

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Monday, December 5, 2022 – 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, December 5, 2022 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 Attorney Jenkins, City Manager Dunn and City Clerk Churney.

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 November meeting, seconded by Council Member Prince, and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Colquitt, Prince, Parham).

There were no scheduled speakers from the floor.

Council Member Prince introduced a Resolution to execute an intergovernmental agreement contract with regard to distribution of the local optional sales tax receipts, as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there currently exists two vacancies on the Elberton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) board of directors; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. Section 36-42-6 allows the governing body of the municipal corporation to appoint directors of the DDA by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and five Council Members of the City of Elberton constitute the governing body pursuant to that state law O.C.G.A. Section 36-42-3; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor respectfully submits to the Council the name of Ms. Amanda Lucas to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Samuel Vargas, term to end June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor also submits to the Council the name of Mr. Gerardo De Leon to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Susan Hill, term to end June 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the appointees meet the qualifications of being a director of the Elberton DDA in that certain state law O.C.G.A. Section 36-42-7, being that the nominees qualify as (a) persons who have an economic interest in the redevelopment and revitalization of the downtown development area.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton hereby appoint as a directors of the Elberton DDA Ms. Amanda Lucas and Mr. Gerardo De Leon.

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

Council Member Parham motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Burton and the motion passed 4-1 with Council Members Burton, Colquitt, Parham and Prince voting for the motion and Council Member Butler voting against the motion.

1. Approved the expenditures that exceed the City Manager’s purchasing authority.

Expenditures for December 2022

Department: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund 28 pole silhouettes of the “E” logo for Jones Street and College Ave. 3’ x 5’ in size.	
Vendor:	Bid Amount:

Carpenter Decorating (75 C-7 lights per)	RECOMMENDED	\$15,070.00
Holiday Designs (106 C-7 lights per)		\$18,200.00

2. Approved the alcoholic beverage licenses for calendar year 2023.

	Business Name	Business Location	Contact	Type	Classification
	3 Reinas Taqueria, LLC	113 N. McIntosh Street	Julieta Alegria Balatazar	On Premises Consumption	Beer, Distilled Spirits
	AJ Foodmart	3 Adams Street	Gopu Mitra	Retail	Beer Only
	Bills Food Mart, Inc.	243 College Ave	Thomas Puthenpura	Retail	Beer, Wine
	Edwards Package Store, Inc. dba Tae Saeng Kang Yi	583 Elbert Street	Chong Suk Yi	Retail	Beer, Wine, Distilled Spirits
	El Rinconcito Michoacano	304 Elbert Street	William Servin	On Premises Consumption	Beer Only
	Elberton Country Club, Inc.	1101 Country Club Rd	Richard Melton, Jr.	On Premises Consumption	Beer, Wine, Distilled Spirits
	Elberton Package	409 Elbert Street	Deep Patel / Neela Patel	Retail	Beer, Wine, Distilled Spirits
	Elbertorium Gas, LLC dba Petro Food Mart	310 Elbert Street	Bhargavkumar Shah	Retail	Beer, Wine
	Elks Club #1100	1008 Country Manor Ln	Gina Mincey	On Premises Consumption	Beer, Wine, Distilled Spirits
	Flat Tire & Grill, LLC	17 N. Oliver Street	Gerardo De Leon	On Premises Consumption	Beer, Wine, Distilled Spirits
	GA CVS Pharmacy # 3776	232 Elbert Street	Jessica Carroll	Retail	Beer, Wine
	Gas Express LLC	211 N. Oliver Street	Shams Nanji	Retail	Beer, Wine
	IAK, Inc. dba Richard's Restaurant	19 N. McIntosh Street	Ivy Brooks	On Premises Consumption	Beer, Wine
	Imperial Event Venue & Lounge, LLC	245 College Ave	Julieta Alegria Balatazar	On Premises Consumption	Beer, Wine & Distilled Spirits
	JJ & B Foodmart No 1 LLC	118 N. Oliver Street	Gopu Mitra	Retail	Beer Only
	JP Elberton	604 Elbert Street	Natalie Jones	Retail	Beer, Wine
	Krupa Raj, Inc.	255 College Ave	Bhavnaben Patel	Retail	Beer, Wine, Distilled Spirits
	La Fogata	235 Elbert Street	Ramon Macias	On Premises Consumption	Beer, Distilled Spirits
	PineTown Grill	531 Almond Street	Lottie P. Boazman	On Premises Consumption	Beer Only
	Quickfill Food Mart, LLC	434 Elbert St.	Shabana Lalani	Retail	Beer, Wine
	Reetixa, LLC dba Quickway of Elberton	883 Elbert Street	Shailesh Amin	Retail	Beer Only
	Samuel Elbert Hotel /DDA (Hotel Gift Shop)	4 S. Public Square	Lanier Dunn	Retail	Wine Only
	Samuel Elbert Hotel / DDA (Restaurant & Bar)	4 S. Public Square	Lanier Dunn	On Premises Consumption	Beer, Wine, Distilled Spirits
	Shakti Food Mart, Inc.	351 N. Oliver Street	Mithilesh Desai	Retail	Beer Only
	VFW Post 5456	1004 Calhoun Falls Hwy	Stark Jaudon	On Premises Consumption	Beer, Distilled Spirits
	Walgreens #11166	18 College Ave	Elizabeth Christensen	Retail	Beer, Wine
	Wal-Mart Store #1701	955 Elbert Street	Sarah Catherine Little	Retail	Beer, Wine
28	Zorain, LLC dba Super Gas	625 Elbert Street	Hasib Ur Rehman	Retail	Beer, Wine

