

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ELBERTON MAYOR & COUNCIL

Monday, July 11, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council convened at 5:30 p. m. on Monday, July 11, 2011 in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 203 Elbert Street with Mayor Guest presiding.

Present were: Council Members Butler, Colquitt, Hunt, Seymour, and Paul; City Attorney Phelps, City Manager Dunn and City Clerk Churney.

Mayor Guest led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and Rev. Patricia Hunt led in prayer.

Council Member Paul motioned to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2011 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting, June 6, 2011 Called Meeting and Budget Work Session and the June 13, 2011 Public Hearing and Called Meeting as submitted, seconded by Council Member Seymour and the motion passed unanimously.

Controller Kevin Eavenson presented the Financial Report through May 2011 with the following net assets:

General Fund	\$ 4.3 million
Combined Utilities Fund	\$ 24.8 million
Elberton Technology Services Fund	\$ 1.3 million net loss
Solid Waste Fund	\$ 217,380
Unrestricted Investments-General Fund and Utility Fund	\$ 4.8 million
Restricted Investments (SPLOST & Utility Funds)	\$ 1.4 million

Mr. Robert Roe with the Elbert County Little League was present to discuss leasing the Heard Drive property. Mr. Roe asked if Mr. David Dye could address Council since he was more familiar with the property. Council Member Paul motioned to hear Mr. Dye, seconded by Council Member Butler and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Dye asked if Council had decided what they were going to do to the Heard Drive property. Mayor Guest stated that Council had directed the City Manager to develop a plan. He recommended that Mr. Dye meet with City Manager Dunn to discuss options.

Mr. Roger McCannon of 522 Rhodes Drive was present to lodge a complaint. He stated that he was upset about a recent traffic stop at the intersection of Thomas and Park Streets. He stated that he failed to come to a complete stop at the intersection and was stopped by an officer who became irate to him.

As privilege of the chair, Mayor Guest recognized the Elberton Group that will be representing Elberton in Mure-cho, Japan for the 2011 Summer Exchange. The Elberton Group will depart for Japan on July 13 and return with the Mure Group on July 27.

Council Member Paul introduced the following Resolution of Appreciation:

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS: Mr. Lonnie Jenkins Blackwell is married to Betty Blackwell and they have six children and ten grandchildren and he has lived on Pulliam Street since 1969; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Blackwell served his country by serving in the United States Army for two years, is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a former member of the Elks Club, and a dedicated citizen of Elberton and Elbert County; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Blackwell is a member of the Sardis Baptist Church in Hart County and also attends the Westside Presbyterian Church on Pulliam Street in Elberton; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Blackwell worked and retired from the Southeastern Power Administration where he worked as Clerk and in Supply for twenty-seven years, is a Bailiff for the Elbert County Superior Court and has his own landscaping business; and

WHEREAS: Sometime in the 1980's, a loose knit of people, most of whom did not live in the Pulliam Street area, began to hang around Pulliam Street starting problems, then leaving the area; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Blackwell met with Mayor Iola Stone, Council Member Sara Kantala, the Police Department and a handful of concerned citizens from the Pulliam Street area at the Westside Presbyterian Church to form the first Neighborhood Watch Program in Elberton; and

WHEREAS: Due to this program's conception, a huge difference began: the attitude of the neighborhood changed, thugs left the property, properties were improved; and yards were cleaned up; and

WHEREAS: Because one man decided to stand up for what was right, Lonnie Blackwell being that man, the watch program began, and he has served as both Vice President and President of the Westside Neighborhood Watch Program and is still active today alternating meetings between the Westside Presbyterian Church and the Union Grove Church; and

WHEREAS: Due to the beginning of one watch, we now have Neighborhood Watch Programs on the North, East and South sides of Elberton in addition to the Westside Watch.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton that we hereby express our gratitude to Mr. Lonnie J. Blackwell for his selfless dedication to do the right thing and for his invaluable services to his city and community and for making every effort to ensure that this city and the county is a safer place in which to live.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the permanent records of the City of Elberton and a copy of this Resolution be presented to Mr. Blackwell as a token of our appreciation.

City Manager Dunn read the Resolution in its entirety. Council Member Paul motioned to adopt the Resolution as read, seconded by Council Member Colquitt and the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Guest presented the Resolution to Mr. Blackwell who was present at the meeting.

Mayor Pro tem Hunt introduced the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELBERTON CLASSIFYING THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF FUND BALANCE AS DEFINED IN GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD STATEMENT NO. 54, AND TO ADOPT A POLICY FOR ACCOUNTING FOR AND EXPENDING FUND BALANCE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Elberton hereby finds that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board has issued Statement No. 54 entitled "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions;" and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to classify the various components of fund balance reported by the City as defined in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54.

NOW THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1: The Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton hereby defines the various components of fund balance as reported by the City as presented in the attached Policy (Exhibit A);

Section 2: The classification and reporting of fund balance components as required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54 will become effective starting with the 2012 Fiscal Year that began July 1, 2011.

Section 3: The Mayor and Council designates the City Manager as the official to determine and define the amounts of those components of fund balance that are classified as "Assigned Fund Balance."

City Manager Dunn read the Resolution in its entirety. Mayor Pro tem Hunt motioned to adopt the Resolution as read, seconded by Council Member Paul and the motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Butler introduced the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION
OF THE CITY OF ELBERTON**

WHEREAS: There currently exists four vacancies on the Elberton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) board of directors; and

WHEREAS: O.C.G.A. Section 36-42-6 allows the governing body of the municipal corporation to appoint directors of the DDA by resolution; and

WHEREAS: The Mayor and five Council Members of the City of Elberton constitute the governing body pursuant to that state law O.C.G.A. Section 36-42-3; and

WHEREAS: The Mayor respectfully submits to the Council the names of Mr. Jason Ray and Mr. Zeb Worley to be considered for appointments as directors of the DDA; and

WHEREAS: The Mayor also respectfully submits to the Council the name of Mr. Stan Brown and Mr. Jim Jenkins to be considered for reappointments as directors of the DDA; and

WHEREAS: Mr. Jason Ray, Mr. Zeb Worley, Mr. Stan Brown and Mr. Jim Jenkins meet the qualifications of being a director of the Elberton DDA in that certain state law O.C.G.A. Section 36-42-7, being that the above stated qualify as (a) persons who have an economic interest in the redevelopment and revitalization of the downtown development area.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton hereby appoint Mr. Jason Ray and Mr. Zeb Worley as well as reappoint Mr. Stan Brown and Mr. Jim Jenkins as directors of the Elberton DDA as follows:

Mr. Jason Ray, term to end June 30, 2013; Mr. Zeb Worley, term to end June 30, 2013; Mr. Stan Brown, term to end June 30, 2015; and Mr. Jim Jenkins, term to end June 30, 2015.

City Manager Dunn read the Resolution in its entirety. Council Member Seymour motioned to adopt the Resolution as read, seconded by Council Member Butler and the motion passed unanimously.

City Manager Dunn informed Council of an additional Resolution for a USDA, Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant that needed to be considered by Council. Council Member Paul introduced the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION
USDA, RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RURAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE GRANT

WHEREAS: The City of Elberton was awarded a Rural Business Enterprise Grant in the amount of \$144,687 to be used to install telecommunications technology infrastructure to and throughout Richard B. Russell State Park; and

WHEREAS: The City plans to provide \$1,036,008 to the project, which includes \$62,009 from the OneGeorgia Authority and \$974,000 from the ElbertonNET 2010 Expansion Project; and

WHEREAS: The project will create and/or save jobs in the community, increase tourism to Elbert County, and greatly enhance the State Park; and

WHEREAS: The Elberton City Council is composed of five members, of whom three constituting a quorum, were present at this meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Elberton, Georgia hereby agrees to the responsibilities and requirements of the USDA Rural Development Grant and authorizes the Mayor, City Manager, and/or City Clerk to execute the necessary documents to receive the funds associated with the grant.

