

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Monday, November 6, 2023 – 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, November 6, 2023 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 Manager Dunn, City Clerk Churney and City Attorney Jenkins.

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 Butler motioned to approve the minutes of the October 2 meeting, seconded by Council Member Burton, and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Colquitt, Prince, Parham).

Mr. Tyler Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, gave an update on the financial condition of the Elbert Memorial Hospital.

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

1. Approved the calendar of regular meeting dates for the Mayor and Council for 2024.

Monday, February 5, Monday, March 4, Monday, April 1, Monday, May 6,
Monday, June 3, Monday, July 8, Monday, August 5, Monday, September 9,
Monday, October 7, Monday, November 4, Monday, December 2, and
Monday, January 6 (2025)

2. Approved the calendar of holidays for 2024.

Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 15
Good Friday, Friday, March 29
Memorial Day, Monday, May 27
Independence Day, Thursday, July 4
Labor Day, Monday, September 2
Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29
Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25
New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2025

3. Accepted the minutes, decisions, and recommendations of the October 16 Elberton Planning Commission Meeting.
4. Accepted the minutes, decisions, and recommendations of the October 17 Elberton Historic Preservation Commission Meeting.
5. Accepted the budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2024.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

1. Financial Report ending September 30, 2023.
2. Monthly departmental report, as follows:

CITY CLERK:

Alcohol license renewal notices have been mailed. The deadline to submit the 2024 renewals is November 15.

Advance voting was held for three consecutive weeks including two Saturdays as required by the Secretary of State’s Office. The Municipal General Election will be held Tuesday, November 7 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. The election will be to elect a council member for Ward 3.

The City of Elberton hosted delegates from Takamatsu City, Japan during their stop over from their Sister City St. Petersburg, Florida. Mayor Onishi was among the delegates to visit. This was his second visit to Elberton. The delegation stayed at the Samuel Elbert Hotel during their visit.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 50 Alarm Calls for the month of October, 2023. These calls consisted of 26 Medical Emergencies, 2 Building Fires, 6 Vehicle Accidents, 6 Aircraft Standbys, 5 False Alarms, 1 Outside Trash Fire, 1 Dumpster Fire, 1 Power line Down. 1 Gas Leak and 1 Service Call. The department conducted 541 hours of in-house training for the month.

BUILDING INSPECTIONS:

The building inspection department issued 15 permits from September 26, 2023 - Oct 25, 2023. Permits issued: 2 Electrical Permits, 1 Plumbing Permit, 3 Reroof Permits, 3 Building Permits, 1 Land Disturbance Permit, 1 Sign Permit, 1 Demo Permit and 1 Mechanical Permit.

During this same period there were 9 Electrical Inspections, 2 Plumbing Inspections, 4 Sign Inspections, 2 Demo Inspections, 2 Building Inspections, 12 Roofing Inspections, 1 Driveway Inspection, 1 Porch/Deck Inspection and 2 Mechanical Inspections.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

The Elberton Police Department released their monthly activity for the month of September 2023. The department recorded:

- 1,095 Calls for Service
- 363 Vehicle Traffic Stops
- 89 Incident Reports were filed
- 222 City Court cases made
- 21 Traffic accidents were investigated
- 71 People were arrested for various charges
- 7 Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
- 41 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 **September 2023** are as follows:

	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>August</u>
Kidnapping:	0	4
Rape Offenses:	0	0
Robbery:	0	0
Assault:	11	8
Arson:	0	0
Burglary:	1	1
Larceny/Theft:	0	8
Motor Vehicle Theft:	0	0
Counterfeiting/Forgery	0	4
Fraud Offenses:	1	2
Stolen Property Offenses:	0	0
Destruction/ Damage/ Vandalism:	2	1
Drug Offenses:	10	7
Weapons Violations:	0	1
Animal Cruelty:	2	0
Sex Offenses:	0	0
Prostitution Offenses:	0	0

WATER & SEWER:

The crews repaired water leaks on Elbert Street, North Oliver Street and East Church Street. The crews replaced concrete and asphalt in utility cuts on Elbert Street, Jones Street, Lake Forest Drive and Pulliam Street. The crews continued surveying material type on city and customer side of water service lines as mandated by the Georgia EPD to meet new Lead and Copper Rule Revisions.

The crews performed preventative maintenance on all submersible lift stations in the sewer system, and performed preventative maintenance on all pump stations at the wastewater treatment plants.

ELECTRIC:

During the month of October the Electric department cut down 37 dead trees to help prevent outages. The department also began construction of a new line to serve the second poultry farm on Limo Road. The department performed work to bring new service to several new commercial locations including a new tire shop on Elbert St., a new underground service at Soapbox carwash, and the new Med-Now center on Elbert St. The department installed services to two new homes, the Willis home on Washington Hwy. and the Marlow home on Calhoun Falls Hwy.

GAS:

The Natural Gas Department’s consultant Ideal Gas Measurement completed the annual regulator inspections and large meter testing. Southern Pipeline made a new high pressure tap on Mineral Springs Road for Limo Rd poultry farm project, and installed a new regulator station there. The department is nearing completion of adding service to the first of three poultry farms on Limo Road. Two new residential services were installed in October. Approximately 20 miles of the annual leak survey has been completed, and consultant Magnolia River performed the business district leak survey

PUBLIC WORKS:

Along with monthly routine maintenance, the Construction Crew started the prep work for construction on the Bailey Building at 23 S. Public Square. The Street Department prepped for paving. Contractors began work on the stormwater rehabilitation project on Brookwood Circle.

ELBERT HOTEL:

The latest occupancy statistics are as follows:

	<u>FY20</u>	<u>FY21</u>	<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY 23</u>	<u>FY24</u>
July	47.2%	31.4%	39.4%	23.8%	40.4%
August	50.2%	33.9%	40.0%	37.2%	47.0%
September	50.1%	31.5%	40.1%	48.0%	46.7%
October	39.5%	34.0%	46.7%	53.9%	55.4%
November	41.0%	31.5%	49.0%	53.6%	
December	30.3%	20.8%	36.3%	38.0%	
January	21.9%	28.9%	23.5%	40.6%	
February	33.1%	32.7%	39.2%	40.5%	
March	19.2%	32.7%	41.0%	51.9%	
April	4.7%	38.5%	46.8%	60.0%	
May	10.5%	43.7%	49.9%	59.7%	
June	19.8%	38.5%	41.5%	39.8%	
AVERAGE	30.6%	33.2%	41.1%	45.6%	47.4%

October occupancy reached record levels again, which was not surprising given that the HVAC project was finished in September with all rooms available for use in October.

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.