

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Monday, October 3, 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, October 3, 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 Burton motioned to approve the minutes of the September meeting, seconded by Council Member Parham, and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Colquitt, Prince, Parham).

There were no scheduled speakers from the floor.

Council Member Parham placed Ordinance 2218 on second reading to annex certain properties into the Corporate Limits of Elberton:

ORDINANCE 2218

AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED ON THE WASHINGTON HWY INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ELBERTON PURSUANT TO THAT CERTAIN ACT (GEORGIA LAW. 1962, P. 119) AUTHORIZING SAME UPON WRITTEN AND SIGNED PETITION OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Council Member Butler motioned to adopt the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Burton and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Colquitt, Parham, Prince).

1. Authorized issuance of an alcoholic beverage license to Mrs. Bhavnaben Patel for Retail beer/malt, wine and distilled spirits at 255 College Avenue.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

1. Financial Report ending August 31, 2022.
2. Kara Leigh Jones updated Council on the increase in hotel stays and the rising food costs that have affected the restaurant.
3. Brent Driscoll updated Council on property maintenance and dilapidated housing.
4. Brad Alexander updated Council on the Electric & Broadband projects.
5. Operational report, as follows:

CITY CLERK:

Alcoholic license renewal applications will be mailed by October 15. The deadline to submit the 2023 renewals is November 15. The Tree City USA application has been submitted for calendar year 2022.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

As for the past ten years, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has required cities to participate in a Data Collection for an employee count and female employee count. The information is submitted monthly.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 30 Alarm Calls for the month of September, 2022. These calls

consisted of 19 Medical Emergencies, 3 False Alarms, 3 Aircraft Standbys, 1 Vehicle Accident, 1 Vehicle Fire, 1 Gas Leak, 1 Power Line Down, and 1 Arcing, Shorted Electrical Equipment. The department conducted 12 fire inspections and 1 Pre Plan, but issued no burn permits. The Fire Department conducted 398 hours of in-house training and 3 hours out of station training.

BUILDING INSPECTIONS:

The building inspection department issued 10 permits for the month of September, 2022. Permits issued: 5 Electrical Permits, 1 Demolition Permits, 2 Mechanical Permits and 2 Roof Permits. During this same period there were 9 electrical inspections, 2 demolition inspections, 1 mechanical inspection, 1 roof inspection, 2 building inspections, along with 19 site visits.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

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

- 1,217 Calls for Service
- 473 Vehicle Traffic Stops
- 111 Incident Reports were filed
- 365 City Court cases made
- 17 Traffic accidents were investigated
- 72 People were arrested for various charges
- 15 Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
- 104 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 July 2022 are as follows:

	<u>August</u>	<u>July</u>
Kidnapping:	0	0
Rape Offenses:	2	0
Robbery:	0	0
Assault:	16	12
Arson:	0	0
Burglary:	2	1
Larceny/Theft:	11	9
Motor Vehicle Theft:	1	1
Counterfeiting/Forgery	1	1
Fraud Offenses:	1	1
Stolen Property Offenses:	0	0
Destruction/ Damage/ Vandalism:	4	6
Drug Offenses:	21	11
Weapons Violations:	3	0
Animal Cruelty:	0	0
Sex Offenses:	0	1
Prostitution Offenses:	0	0

WATER & SEWER:

The crews installed new water taps at 1349 Lexington Highway, 1047 Jones Ferry Road, 1251 Limo Road, 1050 Regina Court and the Public Square. The crews assisted the county while excavating around an 8-inch water main in order to replace a culvert pipe on Golf Course Road.

Construction continues at the Water Filter Plant on the new clearwell and high service pump station. The new generator was installed on September 8. The variable frequency drives for the new high service pumps and control switches have also been installed. Electrical contractors will pull all wiring the week of October 3rd. Remaining is installation of the transformer and power feed to be done by Elberton Utilities. Start-up is scheduled for October 17, 2022.

ELECTRIC:

The Electric Department replaced 3 poles on Golf Course Road due to clearance violations, and Comcast paid for the material and labor to do this. The department installed 3 new poles on Country Club Drive for

a new house being built. The department replaced 2 bad poles on Ruckersville Road. The department installed parking lot lighting at Beaverdam School. The department replaced the transformer pole at KFC due to it being rotten at the ground line.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Along with monthly routine maintenance, the Street Department continued constructing the new sidewalk on the north side of Public Square.

NATURAL GAS:

The Gas Department completed the main line extension on Montevideo Rd. for 6,600 ft. to serve several residential customers. The Department installed a residential service on Lexington Hwy and a residential service off of Washington Hwy for a pool heater.

MAIN STREET ELBERTON:

Main Street held the last of the summer concert series on Saturday, September 3 at 7pm. The band Something Once Sacred performed. Due to the weather this event was moved into The Flat Tire Bar & Grill. Planning for fall events is underway, with a large number of new vendors signed up for the Fall Festival.

ELBERT THEATRE:

There were 20 events at the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center from Aug 30-Sept 20 including Encore Productions' *Clue* rehearsals & performances and *White Christmas* rehearsals; ETF's *The Butler Did It* open reading; Elberton Police Dept's community meeting and the *Spider-Man* movie.

Approximately 1,002 patrons visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between Aug 30-Sept 20.

City Attorney Jenkins gave a report on Dilapidated Housing.

Council considered the FY2023 budget amendment for the American Rescue Plan Fund (ARPF) that was on the agenda since it was removed last month. Council Member Burton motioned to adopt the budget amendment, seconded by Council Member Parham. Mayor Graves asked if there was any discussion on the budget amendment. Discussion was as follows:

- City Manager Dunn informed Council of the following updates to the budget amendment:
 - Removed the "removal of blighted buildings on N. McIntosh Street" from Economic and Community Development expenditure,
 - Added the "Granite City Life Skills, Inc" for funding with the other Community Appropriations, and
 - Updated the Parks and Recreation Splash Pad Water Park with the excess funds.

After discussion, Mayor Graves stated that the budget was a "placeholder for a concept" and that the items would require additional research. Mayor Graves stated that there was a motion and a second to adopt the FY2023 budget amendment for the ARPF; therefore he called for the vote for the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3-2. Voting for the motion was Burton, Prince, and Parham. Voting against the motion was Butler and Colquitt.

Council Member Prince mentioned adopting a Resolution of Support for the updated written history of Elbert County to be compiled by local historian and author Raymond Chandler. Mayor Graves asked Council Member Prince to have him contact the City Manager with regard to this request.

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