

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE ELBERTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**Monday, October 1, 2007 – 5:30 p.m.**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council convened at 5:30 p. m. on Monday, October 1, 2007 in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 203 Elbert Street with Mayor Guest presiding.

Present were: Council Members Butler, Colquitt, Hunt, Seymour, and Paul; City Attorney Phelps, City Manager Dunn and City Clerk Churney.

Mayor Guest called the Regular Meeting to order. Mayor Pro tempore Hunt led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and Council Member Paul led the assembly in prayer.

Council Member Colquitt motioned to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2007 meeting as submitted, seconded by Mayor Pro tempore Hunt and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports. Controller Kim Greenway presented the Financial Report through August 2007 with the following net assets:

General Fund	\$ 3.47 million
Utility Fund	\$ 20.7 million
Elberton Technology Services Fund	\$ 1.7 million net loss
Solid Waste Fund	\$ 348,384
Unrestricted Investments-General Fund and Utility Fund	\$ 2.64 million
Restricted Investments (SPLOST & Utility Funds)	\$ 870,781

Mr. Stuart Lyle of 1021 Lexington Highway spoke to Council on behalf of the Elbert County Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. The Chapter wishes to add a sentence on the revolution panel of the Historic Fountain on the public square. "On February 11, 1779, Whig militia formed a superior Tory force at the mouth of Vans Creek." The Chapter would bear the expense thereof. Council informed Mr. Lyle that they would take his request into consideration.

Mayor Pro tempore Hunt placed Ordinance 2148 on Second Reading with a heading as follows:

**ORDINANCE 2148**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE OF SECTION 22, LAND USE; ARTICLE II, ZONING; AS AUTHORIZED BY AN ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA (GEORGIA LAW. 1957, PAGES 420-443) BY ADOPTING A NEW ZONING ORDINANCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Mayor Pro tempore Hunt motioned to waive the reading, seconded by Council Member Butler to waive the reading. City Manager Dunn read the heading in its entirety. Mayor Guest stated *"It is the Council's intention to waive the second reading due to this Ordinance being so lengthy that reading it in its entirety would take in excess of one hour. For the public's information: This new ordinance and the existing code will be available with the City Clerk during normal business hours for any person who wishes to view the document. The new ordinance is available on the City of Elberton's website under E-News. Also in the Clerk's office, there is a summary of the differences between the existing code and the new ordinance. Finally, there was a public hearing and council work session on this ordinance on April 17, 2007, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. The minutes of this meeting are available from the City Clerk. If no other discussion, vote on the motion to waive the reading."* Mayor Pro tempore Hunt motioned to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Council Member Butler and the Ordinance passed unanimously.

Council Member Seymour placed Ordinance 2150 on First Reading with a heading as follows:

**ORDINANCE 2150**

**AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1753 PINE NEEDLE LANE, 1736 PINE NEEDLE LANE AND 1491 FAIRWAY WOODS DRIVE PURSUANT TO THAT CERTAIN ACT (GEORGIA LAW. 1962, P. 119) AUTHORIZING SAME UPON WRITTEN AND SIGNED APPLICATION OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF SAID LAND; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

City Manager Dunn read the Ordinance in its entirety.

Council Member Paul introduced the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS:** The City of Elberton in May of 1982 determined that participation in a Sister City Program would be beneficial to the citizens of Elberton; and

**WHEREAS:** Following careful search, Sister City International, Mure-cho, and the City of Elberton agreed that Mure and Elberton were a perfect match due to our similar characteristics and mutual interests; and

**WHEREAS:** In 1983 the Mure-Elberton Sister City Program was formalized; and

**WHEREAS:** During the past twenty-five years this relationship has grown stronger with exchanges between our citizens; and

**WHEREAS:** The City of Elberton and Mure-cho wish to commemorate the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Sister City Program in our two communities; and

**WHEREAS:** These two communities wish to continue this program and more importantly, the relationships established between our people for many years to come.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton that an official delegation of adult members of the Elberton community will travel to Mure-cho to officially celebrate the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Program.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton that this delegation will greet the people of Mure in the name of all citizens of Elberton and express our appreciation for the past relationship as well as our wish to continue the program for many years to come.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton that this delegation will present a gift to the people of Mure in honor of this Twenty-Fifth Anniversary.

