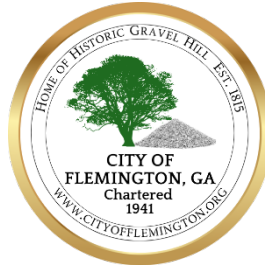


*"Preserving Our Heritage,
Shaping Our Future"*

Historic Home of Gravel Hill
Est. 1815

Paul Hawkins, MAYOR



City Hall

156 Old Sunbury Rd.
Flemington, GA 31313

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CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 14TH, 2025 AT 4:30 P.M.
FLEMINGTON CITY HALL - 156 OLD SUNBURY RD

Present at City Hall: Mayor Pro Tempore ("MPT") Rene' Harwell
Mayor Paul Hawkins
Councilman David Edwards
Councilwoman Gail Evans
Councilman Larry Logan
Councilman Hasit Patel
Shameka Hawkes, City Clerk
Craig Stafford, City Attorney
LT Anthony Gallob, Liberty County Sheriff's Office ("LCSO")

Present via Phone: None

Absent: Councilwoman Leigh Smiley

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Pro Tempore Rene' Harwell on Tuesday, October 14th, 2025 at 4:33 p.m. in the Council Room at Flemington City Hall. A quorum necessary to conduct business was visibly present.
2. Mayor Hawkins said for the benefit of the council, Rene' will preside over the council meeting. Until he gets caught up on some things. MPT Harwell welcomed all attendees.
3. The invocation was given by Councilman Logan and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.
4. *Councilman Logan made a motion to approve the August 12th, 2025 regular meeting minutes and Councilman Edwards seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed. Councilwoman Evans made a motion to approve September 9th, 2025 minutes as written. Councilman Patel seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
5. LT Gallob from the LCSO presented a report on law enforcement activities for September 2025. We saw a generalized decrease in calls across board. Only thing that we had an increase in was thefts that was all related to a brief string of entering automobiles over the course of about 24 hours. That problem was resolved and prosecuted by the Sheriff Office. A/C went out in Wilson truck, that was fixed under warranty no cost to the city. Councilman Patel asked if LT Gallob could keep an eye on traffic with Publix opening 10/15. LT Gallob stated he would allow the traffic light do its job; however, he will be monitoring the traffic.
6. The Council reviewed the September 2025 General Fund check register, P&L and Balance Sheet, and the FY26 Budget vs. Actual report (through 9/31/25). Questions deferred due to Kim McGlothlin not being in attendance. MPT Harwell stated she did not see any exceptions.

