



"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
JULY 14TH, 2020



PRESENT AT CITY HALL: Mayor Paul Hawkins
Council Member Rene Harwell
Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk
Deputy SGT Grant Porter, Liberty County Sheriff's Office

**PRESENT VIA ZOOM:
(VIDEO CONFERENCING)** Mayor Pro Tem Palmer Dasher
Council Member Gail Evans
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, July 14th, 2020 at 4:36 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 Councilman Dasher, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Mayor Hawkins.
3. Mayor Hawkins welcomed all attendees, both in person and on Zoom. He asked that participants keep their sound muted until they wanted to speak.
4. *Councilman Edwards motioned to dispense with the reading of the June minutes and accept them as written. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
5. SGT Grant Porter was in attendance to provide Council with a list of law enforcement statistics for the month of June.
6. Ms. Leah Poole, CEO of the Liberty County Convention and Visitors Bureau, came before Council via Zoom to present her bi-annual report. The slideshow presentation included the accomplishments and the milestones achieved by the organization over the previous six months.
7. Mr. David Baldwin from the Georgia Department of Transportation ("GDOT") was present in person at City Hall to request the donation or sale of 0.166 acres of property owned by the City that was needed for signalization in McLarry's Curve. The parcel was labeled 20A.
8. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to move the Executive Session to the end of the Agenda. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
9. Two representatives from the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission ("LCPC") came before Council via Zoom with several items of business. First,

- a. Ms. Mardee Sanchez presented a request from RTS Homes, Inc. for approval for a revision of the preliminary plat for thirty-nine single-family lots on OC Martin, Jr. Dr. in the Tranquil South subdivision. The requested revision of the plat was to increase the number of Patio lots by three, with an equal number of single-family lots eliminated. *Councilwoman Smith made a motion to approve the revision to the preliminary plat with standard conditions. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed. **Councilwoman Smiley recused herself completely due to conflict of interest. ***
 - b. After the preliminary plat revision approval, Ms. Sanchez requested final plat approval for the thirty-nine (39) patio-style lots on OC Martin Jr, Dr. in the Tranquil South subdivision. *Councilwoman Harwell made a motion to approve the final plat with standard and special conditions and acceptance of the dedications for the streets and drainage easements. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed. **Councilwoman Smiley recused herself completely due to conflict of interest. ***
 - c. Next, Ms. Gabriele Hartage then came on camera to present the amendment to the Transient Merchant Ordinance which consisted of the addition of provisions for food trucks. The permit would be available for up to thirty (30) days at a time with the cost of \$30.⁰⁰ per day, not to exceed \$500.⁰⁰ for the month. A \$60.⁰⁰ administrative fee would also be applicable. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to adopt the amendment to the Transient Merchant Ordinance. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
10. Ms. Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk
- a. Council reviewed the Expense Report for the month of June.
 - b. Ms. Gordon reported that Flemington's hotel reporting was above average for the state, however, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to cause severe impact to hotel/motel tax remittance nationwide. Council was updated that NAVKA, LLC had satisfied their arrears.
 - c. The Q4FY20 financial review was then presented to Council. Ms. Gordon reported that the City was evenly balanced between revenue and expenditures.
 - i. *Mayor Hawkins opened the budget public hearing at 5:39 p.m. Hearing no public comments, Mayor Hawkins closed the budget hearing at 5:39 p.m.*
 - d. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to adopt the FY21 Budget. Councilman Edwards seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
11. **New Business:**
- a. Due to the rapid acceleration of coronavirus spread in Liberty County, Mayor Hawkins and City Attorney, Mr. Craig Stafford presented Council with a draft of a Face Covering Executive Order which would require the wearing of a face covering in public when social distancing was not feasible. The general consensus was to allow a judge to impose fines of up to \$1000.⁰⁰. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to approve the Face Covering Executive Order with an emphasis on education and voluntary compliance. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
12. **Unfinished Business:**
- a. Mr. Marcus Sack, the City's Engineer, came before Council via teleconferencing to report that the Survey Phase for the paving of Kallquist Dr. had been completed.
 - b. Mr. Sack stated that property acquisition was not necessary, however, Mr. Kristopher Hart (an overseas contractor) and Ms. Catherine Smiley would need to grant easement to the City for the realigned cul-de-sac. Mr. Sack stated that he is ready to begin the bid process. *Councilwoman Harwell made a motion to proceed with the Design and Bid Phase of the Kallquist paving project. Councilman Edwards seconded the motion. All approved, the motion passed. **Councilwoman Smiley recused herself completely due to conflict of interest. ***

c. Mayor Hawkins reported that he had been in contact with Liberty County Solid Waste and he was awaiting a) the cost to the resident and b) the “service charge” that the County would collect for processing the billing for the City of Flemington.

13. Mr. Jody Smiley came before Council via Zoom to give Council the opportunity to extend the gravity sewer from his last lot on Old Hines Rd. to a portion of the City’s property directly next to it for future use. Mr. Smiley stated that the cost to the City from Palm Coast would be \$9743.⁰⁰, which is \$27.⁰⁰/ft. x 200 ft. plus the cost of the manhole. Mayor Hawkins confirmed with Mr. Kelly Davis that the expenditure would be SPLOST eligible. *Councilman Dasher made a motion to approve the extension of the sewer line to the City’s property. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed. **Councilwoman Smiley recused herself completely due to conflict of interest. ***

14. Executive Session – *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of real estate. Councilman Edwards seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed. Executive Session began at 6:43 p.m.*

Councilwoman Evans made a motion to resume Open Session. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed at 6:48 p.m.

Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to accept the offer from GDOT of \$2,300.⁰⁰ for parcel 20A. Councilman Dasher seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.

15. **Adjourn:** *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Edwards. All approved. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.*

Respectfully Prepared and Submitted by:


Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk

Approved by City Council: August 11th, 2020 as ~~written~~/corrected.



Individuals with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities are required to contact the ADA Coordinator at 912-877-3223 promptly to allow the City to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.