



"Preserving Our Heritage, Shaping  
Our Future"

THE CITY OF  
*Flemington*  
GEORGIA

CITY HALL  
156 OLD SUNBURY ROAD  
FLEMINGTON, GA 31313

Paul B. Hawkins, MAYOR

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

**PRESENT AT CITY HALL:** Mayor Paul Hawkins  
Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk  
SGT Grant Porter, LCSO

**PRESENT VIA ZOOM:**  
(VIDEO CONFERENCING) Mayor Pro Tem Palmer Dasher  
Council Member Gail Evans  
Council Member Rene Harwell  
Council Member Donnie Smith  
Council Member David Edwards  
Council Member Leigh Smiley  
Craig Stafford, City Attorney

**ABSENT:** None

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Paul Hawkins on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 4:34 p.m. in the conference room at City Hall in Flemington, GA. A quorum necessary to conduct business was visibly present via Zoom video conferencing.
2. Invocation by Mayor Hawkins, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. *Councilwoman Smith motioned to dispense with the reading of the April minutes and accept them as written. Councilman Dasher seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
4. SGT Grant Porter was in attendance to provide council with a list of statistics for the month of April.
5. Jenelle Gordon, the City Clerk, had two items of business. First, Council reviewed the City Expense Report for the month of April. Next, Mrs. Gordon gave an overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 budget, which showed a tentative revenue shortage of an estimated \$66,612.<sup>00</sup> directly due to hotel/motel revenue being impacted significantly by the coronavirus pandemic. It was explained that without the ability to forecast based on previous years' hotel/motel revenue, the FY21 budget would need to be uniquely fluid and would require updating as the year progressed. Mrs. Gordon assured Council that the City could address the revenue shortage in multiple ways, which included the utilization of cash reserves, the sale of city real estate or the liquidation of long-term assets. Several council members expressed that with the growth that the City, a millage rate will be necessary in the near future.
6. **New Business:**
  - a. Ms. Gabriele Hartage from the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission came before Council with a request for a business license and sign permit for The Hydro Bar located at 1705-B East Oglethorpe Hwy. Ms. Violeta Hicks provided all required licensure and accreditation with the state to the LCPC and was present at City Hall to answer questions posed by Council. *\*\*Councilwoman Harwell recused herself from all discussion and abstained from voting regarding The Hydro Bar due to conflict of interest.\*\**
    - i. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve the business license request for The Hydro Bar. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

- ii. *Councilman Dasher made a motion to approve the sign permit request for The Hydro Bar. Councilman Edwards seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
  - iii. *Councilman Dasher made a motion to approve a signage flag in the greenspace in front of The Hydro Bar for a period of no more than 120 days. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Smith. All approved. The motion passed.*
- b. Mayor Hawkins presented to Council a request to transfer the billing for eighteen (18) LED street lights on Flemington Village Blvd to the City. The general consensus from Council was that they would prefer a lighting plan prior to final plat approval for subdivisions, however, the Ordinance states that the utility company approves the lighting plans and not the governing body. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to accept the transfer of billing for eighteen LED street lights on Flemington Village Blvd. Councilman Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-1, with Councilman Dasher voting nay.*
- c. Mr. Marcus Sack was present via Zoom teleconferencing with a proposal for engineering services for the paving of Kallquist Dr. Item one on the proposal was the Survey phase. Because the survey was completed in 2018, Mr. Sack stated that it would take two or three hours to update the survey. The cost of paving Kallquist in total would be approximately \$240,000.<sup>00</sup> and would take six to eight months to complete. Design, Bidding and Construction Observation were the next phases on his proposal, to which Mr. Sack stated that he was willing to offer Council a “not to exceed” NTE \$20,000.<sup>00</sup> for the remaining phases. *Councilwoman Smith made a motion to approve task two (the design phase). Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed. \*\*Councilwoman Smiley participated in the discussion but abstained from the vote. \*\**
7. **Unfinished Business:**
- a. Mr. Stafford shared with Council that Mr. Kelly Davis was still working on the composure of a letter to Flemington residents to notify them about the solid waste billing transfer to their property taxes. He stated that emails were being traded back and forth.
8. **Executive Open Session – Real Estate:** *\*Mayor Hawkins determined that Executive Session was not necessary and the real estate business at hand could be discussed in Open Session.\**
- a. Mr. Stafford reported that Mr. Baldwin from GDOT modified his offer from \$97,000.<sup>00</sup> to \$100,000.<sup>00</sup> for parcels 16 & 18, an increase of \$3,000.<sup>00</sup>, for the land needed for signalization. He stated that he would counter the offer a final time to see if GDOT would increase their offer any further. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to accept the \$100,000.<sup>00</sup> offer from GDOT for the two parcels of land with Mr. Stafford attempting to increase the sale price, if possible. Councilman Dasher seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
- b. In addition to parcels 16 & 18, GDOT will also purchase a small piece of the undeveloped parcel of land that the City owns across the street from City Hall required for signalization. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to allow Mr. Stafford to negotiate the sale of a piece of the parcel of land the City owns across the street with GDOT. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
9. **Adjourn:** *Councilman Edwards made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dasher. All approved. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.*