City Manager Dunn read the Ordinance in its entirety. Council Member Paul motioned to adopt the Resolution as presented, seconded by Council Member Colquitt and the motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Butler motioned to adopt the consent agenda as submitted, seconded by Council Member Paul and the motion passed unanimously.

1. Approved the expenditures that exceed the City Managers purchasing authority as follows:
2. Approved the dues, travel and training for all city departments as follows:
3. Accepted the Monthly Investment Report ending August, 2007.
4. Accepted the Trial Balance and Budget Report for the ending July, 2007.
5. Authorized the execution of the necessary documents with the Georgia DOT for an off-system safety improvement project.
6. Authorized the execution of the necessary documents with the MEAG for the supplemental power purchase contact.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports to Council:

- City Manager Dunn stated that there was an error in the newspaper pertaining to the "sewage spill" that occurred on September 16. The press release stated, "Most of the spill was contained on the grounds of the plant; however, some did reach Falling Creek." The newspaper omitted the containment portion of this statement. The spill was caused by an equipment failure when one pump check valve hung open causing the other pumps to circulate rather than pump back to the plant headworks.
- City Manager Dunn stated that Elbert County is currently in a level 4 drought. All outdoor watering is banned, unless exempted specifically in the EPD regulations. The problem has been corrected.
- City Manager Dunn stated that local advertising is now being shown on ElbertonNET on certain channels including ESPN, Discovery, USA, and HGTV. The city has reached a partnership with a provider to insert local advertising into commercial airtime on these channels. He further stated that any business interested in advertising should contact ElbertonNET Marketing Director Amy Bond.
- City Manager Dunn stated that he had recently received a price quote for implementing HDTV on ElbertonNET. Council Member Colquitt motioned to

proceed with the HDTV project, seconded by Council member Paul and the motion passed unanimously. City Manager Dunn stated that the project would be a "capital outlay" project.

- City Manager Dunn stated that the Downtown Development Authority voted to proceed with the W. O. Jones Building project utilizing the Redevelopment Fund and Revolving Loan Fund.
- City Manager Dunn stated that he had received several thank you notes from members of the Leadership GA class that visited Elberton.
- City Manager Dunn stated that there would be several groups visiting Elberton in October. The GA Trust Ramble and the Historic Preservation Commission training sponsored by GAPC.
- City Manager Dunn stated that the City had received a \$100,000 grant from the Georgia DOT for a striping project.
- City Manager Dunn wished the representatives from Elberton that were making the trip to Mure-cho, Japan for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sister City program a safe trip.
- Monthly reports and activities of the various departments.

There were no matters to be presented by the City Attorney at this time.

Matters to be considered by Council. Council discussed the following:

- Mayor Guest stated that Council had received a draft Ordinance amending the Central Purchasing System Code. He stated that the Ordinance would be on the November Agenda for first reading.
- Mayor Guest stated that Governor Sonny Perdue provided a letter to be presented to Governor Takeki Manabe of the Kagawa Prefectural, Japan recognizing the efforts of the Sister City Program as follows: *"It is an honor to congratulate Mure-cho, Japan and Elberton, Georgia on twenty-five years of friendship as sister cities. The student exchange program between Mure-cho and Elberton was recently a finalist in the Education Program category for a Governor's International Award during the World Trade Center Gala held in Atlanta, Georgia on September 15. The World Trade Center Gala is an opportunity to recognize Georgia companies, individuals and educational institutions that make significant contributions to the globalization of Georgia and to our economy. The Mure-Elberton Student Exchange Program was nominated as a result of its exemplary accomplishments in fostering international educational opportunities. The friendship forged between Mure-cho and Elberton will continue to bring about rich experiences for all the young people who participate. I know you share my pride in recognizing this successful partnership between these communities."*
- Mayor Guest thanks Council Members Colquitt and Hunt for attending the HR 900 forum.
- Council Member Butler expressed thanks to the DDA for its efforts on the W. O. Jones Building Project.
- Council Member Colquitt stated the HR 900 forum was very informative. He stated that if the bill passes it will end local control.
- Council Member Paul echoed the concerns of HR 900 bill passing. He added that "the closer government is to the people, the better it is governed".

- Mayor Guest stated that the City met with the GA DOT regarding intersections in need of turn signals at traffic lights. He stated that the one at McDonalds was already in place.

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

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk