

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Monday, April 4, 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, April 4, 2022 in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, 203 Elbert Street with Mayor Graves presiding.

Present were: Council Members Butler, Colquitt, Burton, 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 gave the prayer.

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

Mr. Freddie Baker was scheduled to speak to Council on behalf of the Concerned Men of Elbert County with regard to updating them on the progress of the organization. However, he was not in attendance during the meeting.

Council Member Parham motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Council Member Prince.

1. Approved the expenditures that exceed the city manager's purchasing authority.
2. Authorized the issuance of a public assembly permit to close the public square to vehicular traffic for the First Friday Celebrations for May 6, June 3, July 1 and August 5. The event is hosted by Main Street Elberton.
3. Authorized a waiver for the special event for open container consumption of alcoholic beverages on the public square for the First Friday Celebrations Event.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

- Financial Report ending February 28, 2022.

CITY CLERK:

The department submitted the 2022 Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) annual response update as required by the U. S. Census Bureau.

The department has submitted the 2022 self-survey as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This survey is submitted annually to the Georgia Department of Transportation, which is responsible for the overall development and implementation of the ADA program of the Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

This month, the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions presented a webinar on "Defending Preservation in Nashville, TN". The webinar discussed challenges that Nashville has faced over the past 30 years with regard to court cases involving their historic ordinance regulations. Participants included: Cindy Churney, Crystal Beebe and Leigh Ann Jones (HPC member).

The department has completed the on-line submission of the campaign finance system reports to the State Ethics Commission as required for the 2022 Municipal Non-Election Year.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

This month, the department submitted the 2022 Governmental Indicators (GOMI) Survey and the 2022 Wage and Salary Survey as required by June 30, 2022 by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 86 Alarm Calls for the month of March, 2022. These calls consisted of 9 Vehicle Accidents, 1 Vehicle Fire, 49 Medical Emergencies, 10 False Alarms, 11 Aircraft Standbys, 1 Gas Leak, 4 Service Calls, and 1 Structure Fire. The department conducted 14 fire inspections, 4 Pre Plans, and issued 3 burn permits. The Fire Department personnel attended 163 hours of out of station training.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

The building inspection department issued 13 permits for the month of March, 2022. Permits issued: 5 Roof permits, 4 Sign permits, 1 Electrical permit, 1 Building permit, 1 Driveway permit and 1 Demo permit. During this same period there were 2 building inspections, 2 electrical inspections, 7 sign inspections and 6 roof inspections along with 23 site visits.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

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

- 1,094 Calls for Service
- 483 Vehicle Traffic Stops
- 95 Incident Reports were filed
- 337 City Court cases made
- 22 Traffic accidents were investigated
- 50 People were arrested for various charges
- 7 Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
- 136 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 February 2022 are as follows:

	<u>February</u>	<u>January</u>
Kidnapping:	0	0
Rape Offenses:	0	0
Robbery:	0	0
Assault:	4	7
Arson:	0	0
Burglary:	1	2
Larceny/Theft:	12	8
Motor Vehicle Theft:	0	1

Counterfeiting/Forgery	0	1
Fraud Offenses:	4	1
Stolen Property Offenses:	0	0
Destruction/ Damage/ Vandalism:	11	7
Drug Offenses:	2	6
Weapons Violations:	0	0
Animal Cruelty:	0	0
Sex Offenses:	2	0
Prostitution Offenses:	0	0

WATER & SEWER:

The crews repaired water leaks on Carey Street, Forest Hills Road and Harmony Drive. The crews installed water taps at 5 South McIntosh Street, 1022 Whites Chapel Road and 1530 Old Middleton Road. The crews performed the annual hydrant flush on March 12th and 13th. The crews made repairs to hydrants that needed attention the week following the hydrant flush.

The crews cleaned and inspected sewer laterals at 389 West Railroad Street, Oak Lane Apartments, 371 Mill Street, 330 East Tate Street and 325 Wilcox Heights.

