

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Monday, December 2, 2019 – 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, December 2, 2019 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 203 Elbert Street with Mayor Guest presiding.

Present were: Council Members Butler, Colquitt, Hunt, 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 prayer.

Council Member Butler motioned to approve the minutes of the November 4 meeting, seconded by Council Member Hunt and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Colquitt, Hunt, Prince, Parham).

Mayor Guest welcomed students from the high school to the meeting. Hailey Slaton and Ashford Bennett presented a report on their experience while assisting in the Municipal General Election held on November 5, 2019.

Council Member Butler introduced a Resolution to authorize an amendment to the GEFA loan agreement as follows:

A RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING MODIFICATIONS TO THE GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE AUTHORITY (“GEFA”) LOAN AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Borrower has borrowed \$2,500,000 from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (the “Lender”), pursuant to the terms of the Loan Agreement (the “Loan Agreement”), dated July 12, 2018, between the Borrower and the Lender; and

WHEREAS, the Borrower’s obligation to repay the loan made pursuant to the Loan Agreement is evidenced by a Promissory Note (the “Note”), dated June 4, 2018, of the Borrower; and

WHEREAS, the Borrower and the Lender have determined to amend and modify the Loan Agreement, pursuant to the terms of a Second Modification of Loan Agreement (the “Second Modification”) between the Borrower and the Lender, the form of which has been presented to this meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borrower that the form, terms, and conditions and the execution, delivery, and performance of the Second Modification are hereby approved and authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borrower that the terms and Second Modification are in the best interests of the Borrower, and the governing body of the Borrower designates and authorizes the following persons to execute and deliver, and to attest, respectively, the Second

Modification, and any related documents necessary to the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Second Modification: Person to Execute Documents – Lanier Dunn, City Manager; Person to Attest Documents – Cindy Churney, City Clerk.

At a duly called meeting of the governing body of the Borrower, identified above (the “Borrower”) held on the 2nd day of December, 2019, the above resolution was introduced and adopted.

City Manager Dunn read the Resolution in its entirety. Council Member Butler motioned to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Council Member Hunt and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Colquitt, Hunt, Parham, Prince).

Mayor Guest welcomed newly elected Council Member Terry Burton and his wife Janie to the meeting. Mr. Burton was elected Council Member for Ward 2 at the November 5, 2019 Municipal General Election. Council Member Hunt did not seek re-election for Ward 2.

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

1. Authorized the issuance of the 2019 alcoholic beverage licenses for calendar year 2020.
2. Accepted the 2019 Municipal General Election results.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

- Financial report ending October 31, 2019.
- Monthly reports on activities of various departments.
- 2019 audit report and 2020 capital planning report.

CITY CLERK:

The annual illegal immigration reporting requirements has been submitted to the Georgia Department of Audits & Accounts. This is an extensive reporting required by the State of Georgia.

The department submitted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 to the Tax and Expenditure Center at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government as required by Georgia Law.

The department submitted the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) projects report for the year ending June 30, 2019. O.C.G.A. 48-8-122 requires this report to be published in the newspaper no later than December 31 of each year.

The Municipal General Election was held November 5, 2019 to elect a Council Member from Ward 2. Terry Burton was elected with 54 votes to Everett Worley’s 22 votes. Voters also approved Sunday alcohol sales for package and on-premises consumption. A total of 282 votes were cast during the election (91 early/advanced voting and 191 election day voting).

Alcoholic beverage license holders have been notified of the approval for Sunday alcohol sales for package and on-premises consumption to be effective January 2, 2020.

Sister City will be selling Boston Butts on December 21 to help with the costs of the summer exchange program.

Staff will be collecting items for the Mayors' Christmas Motorcade. The items will be delivered to East Central Regional Hospital in Augusta on December 5. *The date was changed by GMA.*

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 39 alarm calls for the month of November 2019. These calls consisted of 6 Vehicle Accidents, 24 Medical Emergencies, 3 False Alarms, 1 Structure Fire (contained to kitchen area), 1 Power Line Down, 1 Gas Leak, 1 Trash Fire, 1 Elevator rescue, and 1 Aircraft Standby. The department conducted 26 fire inspections, and issued 2 burn permits. The Fire Department also conducted 370 hours of in-house training.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

The building inspection department issued 12 permits for the month of November, 2019. The department issued 5 Building Permits, 4 Electrical Permits, 1 HVAC permit, 1 Sign Permit, and 1 Demo permit. During this same period there were 5 Building Inspections, 5 Electrical Inspections, 2 Mechanical Inspections, 1 Demolition Inspection, and 3 Sign Inspections.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

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

- 1075 Calls for Service
- 345 Vehicle Traffic Stops
- 122 Incident Reports were filed
- 317 City Court cases made
- 25 Traffic accidents were investigated
- 76 People were arrested for various charges
- 17 Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
- 6 Drug related charges were made
- 280 Department Training Hours

The Part 1 crimes are the (UCR) Uniform Crime Reports that are sent to the FBI on a monthly basis. The Part 1 crimes for October 2019 are as follows:

	<u>October 2019</u>	<u>September 2019</u>	<u>% Change +/-</u>
Homicide:	0	0	No Change
Rape:	0	1	Down 100%
Robbery:	0	0	No Change
Assault:	10	11	Down by 9%
Burglary:	4	3	Up by 33.3%

Theft:	14	10	Up by 40%
Auto Theft:	1	0	Up by one incident

WATER & SEWER:

The crews repaired water leaks on Elm Street, Harmony Drive, Williams Lane, McDonough Street, Dogwood Lane and Wildwood Apartments. The crews made water taps on Springdale Road, Russell Ridge Drive and Calhoun Falls Highway. The crews drained and refilled the wash water tank and the National Guard Tank for maintenance and inspection. The crews asphalted utility cuts that were made while repairing water leaks.