3. Approved a temporary alcohol license for Nancy Seymour on behalf of the Elbert Memorial Hospital Foundation for on premises consumption of beer and wine on January 28, 2023 to be held at the Roc Gym located at 45 Forest Avenue, Elberton.
4. Accepted the Mayors' appointments of Mr. Zach McLanahan, Jr. and Ms. Janie R. Jones to the Elberton Housing Authority.
5. Authorized the issuance of a public assembly permit to close various streets to vehicular traffic on Friday, January 6, for the Twilight Stroll sponsored by the Elbert County Chamber of Commerce.
6. Authorized the City Manager to execute a grant contract with the Concerned Citizens of Elbert County, Inc. for the receipt and use of the American Rescue Plan Act funds.
7. Authorized the City Manager to execute a grant contract with the Concerned Men of Elbert County for the receipt and use of the American Rescue Plan Act funds.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

1. Financial Report ending October 31, 2022.
2. Monthly reports on the activities of various departments.
3. Discussion of the sale of the Old Health Department building on W. Church Street. City Manager Dunn reported that Elbert County had received a bid in the amount of \$6,056 for 27 W. Church Street known as the Old Health Department building. The Elbert County Board of Commissioners approved the sale via limited warranty deed upon the approval of the Elberton City Council. The City of Elberton would receive one-half of the bid amount if sold. City Manager Dunn stated that the property adjoins other city property and that the property alone is of valued much more than that. Council Member Burton asked if the city had a plan for the property. City Manager Dunn stated that not at this time; however, the property has set for 20 years without a plan. After discussion, Council Member Prince motioned to reject the bid and counter with an offer to Elbert County for their one-half and take possession of the property, seconded by Council Member Butler and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Colquitt, Parham, Prince).
4. Discussion of the Spec Building project in the Elberton Industrial Park. City Manager Dunn provided a construction management proposal for Speculative Building Development by Agracel, Inc. Council Member Butler motioned to authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents to proceed with the proposal as presented, seconded by Council Member Burton and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Colquitt, Parham, Prince).
5. Any other matters to be presented by the City Manager.

CITY CLERK:

The department submitted the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 to the Tax and Expenditure Center at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government as required by Georgia Law.

The department submitted the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) projects report for the year ending June 30, 2022. O.C.G.A. 48-8-122 requires this report to be published in the newspaper no later than December 31 of each year.

The department submitted alcoholic beverage license renewals for 2022 to council this month.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 45 Alarm Calls for the month of November, 2022. These calls consisted of 26 Medical Emergencies, 2 Structure Fires, 3 False Alarms, 4 Aircraft Standbys, 8 Vehicle Accidents, 1 Vehicle Fire, and 1 Chimney Fire. The department conducted 1 fire inspections, 1 Pre Plans, and issued 0 burn permits. The Fire Department also conducted 378 hours of in-house training and 0 hours out of station training for the month as well.

