"Preserving Our Heritage, Shaping Our Future"

Historic Home of Gravel Hill Est. 1815





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SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

Millage Rate Public Hearing #3

December 12th, 2024 AT 6 p.m.

FLEMINGTON CITY HALL ♦ 156 OLD SUNBURY RD

Present at City Hall: Mayor Paul Hawkins

Mayor Pro Tem ("MPT") David Edwards

Councilwoman Rene' Harwell

Councilwoman Gail Evans (entered @ 4:06 p.m.)

Councilman Hasit Patel Councilwoman Leigh Smiley Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk

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

Present via Phone: None

Absent: Councilman Larry Logan

Councilwoman Gail Evans Craig Stafford, City Attorney

- 1. The special called Public Hearing of the Council of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Paul Hawkins on Thursday, December 5th, 2024 at 6:00 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. MPT Edwards delivered a presentation that encompassed an introduction and overview of the city's history, current projects, and future initiatives. Additionally, it addressed frequently asked questions raised during previous public hearings.
- 4. Citizens opposed to the proposed millage rate conveyed the following comments:
 - Opposition to the city's purchase of four (4) acres of land in McLarry's Curve for \$975,000.
- Question regarding which Council member initiated the purchase of the land in the Curve.
- Statement made to put a new City Hall in the land owned by the city across the street from the current City Hall.
- 5. Citizens neutral or in support of the proposed millage rate conveyed the following comments:
 - A recognition of the necessity for the millage rate.
- 6. The City Clerk clarified that the proposed millage rate aims to balance the budget, given that expenses had surpassed revenue. While she empathized with the resident's concerns, she noted that the FY25 budget had been established six (6) months prior to the initiative to acquire the land in the Curve.

7.	Mayor Hawkins reaffirmed that he was opposed to the purchase of the land in the Curve.
8.	MPT Edwards made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Patel seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed and the public hearing adjourned at 6:30 p.m.