

**CITY OF ELBERTON**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
Monday, February 3, 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, February 3, 2020 in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 203 Elbert Street with Mayor Guest presiding.

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

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

Mayor Guest expressed his condolences in the passing of Council Member Prince’s mom last week.

Council Member Colquitt motioned to approve the minutes of the January 6 meeting, seconded by Council Member Parham and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Colquitt, Burton, Parham, Prince).

There were no speakers from the floor or Ordinances and Resolutions to be considered at this meeting.

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

1. Approved the expenditures that exceed the city manager’s purchasing authority.

<b>Department: Elberton Utilities - Electric Division</b>	
Digger Derrick Truck – Altec Model DH 50, fully hydraulic derrick, rear mount. Model year 2020 Freightliner chassis with Cummins engine and Allison transmission. 4 x 2. (4x2 model selected to have May 2020 delivery date, otherwise delivery would be in 2022.) Replaces existing digger derrick line truck purchased in July, 2008. (The city only operates 1 line truck and has no backup.)	
Vendor:	Bid:
Altec of Georgia <b>RECOMMENDED</b>	\$250,698.10
Sourcewell (formerly National Joint Purchasing Alliance)	\$256,232.00
<b>Department: Elberton Utilities - Natural Gas Division</b>	
McElroy TracStar 28 Fusion Machine – for fusing 4” and 6” PE & HDPE natural gas pipe.	
Vendor:	Bid:
Consolidated Pipe & Supply <b>RECOMMENDED</b>	\$38,085.88
Irby Utilities	\$40,088.08



2. Accepted the Mayor's appointment of Council Member Kyle Parham to the Library Board.
3. Authorized the issuance of an alcoholic beverage license for retail sales of beer/malt and wine for Mr. Sameer Narsidani for 434 Elbert Street.
4. Accepted the budget amendment for fiscal year 2020 for the utilities fund.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

- Financial Report ending December 31, 2019
- Monthly report on the activities of various departments

#### **CITY CLERK:**

The Elberton Sister City Committee is accepting applications for the 2020 summer exchange program. The deadline to apply for the summer program is Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. The selection for participants will be held on Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

Randy Powell is retiring February 28 after 17 years with the Public Works Department, and Randy Lane is retiring February 28 after 44 years of service with the Elberton Fire Department.

The department participated in the College and Career Fair at the Elbert County Comprehensive High School this month. The department provided educational and training requirement information for the various career opportunities available at the City of Elberton.

The True Blue 101 group toured the filter plant, fire and police department, and various properties downtown this month. Richards Restaurant hosted the group for lunch.

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

The Fire Department responded to 46 alarm calls for the month of January 2020. These calls consisted of 4 Vehicle Accidents, 29 Medical Emergencies, 6 False Alarms, 1 Structure Fire, 1 Power Line Down, 1 Trash or Dumpster Fire, 2 Service Calls, 1 Smoke Removal, and 1 Aircraft Standby. The department conducted 4 fire inspections, and issued 2 burn permits. The Fire Department also conducted 443.5 hours of in-house training and 112 out of station training for the month.

#### **BUILDING INSPECTOR:**

The building inspection department issued 11 permits for the month of January, 2020. The department issued 3 Building Permits, 5 Electrical Permits, 2 Sign Permits, and 1 Driveway permit. During this same period there were 4 Building Inspections, 7 Electrical Inspections, 2 Driveway Inspections, and 2 Sign Inspections.

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

The Elberton Police Department released their monthly activity for the month of December 2019. The department recorded:

1068 Calls for Service  
348 Vehicle Traffic Stops

- 146 Incident Reports were filed
- 290 City Court cases made
- 21 Traffic accidents were investigated
- 112 People were arrested for various charges
- 36 Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
- 45 Drug related charges were made
- 64 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 2019 are as follows:

	December 2019	November 2019	% Change +/-
Kidnapping:	0	0	No Change
Rape:	0	0	No Change
Robbery:	0	2	Down 100%
Assault:	11	18	Down 39%
Burglary:	6	4	Up 50%
Larceny/Theft:	22	11	Up 100%
Motor vehicle theft:	0	1	Down 100%
Counterfeiting/Forgery:	3	3	No Change
Fraud Offenses:	1	0	Up by 1 incident
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism:	7	9	Down by 22%
Drug Offenses:	37	33	Up by 12%
Weapons Violations:	1	1	No Change

**WATER & SEWER:**

The crews repaired water leaks on Ruckersville Road, Elbert Street and South Oliver Street. The crews removed an abandoned service line on Ruckersville Road. The crews raised water main valve boxes on recently paved streets in the city. Griffin Brothers Contractors installed an actuator and valve at the Madison County interconnection that will be used to regulate any excessive water demand by Madison County.

