

CITY OF ELBERTON
FINAL MEETING OF THE 2019 MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Monday, January 6, 2020 – 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, January 6, 2020 in 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. Rev. Gary Purvis let the assembly in prayer.

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

There were no speakers from the floor or Ordinances and Resolutions to be considered at this meeting.

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

1. Approved the expenditures that exceed the city manager’s purchasing authority as follows:

Department: Elberton Utilities - Natural Gas Division	
High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) natural gas pipe for Northeast Expansion Project Phase 2: 31,000 feet of 6”, 2,500 feet of 4”, and 8,000 feet of 2”.	
Vendor:	Bid:
Irby Utilities	RECOMMENDED
Utilities Supply	\$181,470.00
Consolidated Pipe & Supply	\$190,460.00
	\$219,700.00

2. Authorized the issuance of an alcoholic beverage license for retail sales of beer and wine for Mr. Sangit Sheth of Petro Food Mart located at 310 Elbert Street.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

- Financial Report ending November 30, 2019
- Monthly report on the activities of various departments

CITY CLERK:

The department is working to update Elberton’s boundaries as part of the LUCA update for the 2020 census.

Over 300 items were delivered to East Central Regional Hospital in Augusta on behalf of the employees for the Annual Mayors' Christmas Motorcade.

The department mailed 453 business license renewal applications for calendar year 2020, which included renewals for occupational, regulatory, financial, vending/amusement, and professional tax licensing. Businesses have until April 1 to submit renewals.

Five Secondhand Dealer renewal applications were mailed for calendar year 2020.

Four non-profit peddler's permits and three for-profit peddler's permits were issued during calendar year 2019.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

The department will be participating in the Job Fair at the Elbert County Comprehensive High School next month along with a dozen other local businesses.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 55 alarm calls for the month of December 2019. These calls consisted of 3 Vehicle Accidents, 37 Medical Emergencies, 9 False Alarms, 1 Structure Fire (Contained to Floor Furnace), 1 Power Line Down, 1 Assist to Police Department, 1 Flammable Liquid Spill, and 2 Aircraft Standby. The department conducted 4 fire inspections, and issued 2 burn permits. The Fire Department also conducted 285 hours of in-house training and 0 out of station training for the month as well.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

The building inspection department issued 16 permits for the Month of December, 2019. The department issued 6 Building Permits, 5 Electrical Permits, 2 Plumbing permits, 2 Sign Permits, and 1 Driveway permit. During this same period there were 8 Building Inspections, 7 Electrical Inspections, 1 Driveway Inspection, and 3 Sign Inspections.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Officers from the police department hosted this year's "Shop with a Cop" program at Wal-mart as we have done in years past. Twenty-one children who were not expecting a very prosperous Christmas were treated to a \$100 gift card that they could use to purchase gifts for themselves and their family. Each child shopped with an officer until they got everything they wanted. This year's program was a great success thanks to the officers, Elbert County school system, the children and of course the Wal-mart Corporation.

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

1145	Calls for Service
347	Vehicle Traffic Stops
132	Incident Reports were filed
268	City Court cases made
28	Traffic accidents were investigated

- 87 People were arrested for various charges
- 26 Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
- 34 Drug related charges were made
- 108 Department Training Hours

The Group A crimes of the (NIBRS) National Incident Based Reporting System are sent to the FBI on a monthly basis. **This is a new way of reporting that offers more detail on offenses.** The Group A crimes for November 2019 are as follows:

	November 2019	October 2019	% Change +/-
Kidnapping:	0	0	No Change
Rape:	0	0	No Change
Robbery:	2	0	Down 100%
Assault:	18	15	Up 20%
Burglary:	4	4	No Change
Larceny/Theft:	11	17	Down 35.2%
Motor vehicle theft:	1	1	No Change
Counterfeiting/Forgery:	3	1	Up by 200%
Fraud Offenses:	0	4	Down 100%
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism:	9	8	Up 12.5%
Drug Offenses:	33	7	Up 371.4%
Weapons Violations:	1	1	No Change

WATER & SEWER:

The crews repaired water leaks on Roosevelt Street, Park Street, Porter Drive, South Oliver Street and Seaboard Street. The crews replace a fire hydrant at the corner of North Oliver Street and Deadwyler Street. The crews repaired a fire hydrant on Tate Street. The crews raised valve boxes along Elbert Street and Tate Street to the new asphalt level. The crews installed a 3/4 inch water tap and meter at 2581 Athens Highway. The crews set valve boxes at the intersection of Sam Paul Road and Athens Highway.

The crews cleaned and inspected sewer services on South McIntosh Street. The crews made repairs to Industrial Park, Hickory Drive and Silk Mill lift stations. The crews replaced the drive roller gears and bearings on the Fortson’s Creek Wastewater Plant belt press. The crews repaired leaks on both the chlorine and caustic feed systems at the Filter Plant.

ELECTRIC:

The electric department installed a new underground service on Filter Plant Drive. The department pulled 19 old poles from transfer tickets that had been completed by AT&T. Some tickets were 6 years old. The department installed 6 new security lights for Pilgrims.

CITY MARSHAL:

In collaboration with the GA Dept of Revenue Alcohol & Tobacco Division we conducted an underage undercover alcohol sales investigation. Of the 29 businesses that have an alcohol license, 20 businesses that were open were checked. We had zero (0) violations for alcohol sales. The businesses did a great job of asking for proper ID prior to the sale of the alcoholic beverage to the minor.

