

CITY OF ELBERTON
WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE ELBERTON MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Tuesday, December 29, 2009 – 5:30 p.m.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof the Work Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton convened at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 29, 2009, in the staff development room of the Municipal Building, 203 Elbert Street with Mayor Guest presiding.

Present were: Council Members Butler, Colquitt, Hunt, and Seymour; City Manager Dunn, City Clerk Churney, City Attorney Phelps, and Assistant City Attorney Graves. Council Member Bob Paul was out of town during the meeting.

Mayor Guest called the meeting to order and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Council Member Seymour led in prayer.

City Manager Dunn presented the following items for discussion relating the agenda for the regular meeting of January 4:

1. Second reading of a resolution to purchase real estate. City Manager Dunn stated that a survey of the property would be completed prior to effectuating the purchase.
2. Approval of a contract with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) in the amount of \$183,274.10 for extension of Clairmont Avenue.

Council Member Butler asked the City Manager to investigate the need, if any, of emergency vehicle signs being placed on MLK Jr. Blvd. since the County emergency service had moved there. City Manager Dunn stated that he would discuss the signage with the GDOT.

The following matters were discussion by Council:

1. Discussion of the organizational meeting appointments. Oaths of Office for the Mayor and Council Members from Wards 1, 4 and 5 as well as the election and oath of the Mayor Pro tem, City Attorney, and Municipal Court Judge will be on the agenda. Mayor Guest stated that Judge Bailey will be present at the meeting to administer the Oaths of Offices. Mayor Guest added that the Tax Assessor Board will also need to be appointed for calendar year 2010.

City Manager Dunn added that the agenda will also include speaker from the floor Sandra Brown to update the activities of the Elbert County Chamber of Commerce. Recognition of employees that have attained 25 years of service to the city during 2009 will also be on the agenda. He also added that he had been contacted by Gary Jones to discuss the Oglesby Boulevard property. He recommended that Gary Jones discuss the property at the January 25 work session. The Elberton Housing Authority will also be on the January 25 work session agenda to speak to Council.

Council Member Butler inquired as to the status of the weather siren. City Manager Dunn stated that he would check with Chuck Almond about this. Elbert County had previously tried to obtain grant funding for the siren. However, if the city wanted to purchase a siren it would cost a minimum of \$10,000.

Council Member Colquitt inquired as to obtaining surety bonds from the top utility customers. City Attorney Phelps stated that surety bonds or irrevocable letters of credit from a bank are a tool that could be used to help cover bad debt losses, but unfortunately the bankruptcy laws still create significant hurdles on collecting bills prior to the bankruptcy filing.

Mayor Guest stated that Council should have received information on the Georgia Economic Developer's Association (GEDA) Legislative Reception in Atlanta on January 14 from 5-7 p.m. He stated that if Council wished to attend they would need to contact the City Manager or City Clerk by January 7. The reception is \$50 per person.

There being no further discussion, the work session was adjourned.