person or via Facebook Live

Present at City Hall: Mayor Paul Hawkins

Councilman Hasit Patel Councilwoman Gail Evans Councilman Larry Logan Councilwoman Leigh Smiley Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk Craig Stafford, City Attorney

SGT Anthony Gallob, Liberty County Sheriff's Office ("LCSO")

Present via Telephone: (OR ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING)

Councilwoman Rene' Harwell (entered at 4:41 pm.)

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, February 8th, 2022 at 4:31 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 Councilman Logan and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Smiley.
- 4. Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 11th, 2022 regular meeting minutes as written. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed. Councilman Edwards made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 19th, 2022 workshop minutes. Councilman Logan 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 January.
- 6. Council reviewed the Expense Report for the month of January.
- 7. Ms. Leah Poole with the Liberty County Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureau presented Council their bi-annual update which detailed their accomplishments over the previous six months. Ms. Poole stated that the presentation schedule for 2022 would occur in February and August.
- 8. NEW BUSINESS

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

First, she presented a business license request for Kinx and Kutz Barber and Beauty, located within 11Beauty at 1705 E. Oglethorpe Hwy. The owner, Ms. Kayla Floyd is a master cosmetologist. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the business license for Kinx and Kutz Barber and Beauty. Councilman Patel seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* 

The next presentation was a sign permit request for 11Beauty. The owner, Ms. Shanna Wilson, told Council that there was some window damage she wanted to cover with a sign. The LCPC recommended disapproval because the proposed sign did not meet the City's ordinances. After some discussion, Councilwoman *Smiley made a motion to approve a smaller sign in accordance with the ordinance. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* 

- b. Mr. Andrew Harris with Custom Audio Video ("CAV") presented an estimate to upgrade the City's electronic capabilities in the Council room. Mayor Hawkins shared that the upgrades were an eligible use of the American Rescue Plan Act funds. There was heavy concern about the Owl video system not being compatible with CAV's equipment. *The Council decided to table this matter and will revisit it at the February 16<sup>th</sup> work session.*
- c. Mr. Craig Stafford reported that he received the resolution from Hinesville that he could modify which would increase the hotel-motel tax rate from 5% to 8%. With the General Assembly in session, the deadline for the resolution must be submitted before the end of March. *The Council decided to table this matter and will revisit it at the February 16<sup>th</sup> work session.*
- d. Mayor Hawkins presented a proclamation to recognize Juneteenth (June 19<sup>th</sup>) as a holiday for the city. He shared that he had researched the origins of the day and its symbolism. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to add Juneteenth as a holiday for the City. Councilman Logan seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
- e. Councilman Edwards stated that it's come to his attention that All-Terrain Vehicles ("ATV") were becoming a problem. He met with the LCPC and started a rough draft. Councilwoman Smiley said that they are having problems also in Tranquil South. *The Council decided to table this matter and will revisit it at the February 16th work session.*

### 9. BUSINESS IN PROCESS

### Status Update(s)

- a. When the discussion about accepting Mr. Judson Bryant as the project/program manager and architect on the future fire station project. Councilman Edwards stated that he was okay with Mr. Bryant accepting the role, but would also like to see his resume and letters of reference to review. *The Council decided to table this matter and will revisit it at the February 16th work session.*
- b. Mayor Hawkins gave a brief update to the Council regarding:
  - Signalization: The contract had been awarded for the signalization in McLarry's Curve.
  - Old Sunbury Rd to a State Road: He spoke to Travis Mobley, who is in the process of getting Old Sunbury Rd resurfaced.
  - TSPLOST: HAMPO will be putting the sidewalks (Performing Arts Center to Liberty High School) out to bid in the next couple of weeks.

## No Update(s) Available

- Old Sunbury Rd. to State Road (next update expected in 2023)
- Street Light Installations on Old Savannah Rd. & Old Hines Rd.
- Full Depth Reclamation of Wallace Martin Dr,

## 10. COMPLETED BUSINESS

• n/a

#### 11. ON THE HORIZON

- a. February 2022
  - 6th-8th- City Clerk to Masters Education Management Program @ Jekyll Island
  - 8th Council Meeting
  - 16<sup>th</sup> –Planning Workshop (Focus TBD)
  - 21st President's Day ~ City Hall Closed
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> Newly Elected Officials Training in Athens
  - Date/Time TBD ARPA Planning Workshop
- b. March 2022
  - 2nd LOST Negotiation Training in Vidalia
  - 8th Council Meeting
  - 19th Great American Clean Up @ 0830
- c. April 2022
  - 12<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting
  - $\bullet~28^{th}~\&~29^{th}$  GMA's 2022 Small Cities Conference in Dublin
- 12. Adjourn Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Respectfully Prepared and Submitted by:

Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk

Approved by City Council: March 8th, 2022 as written/corrected.