Construction continues at the Filter Plant on the new clearwell and high service pump station. The contractors have completed all the walls for the new clearwell and will begin forming the top for the new clearwell during the month of April.

ELECTRIC:

During the month of March the Electric Department installed a new underground service on the Lexington Hwy. The department changed out poles at the following addresses 641 McKinley St., 314 Prince St., 403 Prince St., 361 Willow St., 345 Willow St., 337 Willow St., 236, 242, 244, and 254 McKinley Street. The department also had several power outages due to wind this month.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Along with monthly routine and maintenance, the Street Department helped install a water line replacement off Elbert Street at the Colony Shoppes center. After completed, the department poured concrete to repair the driveway and parking area. The Street Dept. and Construction Team began the picnic pavilions at the Burke Street facility.

NATURAL GAS:

The Natural Gas Department stripped and re-painted the natural gas piping at station one (Nancy Hart) to prevent atmospheric corrosion. The Department installed a residential service on Press Mann Rd and removed two residential services. The department is continuing to work on routine maintenance and tasks required by the PSC on inspections.

Gas In-Home Sales and Service for FY2022

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	YTD
New Customers Installed	1	3	0	4	4		2		0				14

Existing Customers Serviced	2	1	1	0	7	3	5	1	0				20
Total	3	3	1	4	11	3	7	1	0				33

Appliances installed, repaired, replaced, or serviced for FY2022

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	YTD
Water Heaters	1	2	1	2	5	1	2	1	0				15
All Other Appliances	5	3			5	3	6		0				22
Total	6	5	1	2	10	4	8	1	0				37

ELBERT THEATRE:

There were 26 events at the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center from March 1-25 including Encore Productions' *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* rehearsals & performances and *Legally Blonde Jr* rehearsals; the *Redeeming Love* movie and ETF's paint classes and movie field trips.

Approximately 914 patrons visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between March 1-25.

MAIN STRET ELBERTON:

Main Street hosted the first Shamrock Shuffle on the one way street in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. We had music, line dancing, karaoke and party favors. Mayor Graves recognized the Lady Devil Basketball Team for being State Champions at the event. The event was well attended and we have received several compliments on the fun that was had.

Main Street is preparing for the first Spring Festival to be held on Saturday, April 9th 9am-4pm. We have partnered with the local Cattleman's Association and 4H office to be able to offer an entire agricultural wing of the festival consisting of different animals, plants etc.

Main Street and the Chamber have partnered together to collect prefilled plastic Easter eggs from local businesses to be used at our 2nd Annual Downtown Easter Egg hunt to be held on Saturday, April 16th at 11:30am in the center of the downtown square.

ELBERT HOTEL:

The latest occupancy statistics are as follows:

	<u>FY18</u>	<u>FY19</u>	<u>FY20</u>	<u>FY21</u>	<u>FY22</u>
July	29.5%	38.8%	47.2%	31.4%	39.4%
August	33.8%	33.3%	50.2%	33.9%	40.0%
September	45.6%	36.3%	50.1%	31.5%	40.1%
October	42.8%	48.9%	39.5%	34.0%	46.7%
November	34.2%	29.9%	41.0%	31.5%	49.0%
December	32.5%	40.9%	30.3%	20.8%	36.3%
January	27.2%	35.5%	21.9%	28.9%	23.5%
February	29.0%	26.6%	33.1%	32.7%	39.2%
March	37.9%	35.0%	19.2%	32.7%	
April	32.3%	40.5%	4.7%	38.5%	

May	43.1%	52.7%	10.5%	43.7%	
June	36.4%	50.4%	19.8%	38.5%	
AVERAGE	35.4%	39.1%	30.6%	33.2%	39.3%

Despite a slow January which was not unexpected for a winter month, February 2022 saw the highest occupancy for a February since opening. The property completed its fifth full year of operation in March, 2022.

City Attorney Jenkins gave a report on Dilapidated Housing.

There were no matters to be considered by Council.

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