BUILDING INSPECTIONS:

The building inspection department issued 12 permits for the month of November, 2022. Permits issued: 3 Electrical Permits, 2 Plumbing Permits, 1 Sign Permit, 3 Building Permits, 2 Mechanical Permits, and 1 Land Disturbance Permit. During this same period there were 3 electrical inspections, 2 plumbing inspections, and 1 building inspections.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

The Elberton Police Department released their monthly activity for the month of October 2022. The department recorded:

- 1,078 Calls for Service
- 402 Vehicle Traffic Stops
- 109 Incident Reports were filed
- 365 City Court cases made
- 25 Traffic accidents were investigated
- 69 People were arrested for various charges
- 7 Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
- 166 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 October 2022 are as follows:

	<u>October</u>	<u>Sept.</u>
Kidnapping:	0	1
Rape Offenses:	0	1
Robbery:	0	0
Assault:	12	11
Arson:	0	1
Burglary:	5	1
Larceny/Theft:	9	7
Motor Vehicle Theft:	0	0
Counterfeiting/Forgery	1	1
Fraud Offenses:	1	2
Stolen Property Offenses:	3	0
Destruction/ Damage/ Vandalism:	8	5
Drug Offenses:	12	9
Weapons Violations:	0	0
Animal Cruelty:	0	0
Sex Offenses:	0	0
Prostitution Offenses:	0	0

WATER & SEWER:

The crews repaired water leaks Wilcox Heights, Pinehill Drive and Hillcrest Avenue. The crews installed a ¾ inch water tap and service at 1191 Old Middleton Road. The crews cleaned and inspected sewer mains in the northern section of the sewer system. The crews repaired a sewer manhole top and ring at the corner of Taggart Street and Martin Luther King Boulevard.

The new high service pump station and clearwell start-up was on November 14, 2022. The start-up was successful.

ELECTRIC:

The Electric Department installed Christmas decorations downtown and on the four lane. The department replaced a broken pole on Deadwyler Street that was caused by a traffic accident. The department is replacing existing street lights to LED lights. The department finished up the month by installing power to the new fire station on Mahoney Street.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Along with monthly routine maintenance, the Street Department poured concrete on S. McIntosh Street for curbing and measured areas that will be paved in 2023. The construction crew continued work on 9 N. McIntosh Street to refurbish the first floor commercial space after a long-term tenant vacated, and to prepare the second floor for apartment construction.

NATURAL GAS:

The Natural Gas Department installed two residential services, one on Edwards St. and the other on Washington Hwy. The department completed one section of the annual leak survey and started a second section.

Gas In-Home Sales and Service for FY2023

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	YTD
New Customers Installed	0	0	0	0	2								2
Existing Customers Serviced	1	0	0	1	3								5
Total	1	0	0	1	5								7

Appliances installed, repaired, replaced, or serviced for FY2023

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	YTD
Water Heaters	1	0	0	1	1								3
All Other Appliance		0	0	0	4								4
Total	1	0	0	1	5								7

MAIN STREET ELBERTON:

The 22nd Annual Fall Festival was Saturday, November 5. The turnout for the event was great with over 100 vendors on display. Foot traffic stayed steady throughout the event.

The holiday season began with the annual Candle Light Shop night on Tuesday, November 22. With the help of our merchants, local vendors and the community, this event has now outgrew the center of the downtown square and we will be looking at closing a portion of the streets for next year's event.

ELBERT THEATRE:

There were 30 events at the Elbert Theatre & Arts Center from Oct 28-Nov 22 including COE's Running the Bases, Ticket to Paradise & Black Panther movies, ETF's Trick-or-Treat, Hello, Dolly! Open reading, board meeting, and paint class; Encore Productions' White Christmas rehearsals; the Elberton Police Dept Thanksgiving meal and Advantage Behavioral movie field trip.

Approximately 1,339 patrons visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between Oct 28-Nov 22.

ELBERT HOTEL:

This report was submitted before the end of November, so the final occupancy percentage for November will appear in next month's report. Occupancy will likely exceed 53% which will be a record for November since opening in 2017.

City Attorney Jenkins gave a report on Dilapidated Housing.

There were no matters to be considered by Council.

Mayor Graves asked to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing or deliberating upon the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic officer or employee as permitted by O.C.G.A. 50-14-3. Council Member Butler motioned to close the meeting, seconded by Council Member Burton, and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Colquitt, Burton, Parham, Prince).

Council Member Butler motioned to move out of executive session and reconvene the regular meeting, seconded by Council Member Colquitt, and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Colquitt, Burton, Parham, Prince).

Mayor Graves stated that no action was taken.

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