

FLEMINGTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

February 13, 2018

PRESENT: Mayor Paul Hawkins
Mayor Pro Tem Palmer Dasher
Council Member Donnie Smith
Council Member David Edwards
Council Member Gail Evans
Council Member Keith Moran

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

ABSENT: Council Member Rene Harwell

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Paul Hawkins on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 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 presented. Councilman Moran seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.*
4. Deputy Eric Allen provided council with a law enforcement report for the month of January.
5. Council reviewed the City Expense Report for January.
6. LCPC – Gabby Hartage
 - a. Request by Brian Haney for a business license for Trinity EMS Billing and Consulting at 1661 E Oglethorpe Hwy. They work with insurance companies with medical billing as well as non-emergent medical transportation. They will have 2 vehicles parked on the side of the building. The property is zoned as B-1 (neighborhood commercial). LCPC recommended approval. *Councilwoman Smith moved to approve the business license. Motion was seconded by Councilman Edwards. All approved. Motion passed.*
 - b. Request by Brian Haney with Trinity EMS Billing and Consulting for a window sign. They would like to use the vinyl letting on the window and door. They have a 600 sq. foot store frontage, with signage request of 56 sq. ft. which does meet the ordinance requirements. LCPC recommends approval. *Councilman Edwards motioned to approve the sign request. Councilman Moran seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.*
7. Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) – Bob Sprinkel – He encouraged council to appoint a representative from Flemington to work with the GICH team. He informed council of the goal or mission of the GICH team, as well as many programs that they offer to assist applicants with low to moderate income housing, renovations, etc. He also informed council of an Heirs Property Workshop that will be on June 9, 2018 to provide education to the public.
8. New Business

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- a. Heritage Bank CD – Mayor Hawkins asked City Clerk Lori Taylor to provide information regarding the CD that is currently with the Heritage Bank. Ms. Taylor explained that the CD is going to reach its maturity on March 4, 2018 and will be available to renew, withdraw, etc. She asked for guidance as to council's wishes for the CD. After some discussion about rates with various banks, *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to explore other bank options and to move to the bank with the highest offered rate. Motion was seconded by Councilman Edwards. All approved. Motion passed.*

9. Old Business

- a. Construction Projects Updates – Trent Long was present to update council on the progress of the development of Tranquil South. He stated that they are in the process of making construction plans and that they are a little behind due to the topography survey. Marcus Sack update council on both Savannah Commons/Flemington Village and Flemington Oaks. He stated that in the Savannah Commons development, they have been timbering and they are still working with GDOT for approval on the entrance road. He stated that the Flemington Oaks development is nearing completion and the final plat documents will be coming before council next month.
- b. Committees Update – Mayor Hawkins update council on the current committees and boards that Flemington is represented on.
 - Transit Steering Committee– Paul Hawkins and Palmer Dasher
 - HAMPO Citizens Advisory – Tim Byler
 - HAMPO TCC – David Edwards
 - HAMPO Policy – Paul Hawkins
 - Water Resource Technical Coordinating – Keith Moran
 - Water Resource Council – Paul Hawkins
 - KLB – Rene Harwell
 - LCPC Governing Board – Paul Hawkins
 - LCPC Technical Advisory Committee – Paul Hawkins
 - LCCVB Governing Board – Paul Hawkins

Mayor Hawkins suggested that any councilmember can attend meetings to get informed of the goings on the city and county. Mayor Pro Tem Dasher requested that anyone attending a meeting on behalf of the city to report back to council after attending the meetings. Mayor Hawkins encouraged council to contact the clerk with any questions or concerns about anything in the city.

- c. GA Power streetlights – Mayor Hawkins updated council on the changing of the streetlights to LED under GA Power. The process was begun under Mayor Martin, and has moved into the next phase of implementation. He also stated that a new streetlight was needed at the entrance of the Baconfield Subdivision. *Mayor Pro Tem Dasher motioned to add a power pole at the Baconfield entrance, seconded by Councilman Edwards. All approved. Motion passed Attorney Craig Stafford stated that the added streetlight was not an agenda item, therefore could not be voted on. He suggested that council withdraw the vote and do it at a later meeting when it can be an agenda item. Mayor Pro Tem Dasher withdrew his previous motion and table it to a future meeting.*
- d. Personnel Policy – Postpone to a later date.
- e. Hotel/Motel Tax Discussion – Councilwoman Smith stated that she had some questions and concerns as to the voting process of the LCCVB and whether the LCCVB vote must be a unanimous vote. Attorney Craig Stafford clarified that the By Laws state that a quorum must be present, which is three out of four parties, and that the vote must be unanimous. It also states that a vote can be made by phone if absence is required. Councilwoman Evans asked if a designee can vote in Mayor's place. Mr. Stafford said that he may appoint someone and it must be stated on the record during the vote. Councilwoman Smith said that council needs to look out for the best interest of Flemington as well as the County for use of the Hotel/Motel money, and that council may want to look at a possible qualified project that could compete for the use of the extra tax money. Leah Poole stated that there is a project on the table that will be discussed at the

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County-wide Workshop. She said that it is a possible event/convention center and that it is in the very early stages of information gathering. Mayor Pro Tem Dasher shared his idea of building a museum for Flemington.

- f. Councilman Edwards stated that council needs to get serious about the growth of Flemington very soon. He asked about the possibility of implementing Impact fees to offset costs of the growth of the city. Mr. Stafford stated that the impact fee possibility is already being researched and will be brought to council soon. He stated that a meeting with Mayor Hawkins, Mr. Ricketson, Ms. Taylor, and himself is scheduled for February 20, 2018 to continue gathering more information to provide to council.
 - g. Mayor Pro Tem Dasher discussed the City Charter and the need for updating it. Council was provided with a binder with a copy of the current charter as well as a copy of the GMA Model Charter. He asked that council begin the process of becoming familiar with the charter and doing some research into needed changes. He proposed having a series of workshops to work on the charter. Mayor Hawkins suggested having a facilitator involved in the process. Mayor Pro Tem Dasher suggested that the process begin without a facilitator, using the provided model. Council discussed options for scheduling workshops and concluded that morning, half-day workshops would be preferable to everyone.
10. Council Comments
- a. Councilwoman Evans shared information that she received from the Historical Preservation Meeting that she attended. She stated that in the coming months, a photographer would be in the area taking pictures of historical buildings.
 - b. Councilman Moran asked that everyone keep the Ryon and Mattingly families in your thoughts and prayers.
 - c. Mayor Pro Tem Dasher inquired about council receiving 1099's for 2017. Larry Golden was present and stated that he would ensure that they were sent out as soon as possible.
11. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 p.m. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Smith. All agreed. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.*