

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Monday, February 5, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof the meeting of the Mayor and Council convened at 5:30 p. m. on Monday, February 5, 2024 in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, 203 Elbert Street with Mayor Graves presiding.

Present were: Council Members Butler, Burton, Colquitt, Prince and Parham; City Manager Dunn, City Clerk Churney and City Attorney Jenkins.

Mayor Graves called the meeting to order and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. City Attorney Jenkins led the assembly in prayer.

Council Member Butler motioned to approve the minutes of the January meeting, seconded by Council Member Colquitt, and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Colquitt, Prince, Parham).

Mr. Tyler Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, gave an update on the financial condition of the Elbert Memorial Hospital.

There were no Ordinances or Resolutions to consider at the meeting.

Council Member Parham motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Prince and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Colquitt, Prince, Parham).

1. Authorized the City Manager to execute a new contract with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency for Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance. The existing agreement expires March 2, 2024.
2. Authorized the closing of various streets on May 24, 2024 for the ECCHS Graduation Exercise.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

1. Financial Report ending December 31, 2023.
2. Monthly departmental report, as follows:

CITY CLERK:

The department continues to receive Business Occupation Tax and Regulatory Fees payments for calendar 2024. Renewals are due no later than March 31, 2024.

The Elberton Sister City Executive Committee met to discuss the 2024 summer exchange program. Applications will be accepted at City Hall beginning February 12 until February 26. The Mure-cho Committee decided to select five students and a chaperone; therefore, Elberton will be doing the same.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

The department participated in the Job Fair at the Elbert County Comprehensive High School along with a dozen other local businesses.

The department will be speaking to the senior class later this month to discuss employment opportunities after graduation from high school.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 67 Alarm Calls for the month of January, 2024. These calls consisted of 39 Medical Emergencies, 2 Building Fires, 3 Trash Fires, 1 Vehicle Fire, 4 Electrical Shortage Calls, 3 Vehicle Accidents, 1 Flammable Liquid Spill, 10 Aircraft Standbys, 1 Smoke Removal, and 3 False Alarms. Two Burn Permits were issued. The Fire Department conducted 494 hours of in-house training.

BUILDING INSPECTIONS:

The building inspection department issued 9 permits from December 26, 2023 to January 29, 2024. Permits issued were 1 Electrical Permit, 3 Plumbing Permits, 2 Reroof Permits, and 3 Building Permits.

During this same period there were 3 Electrical Inspections, 1 Plumbing Inspection, and 2 Building Inspections.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

The Elberton Police Department released their monthly activity for the month of December 2023. The department recorded:

- 780 Calls for Service
- 217 Vehicle Traffic Stops
- 78 Incident Reports were filed
- 151 City Court cases made
- 15 Traffic accidents were investigated
- 59 People were arrested for various charges
- 8 Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
- 0 Department Training Hours

The Group A crimes of the (NIBRS) National Incident Based Reporting System are sent to the FBI on a monthly basis. The Group A crimes for **December 2023** are as follows:

	<u>December</u>	<u>November</u>
Kidnapping:	0	0
Rape Offenses:	1	1
Robbery:	0	0
Assault:	12	13
Arson:	0	0
Burglary:	0	2
Larceny/Theft:	9	8
Motor Vehicle Theft:	1	0
Counterfeiting/Forgery	1	2
Fraud Offenses:	2	3
Stolen Property Offenses:	0	1
Destruction/ Damage/ Vandalism:	1	3
Drug Offenses:	7	17
Weapons Violations:	1	3
Animal Cruelty:	0	3
Sex Offenses:	0	1
Prostitution Offenses:	0	0

WATER & SEWER:

The crews repaired water leaks at 600 Abernathy Circle, 435 Elbert Street, 309 Elbert Street, 253 Elbert Street, Petersburg Road, 390 West Railroad Street, 68 East Clairmont Avenue, Worley Street and 110 Hillside Way. The crews cleaned and inspected sewer mains on Ridgecrest Drive, Cole Street, Brookhaven Circle and Burke Street.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division performed the Sanitary Survey and inspection of the Water Filter Plant and water distribution system on Wednesday January 24, 2024.

ELECTRIC:

The Electric Department installed 11 new poles on a joint use project with Hart EMC on Campbell Street Extension. This project will removing an existing line from a swampy right-of-way by Fortson’s Creek and move it to the paved road. The department also replaced 2 bad poles on Joru Road and installed a new service pole on Calhoun Falls Hwy. The department finished out the month by hooking up new services at Old South Granite and Whitlow Electric.

GAS:

The Georgia Public Service Commission conducted an inspection of the Drug and Alcohol Testing program. The inspection was completed with no violations or notice of concern.

A proposal has been made to two property owners off Brewers Mill Road to extend natural gas service to serve two new eight-house chicken farms.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Along with monthly routine maintenance, the Street Department and Construction Crew continued work on the first and second floors of the Bailey Building on the Public Square.

ELBERT THEATRE & ELBERTON ARTS CENTER:

There were 31 events at the Elbert Theatre & Arts Center from Dec 29-Jan 25 including COE's *Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom*, *The Shift* & *Mean Girls* movies; Encore Productions' *Pippin* rehearsals & actor workshop; ETF's Movie Field Trips, paint class & volunteer dinner, COC's Twilight Stroll and ECCHS' football awards program.

Approximately 706 patrons visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between Dec. 29 and Jan. 25.

MAIN STREET ELBERTON:

During the month of January annual reports are being submitted that are required by Georgia Main Street. Every four years our region is required to give an in-person presentation showing everything that our downtown has accomplished over the past four years. We are scheduled to give that presentation on Thursday, February 29th at 9:00 a.m. at Hotel Indigo in downtown Athens.

Main Street has completed its 2024 event calendar and is excited to kick off our events with our 3rd Annual Shamrock Shuffle that will take place on our downtown square, Friday, March 15 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

There were no matters to be considered by City Attorney Jenkins.

Mayor Graves expressed condolences for Brad Alexander and Evan Alexander in the loss of their mother and grandmother, Sylvia Ann Alexander. He also expressed condolences for Brad Burton and family for the passing of Johnny Burton.

Mayor Graves also recognized that February is Black History Month and stated that he would be signing a Proclamation recognizing the historical event.

There being no further business to come before Council, upon proper motion and second the meeting the Mayor and Council was adjourned.