



**City of Flowery Branch
City Council Retreat
Saturday, February 18, 2023, 8:00 AM
Georgia Mountains Regional Commission
1310 W. Ridge Road, Gainesville, GA 30503**



Present: Mayor Asbridge and Council Members Joe Anglin, Oliver McClellan, William McDaniel, Joseph Mezzanotte, and Chris Mundy.

Also present were City Manager Tonya Parrish, City Clerk Shelia Cooper, Planning Director Rich Atkinson, Public Works and Utilities Director Bill Whidden, Finance Director Matt Hamby, Community Relations Director Renee Carden, Police Chief Chris Hulse, Attorney Karen Thomas, Attorney Ron Bennett, and Public Services Assistant Michael Hourihan.

CALL TO ORDER:

City Manager Parrish introduced speaker Michael Hourihan of Carl Vinson Institute of Government. Mr. Hourihan explained the roles and responsibilities of elected officials and municipal governance. Governance can be described as the practice by which an organization is controlled and operates, and the mechanisms by which it, and its people, are held accountable. The methods used for the decisions and actions of the people who are in the positions of responsibility and authority to provide direction with:

- Transparency
- Ethics
- Fairness / Equitable
- Predictability: Rules, Procedures and Defined Roles

Council and staff participated in break out sessions and came up with ideas for a vision and mission statement.

After lunch, Mr. Hourihan continued with the priorities for the City of Flowery Branch over the next twelve to eighteen months. Council and staff broke into groups again to list strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.