City Manager Dunn read the Resolution in its entirety. Council Member Butler motioned to adopt the Resolution as read, seconded by Council Member Paul and the motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Paul motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Council Member Butler and the motion passed unanimously.

1. Approved the expenditures that exceed the city manager's purchasing authority.

Elberton Utilities – Electric Division Right of Way Clearing for 4 distribution circuits, approximately 35 linear miles		
Number	Vendor	Bid Amount
1	Asplundh	\$89,520.10 Recommended
2	Townsend Tree Service	\$123,630.00
3	Trees Unlimited	\$135,902.64

Bid opening held July 1, 2011. Recommendation based on low bidder.

2. Approved the dues, travel and training for all city departments.

City Clerk:

Cindy Churney

2011 GA General Assembly Update on Legislative Laws Passed

Elberton, GA

August 3, 2011

Registration: No Cost

Police Department:

Phillip Hoot & Cindy Cabrera

Officer's Response to Domestic Violence Athens, GA (40 hours)

August 29 - September 2, 2011

Registration: None Travel/Lodging: \$250.00

Joe McGuffin & Allen Lee

Professional Management Program Conyers, GA

September 5-9, 2011

Registration: None Travel/Lodging: \$,1000.00

Sam Hill & Jason Bagwell

D.U.I. Detention & Standardized FST.

Forsyth, GA (24 hours)

September 7-9, 2011

Registration: None Travel/Lodging: \$354.00

Luke Mize & Kyle Dodson

Criminal Procedure 40 hours

Athens, GA

September 26-30, 2011

Registration: None Travel/Lodging: \$250.00

Nancy Littleton

Municipal Court Clerk Training

Athens, GA

November 2, 2011

Registration: \$150.00 Travel/Lodging: None

3. Authorized the Mayor and/or City Manager to execute the necessary documents with the Elbert County Chamber of Commerce for Tourism Services for FY12.

4. Approved the ECG contract to add an additional site to the solar project.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

- The USDA grant is for the broadband infrastructure in Richard B. Russell State Park.
- The Old City Quarry project will run from Campbell Street by the old quarry to MLK, then under MLK to connect to the main street along the creek that runs beside MLK.
- The solar panels were installed on City Hall last week.
- The new HVAC units have been installed at City Hall, which was part of the Energy Efficiency Block Grant from GEFA.

- The DOT will contribute \$120,000 toward the Forest Avenue Culvert project.
- The Urban Redevelopment Plan process has started. The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission will be assisting in the project.
- ElbertonNET 10th anniversary will sponsor the Swingin Medallions concert downtown on July 23, 2011. There will be a hospitality room for customers to visit.
- Monthly reports on the activities of various Departments

City Attorney Phelps stated that several of the dilapidated properties on the City Marshal's report is scheduled to be heard by the Court in July.

City Attorney Phelps informed Council that he was researching the immigration law and liability of criminal background with relation to revising the peddler's license. He stated that he would have a draft ready for Council to review at the August meeting.

Council discussed the following matters:

- Council Member Paul asked the City Manager if there was anything he needed from them with regard to Roger McCannons concerns. City Manager Dunn stated that he had gone as far as he could. He welcomed Council to view the video at the Elberton Police Department.
- Council Member Paul inquired as to what position is Council on as to addressing "speed bumps". City Manager Dunn stated that staff would check other cities on speed bump regulations. He also stated that they would look into establishing criteria for cut through areas vs. residential areas for speed bumps. Council Member Butler asked City Attorney Phelps to research "impeding traffic" regulations for the August meeting.
- Council Member Colquitt recommended benches to be installed in the gazebo at the Granite City Walking Trail and to any other locations that would be beneficial to walkers.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk