

FLEMINGTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 11, 2017

PRESENT: Mayor Sandra Martin
Mayor Pro Tem Paul Hawkins
Council Member Gail Evans
Council Member Palmer Dasher
Council Member Donnie Smith

ABSENT: Council Member David Edwards
Council Member Charles Richardson

ALSO PRESENT: 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, July 11, 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 Paul Hawkins, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. *Councilman Palmer Dasher motioned to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the June meeting and accept them as written. Councilman Paul Hawkins 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 April.
5. Council reviewed the City Expense Report.
6. City Engineer Matthew Barrow
 - a. Mr. Barrow updated council on the Wallace Martin turn lane project. He stated that the project was in progress and that it should be complete before the start of school. He informed council that the contractor was late in getting started with the project because of the rainy weather.
 - b. Mr. Barrow informed council that there has not been any update from DOT regarding the Safety LMIG project that was submitted for consideration.
 - c. Mr. Barrow stated that the project on Mr. Godwin's property was still waiting for the report from the wetland investigation, but that the initial reports were looking favorable, with only one small pocket of wetlands. He stated that he would have the full report at next month's meeting.
7. LCPC:
 - a. Temporary Signage – A request by Nicole Newton for a flag located at 1705 E. Oglethorpe Hwy Suite A. Gabriel Hartage informed council that they had approved the temporary sign last month for a period of 30 days. Ms. Newton was requesting an extension for the sign. The ordinance states that a temporary sign may be erected for 30 days four times a year, or a total of 120 days. Ms. Newton stated that she wanted to use the sign for three additional 30 day increments throughout the year. Ms. Hartage said that LCPC can keep up with the increments that she wanted to use the sign if council approved the request. *Councilwoman Smith motioned to approve the temporary signage*

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for three additional 30 day increments totaling the 120 days as stated by the sign ordinance. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

- b. Abe Nadji presented council with an information only Preliminary Plat for Phase 1 of the “Savannah Commons” project. It is a total of 37.98 acres within Flemington. He stated that it is for information only. No action is requested at this time. He stated that houses would be accessed by side roads on both sides of the main road, and that no houses will have entry on the main road. He stated that the lots all meet the requirements as stated in the ordinance. Councilwoman Smith questioned the roundabouts and the accessibility of large trucks. Trevor Sacks stated that he would double check the dimensions and ensure that they are appropriate. Councilwoman Evans questioned the proximity to James Brown Park and the cutting of trees. Mr. Sacks clarified the distance to the park and stated that they are keeping a good number of trees to make the walking path and green spaces very nice. Councilwoman Smith questioned Mr. Sacks about the timeline for this project. Ms. Sacks said that they are ready to get started as soon as the permitting is completed. Councilwoman Smith stated her concern with the large amount of development in a short amount of time because of the impact to traffic issues. Mr. Sacks said that the traffic issues must be significant enough to warrant a traffic signal with DOT, and that this particular development will not warrant it at this time. Mayor Pro Tem Hawkins asked about the name change of the development. Mr. Sacks said that the developer has agreed to change the name but he is not aware of what the new name will be. Mr. Nadji reminded council that the presentation was for information only, no action was being requested at this time.
8. Leah Poole – LCCVB – Ms. Poole presented council with the quarterly update from the LCCVB. Councilman Dasher questioned about the LCCVB’s non-profit status. Larry Golden explained the situation and informed council that all of their documentation has been submitted and it in the process with the IRS. Once approved, it will be reinstated retroactively.
9. Stephanie Jones-Theaker – Diversity Health Center – Ms. Theaker presented council with an update on the services provided by Diversity Health Center. She also informed council of the construction of the new facility, and the donation opportunities available if council wanted to contribute.
10. Unfinished/New business
 - a. Councilwoman Smith stated that she would like to delve into the approval process on future developments, to avoid being “stuck” with something ten years later based on a previous approval presented by a different developer. She asked to inquire with LCPC about the process and how much control council has over developments.
 - b. Councilman Dasher asked about the trash pickup currently being provided by the city, and whether the city can afford to continue providing the service with the new developments. Councilwoman Smith also questioned other services, such as fire services and street-lighting. Mr. Stafford suggested doing an economic analysis to determine how to handle the upcoming developments. Mayor Pro Tem Hawkins stated that council should schedule a planning workshop very quickly to get the needed information before making any decisions on services as well as approving developments. Councilman Dasher inquired about the legality of grandfathering in the current residents to continue services by the city, and requiring new developments to be charged for services. He asked Mr. Stafford to research the legality of it.
 - c. Councilwoman Evans stated that GDOT never cleaned up the pebbles left after the paving of Hwy.84. Mayor Pro Tem Hawkins said that he contacted DOT and was told that they did sweep the roads and cleaned sidewalks, and that he would contact them again.
11. *Mayor Pro Tem Hawkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. Second by Councilwoman Evans. All agreed. Motion passed.*