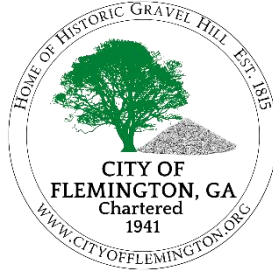


*"Preserving Our Heritage,
Shaping Our Future"*

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

June 11th, 2024 at 4:30 PM.

FLEMINGTON CITY HALL • 156 OLD SUNBURY RD.
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN PERSON

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

Present via Phone: None

Absent: None

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Council of the City of Flemington was called to order by Mayor Paul Hawkins on Tuesday, June 11th, 2024 at 4:30 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. The invocation was given by Mayor Hawkins and the Pledge of Allegiance was said in unison.
4. *Councilman Logan made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 14th, 2024 meeting as corrected to add Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
5. LT Anthony Gallob with the LCSO gave a report for the month of May. He reported that stats were declining and the new LEO ("law enforcement officer") truck funded by ARPA funds was on the way. A three-person panel was created to interview candidates for the second LEO consisting of MPT Edwards, Councilman Logan and Councilwoman Smiley.
6. Council reviewed the May 2024 General Fund transaction report and balance sheet. *Councilwoman Evans made a motion to have a budget special called meeting prior to the budget hearing. Councilwoman Harwell seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.* Councilwoman Evans requested quarterly financial reports starting with FY25. Councilwoman Harwell agreed that Mr. Larry Golden with Golden & Associates, the city's CPA firm, could produce those reports quarterly. Mr. Larry Golden was in attendance and stated that he would give a presentation at the budget special called meeting and a three-person panel would be necessary to maintain compliance with the audit process.

7. Mr. Freddie Broome, Director of Equity & Inclusion with EMBRACE (a Georgia Municipal Association initiative) was in attendance and gave a presentation about his City of Civility program. He stated that he assists cities by mediating retreats and often hosts free training in district 12. He reviewed the 9 pillars of civility and the civility pledge. While the cut off for recognition at the annual conference in Savannah had expired, working together and utilizing the available training could result in the city being recognized in January at Cities United in Atlanta.
8. Ms. Leah Poole with the Liberty County Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureau came before Council to report on the progress of the Liberty County Event Center. She shared that the event center has been in the works for the last decade. While there is a need for a center – there is not a consensus on what type (i.e. community, event, etc.) The site selection needs to be near hotels and restaurants. There would be a need to create a Conference and Tourism Authority with all pertinent stakeholders and an Executive Director/CEO. She shared that funding from Fort Stewart for the construction is not legally possible, but they would welcome the space to use for their events. This topic will be revisited at the County retreat in the fall.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- i. Mr. Jeff Ricketson with the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission (“LCPC”) came before Council with a sign permit to change the sign face for Connection Church at 115 Patriots Trail. There would be permanent signage in three places – one monument sign in the yard, one on the building and one facing Vaden Nissan. *Councilwoman Harwell made a motion to approve the sign permit. MPT Edwards seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.*
- ii. Mr. Hardy with H&H Resources presented several options for speed humps in the city. He shared that speed bumps are more aggressive and speed humps slow traffic by 15-20 mph. The speed humps are about two inches high and will not damage a regular vehicle unless the vehicles suspension is altered. He does not recommend curb-to-curb speed humps but recommends end caps. His speed humps are anchored in the road, adhesive is also used in conjunction, and are removable and relocatable. He does caution that there should be a comprehensive traffic study before installation. He stated that the cost is negotiable and discounts are given with the purchase of add-ons like signage. If a portion of the speed hump needs repaired, a section can be replaced. Councilwoman Evans requested references.

10. BUSINESS IN PROGRESS – Status Update(s)

- None

No Update(s) Available

- Engineering Report
- Old Sunbury Rd. to State Rd.
- Law Enforcement Office Expansion (*on hold*)
- Millage Rate – R. Harwell (*on hold*)

11. ON THE HORIZON

a. June 2024

- 19th – City Hall Closed in Observance of Juneteenth
- 25th @ 10 am. – Bid Opening for WM, JM & OSR
- 21st – 25th – GMA Annual Conference in Savannah
- 28th – Personal Financial Disclosures due NLT noon.

b. July 2024

- 4th – City Hall Closed in Observance of Independence Day

12. ADDED WITHOUT NOTICE:

- Mayor Hawkins reported that Mr. Henry Roberts, who had been the city custodian for many, many years, had passed away suddenly. The Mayor asked the Council to approve \$500 for Mr. Roberts widow and children. MPT Edwards and Councilwoman Smiley both recommended sending flowers, but that a monetary donation was not appropriate.

13. *MPT Edwards made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Patel seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.*