The crews replaces a sewer lateral and section of sewer main at 181 Lake Forest Drive. The crews replaced pump #1 at the Silk Mill lift station. The crews replaced the motor start capacitor and off float switch at the Hickory Drive lift station. The crews continued to work raising manhole covers along West Tate Street.

The crews made repairs to the E.Q. drain valve at the Fortson’s Creek Treatment Plant. The crews replaced the motor for on the caustic pump feed system at the Falling Creek Treatment Plant. The crews installed an outside safety shower at the Fortson’s Creek Treatment Plant. The crews rebuilt the carbon feed system pumps at the Filter Plant.

**ELECTRIC:**

The Electric department pulled 9 old poles where pole transfers had been completed by telecom companies. The department also installed 350 feet of underground primary and 75 feet of secondary at the middle school for the new track. The department changed out a pole and 4 cross arms that were

broken due to a tree uprooting on Ruckersville road. The department set a new service pole on Springdale and installed 6 lights at Pilgrims Pride.

#### **CITY MARSHAL:**

This office conducted a training/workshop for the new updated Code of Ordinances, Chapter 4, Alcoholic Beverages. A total of two participants from one business attended the workshop.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS:**

The Whitworth detail crew continues to clean and edge sidewalks and curbing in the areas of Campbell, Mill, and Burke Streets.

The street department replaced sections of sidewalk on Thomas Street and Forest Avenue. Construction renovation has resumed in the 17 N. McIntosh St. building.

#### **NATURAL GAS:**

The Gas Department installed two residential services on Nickville Rd. and one residential service on Hartwell Hwy. The department has installed approximately 650 feet of 2" high density pipeline on Blue Hole Rd., which should be finished the first week in February.

Along with installs the department was able to complete all compliance regulations for the beginning of 2020 when it was too wet to dig.

#### **MAIN STREET:**

Main Street submitted their 2019 Annual Standards for Accreditation on January 15. As a part of this year's accreditation process, Main Street Elberton was also selected to give a 2 hour presentation before the Georgia Main Street board in Athens on February 13<sup>th</sup>. This presentation will be a review of our Main Street program for 2019.

Main Street mailed out our 2020 membership renewal invoices this month. We have a steady flow of those renewals being returned to the office.

We have been working to get a rough draft of all of our 2020 community events laid out and putting together working committees for these events so that they can be planned properly. We also want to make sure that we utilize everything that is available locally in the planning and the execution of our events.

Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Celebration began on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Festivities included the showing of the movie "Our Friend, Martin" at The Elbert Theatre, the Ecumenical Banquet was held at the Rock Gym with a great turn out, the MLK Parade that was held on Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, and the Academic Bowl was on Monday.

#### **ELBERT THEATRE:**

There were 38 events including COE's *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker*, *Ford v Ferrari* & *Dr. Dolittle* movie

showings; COC's Twilight Stroll, Encore Productions' *Hank Williams* rehearsals; ETF's movie field trips, dinner & paint class; MLK Committee's movie field trips; and S. Plummer's *God of Oz* theatrical performance at the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center from Dec 24-Jan 27.

A total of 1,819 patrons visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between Dec 24 and Jan 27.

**ELBERT HOTEL:**

The latest occupancy statistics are as follows:

	<u>FY18</u>	<u>FY19</u>	<u>FY20</u>
July	29.5%	38.8%	47.2%
August	33.8%	33.3%	50.2%
September	45.6%	36.3%	50.1%
October	42.8%	48.9%	39.5%
November	34.2%	29.9%	41.0%
December	32.5%	40.9%	30.3%
January	27.2%	35.5%	
February	29.0%	26.6%	
March	37.9%	35.0%	
April	32.3%	40.5%	
May	43.1%	52.7%	
June	36.4%	50.4%	
AVERAGE	35.4%	39.1%	<b>43.1%</b>

A new food and beverage manager was hired in January and will start work in February. The department is now advertising for part-time bartenders. All licenses have now been received from the State of Georgia. A mead tasting event with by-the-drink sales will be held on February 6, 2020. This will be the first time the bar has been opened since 1785 Grille and Tavern closed last October. Food sales for breakfast and lunch is being planned now.

Mayor Guest introduced Mr. Daniel Dobbins to the members of Council. Mr. Dobbins has been hired to fill the position of Economic Developer for Elbert County, Elberton and Bowman.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney:

- Dilapidated housing report.

Matters to be considered by Council:

- Council Member Colquitt commended former Bowman resident Mecole Hardman on his recent Super Bowl win with the Kansas City Chiefs.

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