The crews cleaned and inspected parts of the sewer system as preventative maintenance. The crews installed a sewer tap and made repairs to the sewer main on Springdale Road.

The crews replaced the roller bearings on the Fortson's Creek belt press.

The crews repaired the chlorine pumps, the carbon pumps and the carbon feed system at the Filter Plant.

ELECTRIC:

The Electric department installed all of the Christmas lights on the downtown square. The department also installed all of the Christmas lights on Elbert Street and Heard Street. The department installed a new pole at 41 Church Street. The department continued to change out cross arms on the 1532 line rehab project as well.

CITY MARSHAL:

This office conducted a training/workshop for the new updated Code of Ordinances, Chapter 4, Alcoholic Beverages. The Marshal along with the Building Inspector conducted inspection visits to the businesses applying for Alcohol licenses in 2020.

PUBLIC WORKS:

The renovation of 21 N. McIntosh St. was completed on November 27, and a new tenant took possession of the building on that afternoon. Paving began on the TSPLOST projects. Progress Boulevard, Park Street, Woodland Rd., McKinley, Willow, and Thompson Street are in the process of being paved first. Tate Street and Jack McVeigh Drive will follow last. Cole and Bartlett Streets have been milled and prepped for paving. A new gravel base was put down by the street division. Paving will be completed after Thanksgiving.

The Whitworth detail crew has begun cleaning and edging sidewalks and curbing in the areas of Pulliam, McLendon, Lake Forest Drive, Forest Avenue, and West Church Streets.

NATURAL GAS:

The Gas Department completed installing the new regulator station on Athens Hwy. to feed the new 6" line there installed with the new water main. The line was pressurized and made active. The Department

then moved to activate the new line on Nickville Road that will connect the Athens Highway to the existing line on Nickville Rd., all the way to the Bowman Hwy. As of this report the line is being pressure tested and should be activated in a few days.

The Gas Department in-house welder has built two new regulator stations for Bowman Highway for Pulliam Mill Rd and Nickville Rd, which will be installed during the first couple of weeks of December. This will greatly help pressures in the area of these two roads that both contain multiple poultry farms.

MAIN STREET:

The month of November was a great month for Main Street and the DDA. We hosted the Granite City Fall Festival. We had over 125 vendors participate in this year's festival. Festival vendors along with our downtown merchants and restaurant's all claimed to have had a great turn out for the event. Several vendors have already submitted request to be a part of next year's event. We had an estimated crowd of around 2,000 or more, but this is hard to judge since we do not charge or sell admissions. We had several visitors that said they had traveled several hours to attend the event. With the local stage entertainment, we were able to keep a large steady crowd all day.

Main Street kicked off its 12 Days of Christmas Cash on November 15, highlighting different merchants each day of the event. Candle Light Shop Night was held on Tuesday, Nov. 26 downtown on the square.

We are currently gearing up and preparing for the upcoming Christmas parade to be held on Sunday, December 1 at 4 p.m.

ELBERT THEATRE:

There were 34 events including ETF's paint class and Trick-or-Treating; COE's *Maleficent: Mistress of Evil* & *Joker* movie showings, and a retirement luncheon at the Elbert Theatre & Arts Center from Oct 25-Nov 19.

A total of 1,654 patrons have visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between Oct 25-Nov 19.

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%	
December	32.5%	40.9%	
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%	46.8%

The new gift shop opened on November 2 in conjunction with the Fall Festival in downtown. Merchandise includes T-shirts featuring the Georgia Guidestones, Granite Bowl, and the Hotel. Locally made granite coasters and local honey and honey products are available. Mead (honey wine) made in Canon, Ga., is being sold with the hotel gift shop being the only distributor of that product in Elberton.

A food service permit from the Elbert County Health Department was obtained for the breakfast service to hotel guests, which has been begun. The permit also allows for retail items which will include four sandwich options (chicken salad, pimento cheese, roast beef, and turkey) four side items (fruit cup, potato salad, pasta salad, and chips) and beverages including freshly brewed tea and fountain drinks of Coke products. The retail items will be available starting in the first part of December.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney:

- Dilapidated housing report.

Matters to be presented by the Council:

- Mayor Guest added the consideration of granting a waiver for extended hours to the Time Capsule event venue business for December 25 and December 31. City Manager Dunn stated that in September Ms. Colette Orr had requested that the Time Capsule located at 11 N. Oliver Street be granted a waiver for extended hours for three special event dates in 2019. At the October council meeting, by majority vote, Council approved the facility to close at 1:00 a.m. for the November 28 event only and to require security from an off duty police officer or Sheriff's deputy during the event. City Manager Dunn stated that Police Chief Welsh reported that the November 28 event was held with no problems noted. Therefore, staff recommended approving the request for the remaining two dates which are December 25 and December 31, 2019, for an extension to close at 1:00 a.m. provided that an off duty police officer or Sheriff's deputy be hired as security, and provided that the name of the security personnel was provided to the Police Chief within 72 hours of each event. Council Member Hunt motioned to accept staff's recommendation as presented above. Council Member Prince seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4-1 (voting for: Butler, Hunt, Prince, Parham; voting against: Colquitt).
- Any other matters to be presented by the Council.

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