

**CITY OF ELBERTON**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
Monday, October 5, 2020 – 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, October 5, 2020 at the Elberton Arts Center, 17 West Church Street with Mayor Guest presiding.

The City of Elberton announced September 30, 2020 a change to the location of its regular meeting of the Mayor and Council. Due to the Governor's executive order restricting public gatherings, the meeting will be held at the Elberton Arts Center, located at 17 West Church Street, which is a larger venue than City Hall.

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

Mayor Guest called the meeting to order. He led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

Council Member Butler motioned to approve the minutes of the September 14 meeting, seconded by Council Member Burton and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Colquitt, Burton, Prince, Parham).

There were no speakers from the floor.

Council Member Butler placed Ordinance 2209 on second reading to amend the Georgia Municipal Employee Benefits System (GMEBS) Master Plan Document and GMEBS Trust Agreement:

**ORDINANCE 2209**

An Ordinance to amend and restate the Retirement Plan for the Employees of the City of Elberton, Georgia in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Adoption Agreement, any Addendum to the Adoption Agreement, the Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS) Master Plan Document, and the GMEBS Trust Agreement. When accepted by the authorized officers of the City and GMEBS, the foregoing shall constitute a contract between the City and GMEBS, all as authorized and provided by O. C. G. A. 47-5-1 et seq.

City Manager Dunn read the Ordinance in its entirety at the August meeting. Council Member Butler motioned to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Council Member Prince and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Parham, Prince, Colquitt).

Council Member Parham motioned to accept the consent agenda as submitted, seconded by Council Member Burton and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Parham, Prince, Colquitt).

1. Accepted of the expenditures to exceed the city manager's purchasing authority.
2. Authorized an amendment to the FY20 budget for the general fund.
3. Accepted the millage rate.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

- Financial Report ending August 31, 2020.
- Discussion of the upcoming paving projects.
- The natural gas division was recognized by the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia for Marketing Excellence during 2019. This is the second year in a row they received this award.
- For updates on the Broadband Expansion Project visit [www.connect.elberton.net](http://www.connect.elberton.net).
- Monthly report on the activities of various departments as follows:

**CITY CLERK:**

Cindy Churney completed the Elections 201 online training. The training was conducted by the Georgia Clerks Education Institute.

Alcoholic license renewal applications will be mailed next month. The deadline to submit the 2021 renewals is November 15.

The Tree City USA recertification application and the Tree City Growth Award application was submitted this month.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR:**

The building inspection department issued 8 permits for the month of September, 2020. Permits issued: 1 Building Permit, 4 Electrical Permits, 1 Plumbing and 2 Accessory Permits. During this same period there were 3 building inspections, 6 electrical inspections, 1 plumbing inspection, 2 accessory site inspections and 12 site visits.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

The Elberton Police Department released their monthly activity for the month of August 2020. The department recorded:

884	Calls for Service
143	Vehicle Traffic Stops
95	Incident Reports were filed
98	City Court cases made
18	Traffic accidents were investigated
46	People were arrested for various charges
6	Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
108	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 August 2020 are as follows:

	August 2020	July 2020	% Change +/-
Kidnapping:	0	2	Down 100%
Rape Offenses:	2	2	No Change
Robbery:	0	0	No Change
Assault:	20	15	Up 33%
Arson	2	0	Up by two incidents
Burglary:	2	3	Down 33%
Larceny/Theft:	16	12	Up 33%
Motor vehicle theft:	1	2	Down 50%
Counterfeiting/Forgery:	1	1	No Change
Fraud Offenses:	3	3	No Change
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism:	12	6	Up 100%
Drug Offenses:	9	7	Up 28.5%
Weapons Violations:	0	0	No Change
Animal Cruelty	0	0	No Change
Sex Offenses	0	0	No Change
Prostitution Offenses	0	0	No Change

**WATER & SEWER:**

The crews repaired water leaks at Ohio Street, Calhoun Falls Highway and Sutton Way. The crews replaced the sewer lateral connection to the sewer main at Richard’s Restaurant. The crews cleaned and inspected sewer mains on Evergreen Drive and Lake Forest Drive. The crews replaced the float switches and motor starter at Hickory Drive lift station.

The crews replaced the water line feeding the chlorine feed system at the Fortson’s Creek Treatment Plant. The crews made repairs to the grease pump feed line on the #1 screw pump at the Fortson’s Creek Treatment Plant. The crews made repairs to the return sludge pump panel at the Falling Creek Treatment Plant.

The crews removed and cleaned the raw water flow meter at the Filter Plant. Start-up was completed on the new Hach NTU meters at the Filter Plant.

The #4 filter at the Filter Plant suffered a failure on September 14 when an analog output used to regulate the backwash flow to the filter failed to send a signal to the wash water valve. This caused a surge of water pressure to the bottom of the filter which damaged the under drain system. The failure to the filter was identified and taken off line. The filter is expected to be off line for approximately 3 months while repairs are made. Filters #1-#3 are functioning normally.

**ELECTRIC:**

During the month of September the Electric Department worked on the Filter Plant line rehabilitation job. This section of new line will be energized in the next couple of weeks. The department installed a new line at Oaklane Apartments due to underground wire failure.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

The Street Department painted 640 feet of yellow curbing on city streets in the area of S. Oliver Street, Lake Forest Drive, and Harmony Plaza. The new 4-way stop was installed at S. McIntosh St. and Adams St. The Construction Crew started installing new windows at the Samuel Elbert Hotel on the second floor. This will be an ongoing project.

**NATURAL GAS:**

The Gas Department completed the required inspection of regulator stations that serve 2 or more customers from the same station. The department started construction and welding two 3M meter sets for the new buildings being constructed at Athens Tech.

**MAIN STREET:**

Main Street Elberton is planning to push forward with our Candle Light Shop night and planning for it is currently underway. Main Street is also participating in the Lead Elbert program that kicked off this month through the Elbert Chamber. The program started with a two day retreat that was held on September 11-12 at the Elberton Civic Center. We will continue to meet once a month for the next year, visiting different areas of the community, with a graduation ceremony to be held in May 2021.

Main Street visited with the City of Cornelia this month and toured its downtown area and was able to meet with its Main Street manager. Ways to handle the upcoming holidays and the promotion of their businesses during the pandemic was discussed.

**ELBERT THEATRE:**

There were 21 events at the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center including ETF's paint class, Encore Productions' *Fruitcakes* rehearsals, S. Brown's wedding shower and EMH's meetings from Sept 1-28. A total of 55 patrons visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between Sept 1-28.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney:

- Dilapidated housing report.

There were no matters to be presented by Council.

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