

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Monday, March 2, 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, March 2, 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.

Council Member Butler motioned to approve the minutes of the February 3 meeting, seconded by Council Member Prince 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 Parham motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Council Member Colquitt and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Colquitt, Burton, Parham, Prince).

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

Department: Elberton Utilities - Natural Gas Division	
Horizontal directional drilling for gas 6-inch pipeline construction, Northeast Elbert Phase 2 (Coldwater Road to Montevideo Road). This is for boring 12 locations with paved roads or driveways at 500 feet each, total 6,000 feet of pipeline being bored.	
Vendor:	Bid:
Nav-Tech RECOMMENDED	\$ 96,000.00
Electricon	\$115,270.00
Harrison & Harrison	\$900,000.00

Department: Public Works Department – Recycling Division	
One full size 4x2 crew cab (4-door) one ton truck, dually, no bed/body. City plans on mounting a caged body to the rear of the truck. Replaces a 2000 Ford F-350 that is no longer operational.	
Vendor:	Bid:
Jefferson Motor RECOMMENDED	\$28,143.00
Griffin Chevrolet	\$33,400.00

2. Authorized the closure of a portion of Church Street, between S. McIntosh Street and S. Oliver Street to vehicular traffic for the Touch a Truck event hosted by the City of Elberton in celebration of Georgia Cities Week on April 25.

3. Authorized the closure at the intersection of Forest Hill Road at Brookhaven Circle and the area between Forest Hill Road and the Creek to vehicular traffic for the Sixth Annual Duck Derby and Picnic hosted by Elbert Memorial Hospital Foundation.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

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

CITY CLERK:

Georgia Arbor Day was celebrated by a proclamation signing and tree planting on February 21. The City of Elberton has received its Tree City designation for the 14TH year in a row.

Elberton Sister City Committee selected participants for the 2020 summer exchange program as follows: Aryssa Andrews, Elliot Brown, Landrum Brown, Alyssa Evans, Gabriel Pless, Rylee Smith and Jenny McConnell (Chaperone).

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 26 alarm calls for the month of February 2020. These calls consisted of 1 Vehicle Accidents, 20 Medical Emergencies, 3 False Alarms, 1 Power Line Down, and 1 Service Call. The department conducted 2 fire inspections, and issued 2 burn permits. The Fire Department also conducted 501 hours of in-house training.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

The building inspection department issued 8 permits for the month of February, 2020. The department issued 3 Building Permits, 3 Electrical Permits, 1 Sign Permits, and 1 HVAC permit. During this same period there were 3 Building Inspections, 2 Electrical Inspections, 1 Driveway Inspection, and 1 Sign Inspection.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

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

1194	Calls for Service
473	Vehicle Traffic Stops
124	Incident Reports were filed
322	City Court cases made
17	Traffic accidents were investigated
97	People were arrested for various charges
11	Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
11	Drug related charges were made
128	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 January 2020 are as follows:

	January 2020	December 2019	% Change +/-
Kidnapping:	0	0	No Change
Rape Offenses:	1	0	Up 1 Incident
Robbery:	3	0	Up 3 incidents
Assault:	12	11	Up 9%
Burglary:	5	6	Down 16.6%
Larceny/Theft:	7	22	Down 68%
Motor vehicle theft:	0	0	No Change
Counterfeiting/Forgery:	1	3	Down 66.6%
Fraud Offenses:	7	1	Up 600%
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism:	7	7	No Change
Drug Offenses:	11	37	Down 70%
Weapons Violations:	0	1	Down 100%

WATER & SEWER:

The crews repaired water leaks on Hillcrest Drive, South McIntosh Street and Williams Lane. The crews assisted the street department in replacing a manhole ring and cover at the intersection of North Oliver Street and Elbert Street. The crews continued to raise valve boxes on recently paved streets.

The crews continued to raise manhole covers on recently paved streets. The crews pulled and cleaned pumps at the Motel lift station and Silk Mill lift station. The crews replaced the pump alternator switch at the Motel lift station. The crews performed a draw down test on the Silk Mill lift station to check the pumps gallons per minute flow rate. The crews cleaned and inspected a sewer service on Sunnyside Avenue.

The crews installed a safety shower at the Falling Creek Treatment Plant. The crews installed a new sulfur dioxide feed system at the Fortson's Creek treatment Plant. The discharge permit applications were submitted to the Georgia Environmental Protection Agency for Falling Creek and Fortson's Creek treatment plants.

The crews performed preventative maintenance on the high service pumps located at the Filter Plant and the raw water pumps located at Lake Russell Pump Station.

ELECTRIC:

The Electric department pulled 34 poles this month and is in the process of disposing of them. The department installed a new underground service on Springdale Road. The department replaced several bad pad-mount fuses and primary jumpers due to high winds on Ruckersville Road. The department built a new transformer bank at Baston Monuments for a new 1200 amp entrance. The department changed out a broke pole and a meter base at the Courthouse due to an 18-wheeler pulling down a phone line that was too low. The department finished out the month repairing lights turned in by the Police Department.

CITY MARSHAL:

This office attended an annual in-service training for GA Crime Information Center (GCIC) Security and Awareness & Criminal Justice Information System.

PUBLIC WORKS:

The street department has begun work to replace approximately 180 feet of storm drain pipe on North McIntosh Street near the old public works lot.

Construction continues on the McIntosh building #17.

NATURAL GAS:

The Gas Department installed 5,500 ft of 4" HD PE pipe on Sand Hill Rd in between the rain showers. The department gravel to Blue Hole and Sand Hill Rd. because of the construction there and the excessive mud.

MAIN STREET:

During February Main Street and the DDA have been steadily preparing for the upcoming months of events and festivities. Main Street gave their 2019 in person, 2-hour Annual Standards for Accreditation presentation on February 13. This presentation was given before the DCA/Main Street board and was held in the conference room of the Hotel Indigo in Athens. The board was extremely pleased with everything that the City of Elberton/DDA/Main Street is doing and accomplishing in our downtown area. After review of our program, they stated that there are downtowns four times our size that have not been capable of accomplishing half of what we are doing. Main Street Elberton was once again accredited as a Classic Main Street program for the 2020 year. Once we are provided with our full annual report from DCA we will be presenting this before the City Council so that everyone can see the impact that is being made on our downtown.

Main Street mailed out our 2020 membership renewal invoices in January. We have had all renewals returned other than a small handful. We have two new businesses downtown that will hold their grand openings this month. Soul Shine Hair Parlor and S & K Boutique. Please stop by and welcome these new businesses to our area.

ELBERT THEATRE:

There were 26 events including Encore Productions' *Hank Williams* rehearsals & *'Til Beth Do Us Part* Open Reading; COE's *Like a Boss & Birds of Prey* movie showings; S Hughes' birthday party; R Willis' Black History Month speech; Encore Junior's *Beauty & the Beast Jr* auditions and ETF's movie field trips at the Elbert Theatre & Arts Center from Jan 28-Feb 20.

A total of 322 patrons have visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between Jan 28-Feb 20.

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%	21.9%
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%	40.0%

The month of January was extremely slow for hotel visits, although February has picked back up to exceed the occupancy number for the prior two years. February should finish with an occupancy back above 32% which is good for a winter month.

The department is now advertising for part-time bartenders and part-time line cooks. The inability hire qualified part-time personnel is impeding the ability to re-open the restaurant and bar at this time.

A mead tasting event with by-the-drink sales was held on February 20, 2020.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney:

- Dilapidated housing report.

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