

CITY OF ELBERTON
WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE ELBERTON MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Thursday, July 2, 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 Thursday, July 2, 2009, in the staff development room of the Municipal Building, 203 Elbert Street with Mayor Guest presiding.

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

Mayor Guest called the meeting to order. Mayor Pro tempore Paul led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and City Attorney Phelps led the assembly in prayer.

City Manager Dunn presented the following items for discussion relating the agenda for the regular meeting of July 9, 2009:

1. Ordinance 2157 for first reading to annex 1348 Fairway Drive and 1323 Fairway Drive into the Corporate Limits of Elberton as petitioned by the property owners.
2. Declaring surplus property along Tribble Street (adjacent to Recycling Center). This was a request from adjacent property owner for 10 additional feet along the property line to address drainage problems. Council member Butler expressed concern that 10 feet is too small an area. Council asked Mr. Dunn to meet with the property owner and discuss selling 20, 25, or 30 feet along the property line, with the purchaser paying for surveying and deed work.
3. Minutes and decisions of the Elberton Historic Preservation Commission meeting of June 2, 2009. Council member Butler asked if black and white are considered colors in the 3-color specifications. Council member Paul asked for an update on the National Register application process.
4. Application from Rajesh G. Patel for an alcoholic beverage license (retail- beer) at 202-A Elbert Street. Council asked if this applicant owns any other stores in Elberton. Council asked if this location has experience selling violations previously.
5. Mr. Dunn stated 4 bid openings were scheduled for July 6, and that 2 most likely would be in excess of \$10,000 and thus on the consent agenda.
6. Mr. Dunn stated that the CEO and CFO of Elbert Memorial Hospital had requested to be Speakers from the Floor at the July 9 meeting.

City Manager Dunn presented the following items for discussion that had been previously requested by council members:

1. Review of board appointments expiring within 6 months. Mr. Colquitt asked that the Development Authority board be filled as two terms are currently expired. Mr. Paul asked for the requirements for being a city appointment to the Development Authority. Mr. Butler asked why the by-laws prohibit elected officials from serving. Mr. Butler asked for investigation into the by-laws of other communities who do allow elected officials to serve. Mr. Paul and Mr. Hunt inquired as to the process by which the by-laws are changed. Mr. Butler stated that the reports from the Development Authority about prospects over the years are just not complete enough to determine what more is needed to attract industry and jobs.
2. Mr. Dunn presented charts showing utility sales in units over several years.
3. Mr. Dunn presented the water and sewer capital project plan previously discussed at the March 2009 planning session.

The following other matters were discussed by Council:

1. Mr. Seymour stated there were parking concerns on Presbyterian Lane and that the city manager and police chief would be presenting a recommendation which may include making part of the street a no parking zone.
2. Mr. Seymour stated that council should consider making the red light at the intersection of Heard Street and Thomas Street a 4-way stop instead of a red light as was done at the intersection of Church Street and McIntosh Street several years ago.
3. Mr. Paul referred to an internet article he emailed council about problems with personal care homes in Cairo, Ga. Mr. Dunn stated that Ms. Churney would be requesting a copy of Cairo's new ordinance. Mr. Paul asked council to consider changing the zoning ordinance to not allow personal care homes in single family residential zones, and reserved them for multi-family zones.
4. Mr. Paul discussed the environmental sustainability class he attended at the GMA convention in Savannah. Council discussed emphasizing more recycling, perhaps with other types of containers, and accepting some hazardous material at the recycling center such as batteries and CFL light bulbs. Council discussed the use of gray water.
5. Mr. Colquitt discussed the Transportation Policy meeting he attended at the GMA Convention in Savannah. Mr. Colquitt stated that the DOT has no money and that the rules have changed, and that the DOT staff is not really that clear on the new rules.

6. Mr. Butler asked if the deed work for the land sale on Martin Luther King Blvd. approved several years ago to Steve Ridgeway was completed yet.
7. Mr. Butler reported to council about complaints he had received about “busting’ slack” – young men wearing pants below their waist and exposing underwear. Mr. Butler asked that if other council members had received similar complaints, to please pass the information along to the city manager. Mr. Phelps reported that other communities had passed ordinances, but he felt certain that the legality of them would soon be challenged.

Mayor Guest asked to change the Regular Council Meeting date from Monday, July 13 to Thursday, July 9 because of scheduling conflicts, Council concurred.

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

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk