

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Thursday, July 15, 2021 – 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 Thursday, July 15, 2021 at the City Municipal Complex, 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, led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and in prayer.

Council Member Butler motioned to approve the minutes of the June 3 and June 7, seconded by Council Member Colquitt and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Colquitt, Burton, Parham, Prince).

Mrs. Jenny Jenkins, of Home Sweet Home spoke to Council with regard to the façade grant application process. She asked Council to consider implementing grant program procedures as directed in the application by including all members of the advisory board. Mayor Guest added that Council will consider her request.

There were no Resolutions or Ordinances to be considered at the meeting.

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

1. Authorized the issuance of an alcoholic beverage license for retail beer only to Flat Tire Bar & Grill located at 17 Oliver Street, owner Gerardo De Leon.
2. Authorized the closing of the square to vehicular traffic on July 17, 2021 from 3:00 pm – 8:30 pm for the Annual Elberton Cruise-In and Fireworks Show sponsored by Main Street Elberton and the Elbert County Chamber of Commerce.
3. Authorized the issuance of a grant of waiver for a special event for open container consumption of alcoholic beverages on the public square on July 17, 2021 for the Annual Elberton Cruise In and Fireworks Show.
4. Authorized the closing of the square to vehicular traffic on July 27, 2021 from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm for the Christmas in July Shopping Event sponsored by Main Street Elberton.
5. Approved the Acceptance of Terms and Conditions with the Georgia Office of Planning and Budget.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

- Financial Report ending May 31, 2021
- Monthly report on the activities of various departments as follows:

CITY CLERK:

The City Clerk is in the processes of completing online election training as required by O.C.G.A. 21-2-101 through the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office in order to conduct a municipal election.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

Danny Hall retired June 30, 2021 with 33 years of service. Dale Barnett retired June 25, 2021 with 23 years of service to the City of Elberton.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 31 alarm calls for the month of June, 2021. These calls consisted of 2 Vehicle Accidents, 2 Vehicle Fires, 20 Medical Emergencies, 4 False Alarms, 1 Power Line Down, and 2 Gas Leaks. The department conducted 7 fire inspections, 3 Pre Plans, and issued 3 burn permits. The Fire Department also conducted 748.5 hours of in-house training.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

The building inspection department issued 11 permits for the month of June, 2021. Permits issued: 4 Roofing permits, 2 Electrical permits, 2 Mechanical permits, 1 Building permit, 1 Sign permit and 1 Driveway permit. During this same period there were 4 roof inspections, 2 building inspections, 4 electrical inspections, 2 mechanical inspections, 1 sign inspection, along with 19 site visits.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

The Elberton Police Department released their monthly activity for the month of May 2021. The department recorded:

- 896 Calls for Service
- 237 Vehicle Traffic Stops
- 96 Incident Reports were filed
- 142 City Court cases made
- 22 Traffic accidents were investigated
- 48 People were arrested for various charges
- 3 Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
- 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 May 2021 are as follows:

	May 2021	April 2021	% Change +/-
Kidnapping:	0	0	No Change
Rape Offenses:	1	0	Increased by 1
Robbery:	0	0	No Change
Assault:	15	10	50% Increase
Arson	0	0	No Change
Burglary:	4	2	100% Increase

Larceny/Theft:	8	9	11% Reduction
Motor vehicle theft:	1	0	Increased by 1
Counterfeiting/Forgery:	4	2	100% Increase
Fraud Offenses:	3	2	50% Increase
Stolen Property Offenses:	1	0	Increased by 1
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism:	15	12	25% Increase
Drug Offenses:	11	10	10% Increase
Weapons Violations:	0	4	100% Reduction
Animal Cruelty	0	0	No Change
Sex Offenses	0	0	No Change
Prostitution Offenses	0	0	No Change

WATER & SEWER:

The crews repaired water leaks on South Tusten Street, Elbert Street, South Oliver Street, Pulliam Street and North McIntosh Street. The crews installed a new 2 inch water meter and 2 inch service line at Walker Granite on Hartwell Highway. The crews worked with the contractors that are replacing the storm drain on Medical Drive to excavate around a 16 inch water main located on Brookwood Circle. Allsouth Construction installed a 12 inch valve, actuator and check valve at Tower Lane Tank to help better manage tank levels in the system.

The crews installed a 4 inch sewer tap at 834 Lincoln Avenue. The crews cleaned and inspected sewer laterals at 623 McGinty Street, 307 South Oliver Street and 1126 Oglesby Boulevard. The crews made repairs to the belt press conveyor at the Fortson’s Creek Treatment Plant.

The crews repaired leaks on the alum and the chlorine feed systems at the Filter Plant. The crews replaced an exhaust fan in the VPD panel at the raw water pump station.

Construction continues at the Filter Plant on the new clearwell and high service pump station. The excavation and ground work has been completed. Construction is currently on hold awaiting contractors to install the concrete inclusions in the ground that will help stabilize the soil and support the weight of the new clearwell tank.

ELECTRIC:

During the month of June the Electric Department changed out 5 poles on Oglesby Boulevard. The department also changed out 5 poles at Whiteside Drive and Elm Street Extension. The department installed 2 underground services on the Washington Highway and on Jones Ferry Road. The department began installing new street lights on Elbert Street.

PUBLIC WORKS:

In addition to routine maintenance and operations, the department added fresh mulch to the playgrounds at Sutton Park, Carey Street Park and Pulliam Street Park.

MAIN STREET ELBERTON:

The month of June has been spent preparing for the upcoming 23rd Annual Cruise-In Classic Car Show to be held downtown on Saturday, July 17 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The Granite Bowl Blast fireworks show will follow after the car show. We are extremely excited about this event due to our last car show in 2019 being such a success and causing us to have to revamp our layout for the event to be able to fit more cars around the downtown. Local small businesses have donated door prizes for our car show participants. We are anticipating a large turnout from our community and surrounding areas.

ELBERT THEATRE:

There were 35 events at the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center from June 1 - 30 including Encore's 9 to 5 rehearsals, 'Til Beth Do Us Part rehearsals & performances, Elbert Co Public Library's Barry Mann & Keith Karnock performances and ETF's Kids Camp, Cinderella Kids performance, paint class, board meeting & Teen Camp.

Approximately 1,095 patrons visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between June 1 and June 30.

ELBERT HOTEL:

The latest occupancy statistics are as follows:

	<u>FY18</u>	<u>FY19</u>	<u>FY20</u>	<u>FY21</u>
July	29.5%	38.8%	47.2%	31.4%
August	33.8%	33.3%	50.2%	33.9%
September	45.6%	36.3%	50.1%	31.5%
October	42.8%	48.9%	39.5%	34.0%
November	34.2%	29.9%	41.0%	31.5%
December	32.5%	40.9%	30.3%	20.8%
January	27.2%	35.5%	21.9%	28.9%
February	29.0%	26.6%	33.1%	32.7%
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%

Occupancy in the last three months of the fiscal year had a noticeable increase, inching toward pre-pandemic levels. Some reunion groups have been inquiring about fall weekend possibilities.

The Quarry Plates and Pours had strong sales during the last three weeks of June, with the third week of June having the largest sales week and largest single sales day yet.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney:

- Dilapidated housing report.

There were no matters to be presented by Council.

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