



"Preserving Our Heritage, Shaping
Our Future"

THE CITY OF

Flemington

GEORGIA

CITY HALL
156 Old Sunbury Road
Flemington, GA 31313



Paul Hawkins, Mayor

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 9th, 2021 at 4:30 pm.

LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Flemington, GA 31313 • Public Participation via Zoom & Facebook Live

Present at LaQuinta: Mayor Paul Hawkins
Councilman David Edwards
Councilman Hasit Patel
Councilwoman Leigh Smiley
Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk
SGT Jason Colvin, Liberty County Sheriff's Office

Present via Zoom: Mayor Pro Tem Palmer Dasher
(VIDEO CONFERENCING) Councilwoman Gail Evans
Craig Stafford, City Attorney

Absent: Councilwoman Rene' Harwell

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Paul Hawkins on Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 at 4:34 p.m. in the conference room at LaQuinta Inn & Suites in Flemington, GA. A quorum necessary to conduct business was visibly present, attended both in-person and via Zoom.
2. Mayor Hawkins welcomed all attendees, both in person and virtually. Zoom participants were instructed to keep their sound muted until they needed to speak.
3. The invocation was given by Councilman Dasher and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Hawkins.
4. *Councilman Dasher made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 12th, 2021 Council Meeting as written. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

Councilman Dasher made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 26th, 2021 Public Services Feedback Workshop as written. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.
5. SGT Jason Colvin was in attendance to provide Council with a list of law enforcement statistics for the month of January.
6. Council reviewed the Expense Report for the month of January.

7. Mr. Marcus Sack, interim City Engineer, reported that the bid opening for the paving of Kallquist Drive resulted in three qualified bids. Taylors Creek Construction Co. bid \$181,737, McLendon Enterprises Inc. bid \$227,596 and Y-Delta bid \$229,443. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to award the contract to the lowest bidder, Taylors Creek Construction Co. Councilman Dasher seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* Mr. Sack shared that construction would likely begin in early April due to the wet season.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Ms. Gabby Hartage with the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission (“LCPC”) came before Council with two items of business.

First was a permit application to repair a billboard which was submitted by Mr. Ben Jones of BeSeen Outdoors, Inc., who was attending the meeting via Zoom. Ms. Hartage reported that the wood-frame billboard was damaged beyond repair during a heavy wind storm. When the LCPC became aware that Mr. Jones began reconstruction of the billboard, he was verbally notified by the Construction Inspector that a permit was required and for Mr. Jones to stop working on the sign until the Flemington City Council meeting. However, Mr. Jones continued construction of the billboard and therefore a stop work order was posted on the billboard. The LCPC recommended disapproval of the permit based on City ordinances; specifically, the signs non-conformity, the amount of damage sustained (50% or more), construction materials, safety hazards, zoning and proximity to another billboard. Ms. Hartage stated that the entire sign would have to be removed. *Councilman Dasher made a motion to disapprove the repair permit for BeSeen Outdoor, Inc. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

Next, Ms. Hartage presented a home-based business license request for Brain Pickers, Inc. at 42 Sydney Ct. The premise of the business is to offer childcare providers continuing education to fulfill State requirements. The owner, Mr. Demmentrice Jefferson, holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Education and a Master’s Degree in Education. Mr. Jefferson was available during the Zoom call to introduce himself to the Council and to answer any questions they had. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to approve the home-based business license for Brain Pickers, Inc. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

- b. Mayor Hawkins introduced the FY20 Draft Capital Improvement Element (“CIE”) to the Council. *Mayor Hawkins opened the Public Hearing regarding the Draft CIE at 5:26 p.m. Hearing no comments, the hearing was closed at 5:27 p.m. Councilwoman Evans made a motion to transmit the FY20 Capital Improvement Element to the Coastal Regional Commission. Councilman Edwards seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* Mayor Hawkins relayed that he had spoken to the Department of Community Affairs who had given him some examples of Impact Fee eligible expenses.
- c. The Call of Notice for the November Election Resolution was presented to Council, having met the publication requirement on January 27th, 2021. The Resolution included qualifying fees at \$306 for Mayor and \$162 for City Council, with a qualifying period from August 16th through 20th from 8:30 to 4:30 (closed for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.) at Flemington City Hall. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to adopt the Call of Notice Resolution. Councilman Dasher seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
- d. Mayor Hawkins reported that the City’s Charter was turning 80 years old on February 18th. He said that an article would be sent to the Coastal Courier to commemorate the occasion.
- e. Next on the agenda was preliminary information regarding a double-sided reader board for City Hall. Mayor Hawkins had located a sign company that had done business with a plethora of brands

and companies who are recognizable worldwide. While the general consensus was favorable for the reader boards, it was requested to be tabled to see if they could be sourced locally.

- f. The Mayor notified Council that he would have an upcoming meeting with Georgia Department of Transportation (“GDOT”) regarding possible grant opportunities for a bike lane on Old Sunbury Rd.

9. BUSINESS IN PROGRESS

Status Update(s)

- a. As requested in a previous Council meeting, a draft Request for Proposals for the City Engineer position had been drafted by the LCPC and would be sent to the Council for input.

No Update(s)

- a. Old Sunbury Rd. to a State Road (next update expected in 2023)
- b. Millage Rate

10. COMPLETED BUSINESS

- a. Mayor Hawkins reported that the exterior of the front of City Hall had been repainted.
- b. The City had paid its last invoice for city wide Solid Waste.

11. Mayor Hawkins and Councilman Dasher administered the City Clerk’s annual performance evaluation. *Councilwoman Smiley made a motion to approve the City Clerk’s annual review and increase the Clerk’s compensation to \$17.66 per hour. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*

12. *Councilman Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Smiley seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.*

Respectfully Prepared and Submitted by:



Jenelle Gordon, City Clerk

Approved by City Council: March 9th, 2021 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