7. MPT Harwell announced that Shameka Hawkes is the new City Clerk. *Councilman Logan motioned to appoint the new Clerk. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
8. River's Alive Proclamation-Keep Liberty Beautiful-Dr. Karen mentioned that Rivers Alive in Georgia is an annual volunteer waterway cleanup event, that's target, all waterways in the state, including streams, rivers, lakes, beaches, and wetlands. Whereas October 25th. 2025 is the 53rd anniversary of the Clean Water Act and the International Day of Worldwide Monitoring. Now, therefore, MPT Rene' Harwell do hereby proclaim October 25th as Rivers Alive Awareness Day on the 14th of October, 2025, and call this observance to the attention of our citizens.
9. Katelyn Esters with the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission ("LCPC") came before Council for Postal Hive Business License & Sign Permit. Postal Hive is a mail and shipping retailer that is going to be a small business located in one of the available units in the new Publix Plaza. LCPC recommendation for the business license application for the Postal Hive is approval. *Councilman Patel made a motion to approve. Councilman Logan seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* Postal Hive sign permit type us flat routed individual letters, and logo. Material Aluminum and dimensions of signage as a whole: 4'6 x 14" LCPC recommendation for the sign permit for the Postal Hive is approval. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
10. Katelyn Esters also came before Council with Ms. Janet Lane Spencer who has applied for a business license for a new type A home occupation to be called Tenaj Digital Image & Services LLC, offering digital imaging products, logos, and services through an exclusively online sales format. LCPC recommendation for the business license application for Tenaj Digital Image & Services LLC is approval. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to approve. Councilman Patel seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
11. Shy Duncan coordinates the Coastal Incentive Grant Program. The Coastal Incentive Grant is a competitive pass-through subgrant program made possible by, grant to GA DNR from the NOAA. Approximately \$750,000 is available annually for subgrants, which is about 40% of the overall annual federal grant. These dollars are then passed through to available communities and or research institutions. Projects can apply for a two-year project, which is the maximum term with up to \$160,000 available for one project. All CIG projects require a one-to-one non-federal match, which can be derived from cash or in-kind contributions of land, materials and or volunteer services. Cycle 29 process has started. The RFP went out on September 24th, and we are accepting pre-application on our portal. Pre-app applications are due December 5th. Council asked if she would be willing to come back to do a mini workshop with the City and County for which she agreed.
12. Mr. Joseph Mosley – Liberty County Board of Commissioners came before the Council to discuss the County's decision to end residential solid waste collection for the City of Flemington effective December 31st, citing difficulties with truck access on narrow streets. He reviewed concerns regarding the transition to Atlantic Waste, including the impact on commercial accounts, a potential \$5,000 monthly revenue loss, and uncertainty about landfill arrangements. He noted that solid waste revenues support several county programs and acknowledged the City's new franchise fee agreement with Atlantic Waste. Mr. Mosley stated that if the transition extends beyond December 31st, the County is willing to "stand in the gap" to ensure citizens are properly served. After further discussion the City's Attorney Craig Stafford and the Council decided to table the conversation, a discussion will be done in the next couple of weeks.
13. World of Beer (WOB)
Councilman Edwards reported that World of Beer has consistently failed to pay its alcohol tax. Mayor Pro Tem Harwell noted that a notice was sent to the owner requesting payment. Councilman Edwards stated that despite communication with the business, payment remains outstanding, with the owner citing accounting issues as the reason for delay. The Council agreed that the owner is responsible for timely payment, and that continued excuses are unacceptable. It was recommended that another letter be

issued, the matter be placed on the November agenda, and that a late penalty be assessed, possible suspension of the alcohol license, and a revision to the ordinance be considered. Attorney Craig Stafford supported these actions, and MPT Harwell will work on drafting the letter.

Business in Progress-Status update

- Solid Waste on Hold
- CPA & Auditor Award, Signed w/VAAS-taking care of the audit
- Street Name: Old McLarrys Rd (MPT said a sign is needed)

Councilwoman Evans asked why the street sign says West Oglethorpe instead of East Oglethorpe. Tim Byler said he will reach out to CDC-Hemp to discuss/resolve error.

Work in Progress-update

564 Tremain Drive:

- Ongoing issue with drainage on Mr. Godwin's property.
- A permanent solution needs to be implemented.
- He prefers the fence remain in place and not be taken down.
- Property was built on an easement; drainage runs underneath, causing recurring maintenance issues.
- Mr. Godwin unable to attend meetings due to health concerns.
- Matter needs to be addressed.
- MPT directed that a letter be sent to Mr. Godwin regarding the issue.

Engineering Report- M.E. Sack Engineering

- Striping work done this week.
- Additional cleanup still required; asphalt concerned about the driveway.
- Once the project list is finalized, it will be submitted to them.
- Timeline discussed – MPT requested a definite completion date.
- MPT noted work has been inconsistent; advised holding the contractor to a set deadline.
- It was noted that the contractor has been warned before; issue with repeat business.
- 30-day deadline discussed for project completion.
- Assistance from attorney confirmed; contractor agreed to pay \$300 per day in liquidated damages if deadlines are not met.
- Sidewalk construction completed; overall maintenance looks good.

14. *Councilman Logan made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purposes of Real Estate and Personnel. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved, the motion passed and Executive Session began at 5:56 p.m. Open session resumed at 6:12 p.m.*

15. *The meeting adjourned at 6:13 pm.*