

# FLEMINGTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

February 14, 2017

**PRESENT:** Mayor Sandra Martin  
Mayor Pro Tem Paul Hawkins  
Council Member Charles Richardson  
Council Member Gail Evans  
Council Member Palmer Dasher  
Council Member David Edwards  
Council Member Donnie Smith

**ALSO PRESENT:** City Attorney Craig Stafford  
Deputy Sergeant Eric Allen  
City Clerk Lori Taylor

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Sandra Martin on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in the conference room at City Hall in Flemington, GA. A quorum necessary to conduct business was visibly present.
2. Invocation by Councilman Edwards, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. *Councilwoman Evans motioned to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the January meeting and accept them as written. Councilman Richardson seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.*
4. Deputy Eric Allen was in attendance to provide council with a list of statistics for the month of January.
5. Council reviewed the City Expense Report.
6. City Engineer Matthew Barrow was in attendance to provide council with updates:
  - a. Kallquist drainage – He and Councilman Hawkins met on January 23, 2017 to evaluate the drainage and flooding across the roadway and in adjoining yards. There is an opportunity to re-route the drainage thru an existing borrow pit. There is some additional field work that would need to be done, and he asked for authorization to go forward with the additional field work and bring findings back to council next month. *Councilman Dasher motioned to allow Matthew Barrow to continue with additional field work needed to address the drainage problem. Councilman Richardson seconded. All approved. Motion passed.*
  - b. Wallace Martin turn lane project – Consensus has been reached with DOT. Project is currently out for bid. Bid opening is scheduled for March 7, 2017 at 10 a.m. at City Hall. Results from bid opening will be brought to council at the March meeting.
  - c. Street Sweeping – Matthew clarified with council that there is no MS4 requirement to sweep the streets, but if you do sweep, you are required to report the disposal.
  - d. Tremain Estates drainage investigation – Matthew stated that they are working with the property owner (Mr. Godwin) and the county to address the immediate erosion, then a permanent access for maintenance.

Councilwoman Evans inquires about sidewalk erosion on Hwy 84. Councilman Richardson also mentions the culvert at Applebee's. Matthew stated that on small projects like those, Mr. Hawkins usually works with Clinton to take care of them. Councilman Hawkins stated that he would contact Clinton and have it addressed.

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7. Melissa Jones, LCPC – Service Delivery Strategy Update – Asked that council approve the resolution. Councilwoman Smith noticed a couple of typos in the resolution. Ms. Jones stated that she would make the corrections and get a new resolution to the Clerk to be signed by the Mayor. *Councilman Richardson motioned to approve the Service Delivery Strategy. Seconded by Councilman Dasher. All approved. Motion passed.*

8. Gabby Hartage - LCPC:

### Action Items

- a. Request by Auto Body Advantage to be able to sell used vehicles and request for a face change-out. They must meet state requirements as well as local requirements. All cars will stay behind the fence and sales will be done online. Applicants stated that they would limit the number of cars for sale to no more than 3 at a time. *Councilman Hawkins motioned to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Richardson. All approved. Motion carried.*
  - b. Business License Application by T. James Rim for Apex Home Remodeling Professionals at 1661 E. Oglethorpe Hwy, Suite J. The space would be used as a showroom and office. *Councilman Richardson motioned to approve the request, seconded by Councilwoman Smith. All approved. Motion carried.*
  - c. Signage consisting of two wall signs for Apex Home Remodeling Professionals at 1661 E Oglethorpe Hwy, Suite J. *Councilwoman Evans motioned to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Dasher. All approved. Motion carried.*
  - d. Business License Application by Barry S. Chapman for Counseling Services at 116 Patriot's Trail at Connection Church. Mr. Chapman is a GA Licensed Professional Counselor that deals primarily with troubles youth and families. There will be no signage and no affiliation with the church. He will be only utilizing office space for counseling services. Mr. Timothy Byler addressed council and clarified that the church has agreed to allow the use of the space, and that it is a private and secure environment. *Councilman Hawkins motioned to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Edwards. All approved. Motion carried.*
  - e. Business License Application by Ann E. Parker for Bookkeeping at 179 W. Daryl Drive. There will be no signage. All services will be online. Ms. Parker is licensed and certified. *Councilwoman Smith motioned to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Edwards. All approved. Motion carried.*
  - f. Request by Brian Hosch for elevation review for former Nacon building at 992 E. Oglethorpe Hwy; the new business will be Gerber Collision & Glass. The building will have white siding, blue stucco, and grey siding, with glass garage doors. *Councilman Dasher motioned to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Richardson. All approved. Motion carried.*
  - g. Business License Application by Nicholas Bouchea for a Service Collision Center (fka Nacon) dba Gerber Collision & Glass. *Councilwoman Evans motioned to approved request, seconded by Councilman Dasher. All approved. Motion carried.*
  - h. Sign permit application for Gerber Glass & Collision. They asked for approval of one wall sign at the current time. Sign conforms to city ordinance. *Councilman Dasher motioned to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Richardson. All approved. Motion passed.*
9. Leah Poole – Liberty County Chamber of Commerce/Convention & Visitor's Bureau
    - a. Film Permitting – Ms. Poole presented council with a proposed Film Permit document and asked council to review it and be prepared to vote on it at the March meeting.
    - b. Donations
      - Grand Opening of Oglethorpe Square is March 10, 2017 at 12 p.m. – The Chamber is asking all cities for a monetary donation to help cover expenses of the Grand Opening. There will be live music, bouncy houses, balloons, etc.