PUBLIC WORKS:

The TSPLOST paving project phase 1 is complete. The project included Progress Boulevard, Park Street, Woodland Rd., McKinley, Willow, Thompson, Cole, Bartlett, and Tate Streets.

NATURAL GAS:

The Natural Gas Department activated the 4" High Density pipe line from Sam Paul Rd at Athens Hwy to the dead end of existing 2" PE on Nickville Rd. The department also bored underneath Bowman Hwy with help from the Electric Department. The purpose of the bore is to installing two new 2" regulator stations to expand capacity. One will feed Nickville Rd. and the other will feed Pulliam Mill Rd. to fix both pressure issues that have been occurring during periods of high consumption.

The department installed two residential services and removed one for demolition. The department completed our normal tasks including Routine Patrolling, CP Test Points and Rectifier to finish out the maintenance for the year to meet all compliance requirements.

MAIN STREET:

We kicked off our 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 had the lighting of the Christmas tree, Snow on The Square, Santa, vendors, Christmas Carolers, L3 Baton performed, and downtown merchants and restaurants stayed open later for the event. We also had several activities for the kids that included fire truck rides, face painting, Christmas crafts, community coloring banner, outdoor Christmas movie, along with popcorn and hot chocolate. Everyone turned in their receipts from the 12 Days of Christmas Cash and a winner was drawn for the \$500 cash prize and 5 additional winners were drawn for the \$100 in Downtown Dollars. We had a record breaking 1,119 tickets turned in for the drawing. That was a total of \$11,190.00 in sales in the downtown business area that was generated during the 12 Days of Christmas Cash. We have received much positive feedback from this year's event.

The annual Christmas parade was held on Sunday, December 1 at 4 p.m.

The DDA/Main Street board held their yearly planning session on the evening of Tuesday, December 10 at City Hall. Plans for the 2020 New Year were discussed and strategies on how to execute these plans were laid out. The 2020 event calendar was also set and approved. We look forward to growing these events and the amount of people each will bring in.

ELBERT THEATRE:

There were 46 events including ETF's Christmas Movie Field Trips & paint classes; COE's *Frozen II* & *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker* movie showings, Encore Productions' *Elf Jr* rehearsals, performances and cast party & *Hank Williams* auditions and rehearsals; and DAR's *Nancy Hart* film screening at the Elbert Theatre & Arts Center from Nov 20-Dec 23.

A total of 3,997 patrons visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center between November 20 and December 23.

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%	41.0%
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%	45.6%

The new retail food items opened in mid-December to our guests and to the general public. The retail items include a Combo that contains a sandwich, a side items, and a fountain beverage. There are 5 sandwiches and 5 side items from which to choose. Desserts are also available. After this project is completed and ongoing, the next step will be to try and re-open the bar. We are still waiting on the alcohol pouring license from the State of Georgia.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney:

- Dilapidated housing report.

Matters to be considered by Council:

- Council expressed their thanks to Council Member Hunt for his service to the city over the past 24 years.

There being no further business to come before Council, upon proper motion and second the final meeting of 2019 was adjourned.

**CITY OF ELBERTON
ORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

Monday, January 6, 2020 – 5:43 p.m.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof the Organizational & Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council convened as stated above in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 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 administered the Oath of Office to Council Members Terry Burton and Troy Colquitt.

Council Member Prince nominated Kyle Parham for Mayor Pro tem for the calendar year 2020, Council Member Butler closed the nominations and the nomination passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Prince, Colquitt). Judge Bailey administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Colquitt.

Council Member Colquitt nominated Steve Jenkins as the City Attorney. Council Member Butler closed the nominations and the nomination passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Parham, Prince, Colquitt). Council Member Butler nominated Robert A. Johnson as Municipal Court Judge. Council Member Parham closed the nominations and the nomination passed unanimously (Butler, Burton, Parham, Prince, Colquitt).

Mayor Guest administered the Oath of Office to Steve Jenkins and Robert A. Johnson.

Council Member Colquitt introduced a Resolution of Appreciation for Council Member Hunt.

**RESOLUTION UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED
BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELBERTON
January 6, 2020**

WHEREAS: Mr. Bobby G. Hunt served as a member of the City Council for twenty-four years from January of 1996 until January of 2020; and

WHEREAS: Council Member Hunt served as Mayor Pro tempore during calendar year 1997, 2002, 2007, 2011 and 2017; and

WHEREAS: His public service as a Council Member was marked with wisdom, foresight, knowledge, patience, leadership, good judgment and cooperation for the betterment of the community he served; and

WHEREAS: In carrying out his prescribed duties and responsibilities of his public service he did render invaluable assistance to the citizens and customers of the City of Elberton; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Hunt is a gentleman in every sense of the word with admirable expertise and temperament, and a fine example of a devoted public servant to all municipal officials.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton that we do publicly and proudly express deep gratitude and thanks for Mr. Bobby G. Hunt's commitment to the betterment of the quality of life of the City of Elberton, and for his exceptional service as a Council Member.

Unanimously adopted this 6th day of January, 2020.

Mayor Guest read the Resolution as presented. Council Member Colquitt motioned to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Council Member Butler and the motion pass unanimously (Butler, Burton, Parham, Prince, Colquitt).

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