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*Councilwoman Smith motioned to donate \$100.00 to the Grand Opening expenses, seconded by Councilman Richardson. All approved. Motion passed.*

- Hail & Farewell – June 9, 2017 at Bryant Commons – Outgoing Garrison Commander on Ft. Stewart. Asked for donation to support ceremony.
- 3ID Day at the Capital – March 9, 2017 – Asked for donation to support that day (housing, food, travel). *Councilman Dasher motioned to donate \$100.00 (totaling \$300 for 3 events) for each event, seconded by Councilman Richardson. All approved. Motion carried.*

### 10. Unfinished/New Business:

- a. Hotel/Motel – Mr. David Conner was present as attorney for Dennis Patel and Hampton Inn. He stated that the taxes have been paid up current, and will stay current on tax payments. He provided council with his business cards as a gesture of good faith, if there are any additional issues with Hampton Inn's tax account.
- b. Request by Auto Body Advantage requested a new temporary sign since the one they had prior was destroyed by the hurricane. *Councilwoman Smith motioned to approve a 30 day temporary sign until Gabby Hartage can come back next month with more information. Seconded by Councilwoman Evans. All approved. Motioned carried.*
- c. Council Stipends – Councilman Richardson recommended making the council stipends as follows for the next term to begin January 2018: Mayor - \$850, Mayor Pro Tem - \$650, Councilmember - \$450. Councilman Hawkins and Edwards both stated that it is very difficult to compare with other entities because every city is different, but that these amounts do seem to be in line with duties and city financial situation. *Councilman Hawkins motioned to approve the suggested stipends for next term, seconded by Councilman Edwards. All approved. Motion carried.*
- d. Personnel Policy – Councilman Richardson went over the Personnel Policy that has been drafted thus far. Policies include city car use, salary, paid holidays, paid time off, yearly evaluation reports, time sheets, and leave request form. Council was asked to review given policy and come ready to vote during the March meeting. Councilman Richardson also requested that an evaluation be done for the Clerk before the next meeting. Councilwoman Evans suggested that all council members have input for evaluations.
- e. City-Wide Cleanup – Council was given 2 dates (March 11 or April 1) to choose between for the City-Wide Cleanup. Councilman Edwards stated that he would not be available on April 1. Councilwoman Smith suggested that we choose March 11, so Councilman Edwards can help plan and participate in the Meet & Greet for Deputy Allen following the cleanup. All agreed on March 11. City will provide sandwich lunches for workers.

### 11. Roundtable Comments:

- a. Councilman Dasher – Suggested that the city buy more stacking chairs.
- b. Councilman Edwards – Stated some concerns about donations. We need to have Mr. Stafford look into the legalities of donations as well as the guidelines through GMA.
- c. Councilwoman Smith – Stated some concerns with the traffic on the curve and whether there is an interim solution. Councilman Hawkins stated that there has been some discussion of the synchronization of the signals during HAMPO meetings to help alleviate some traffic problems. Councilwoman Smith also stated that, per an ad in the newspaper, the rezoning of the Sand pit will be coming to council next month.
- d. Councilwoman Evans – Stated that there is some pending legislation that states cities must have separate mailings for fees (solid waste, fire prevention, etc.). She stated that it is something to consider for future needs. She also stated that council needs to look at the charter soon.
- e. Councilman Hawkins – Stated for information that Flemington Oaks will be presented at the March meeting. He also stated that we need to get an awning for the city car soon, to protect it from the elements.

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- f. Councilman Richardson – Stated that he wanted council to consider having an armed deputy present at council meetings. Councilwoman Evans suggested that council make it one of the deputy's duties to remain at meetings.
12. *Councilman Dasher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Second by Councilman Richardson. All agreed. Motion passed.*