

CITY OF ELBERTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
Monday, August 3, 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, August 3, 2020 at the Elberton Arts Center, 17 West Church Street with Mayor Guest presiding.

The City of Elberton announced July 28, 2020 a change to the location of its regular meeting of the Mayor and Council for August. Due to the Governor's executive order restricting public gatherings, the meeting will be held at the Elberton Arts Center, located at 17 West Church Street, which is a larger venue than City Hall.

Present were: Council Members Butler, Colquitt, Burton, and Parham; City Attorney Jenkins, City Manager Dunn and City Clerk Churney. Council Member Prince arrived at the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

Mayor Guest called the meeting to order. He led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

Council Member Butler motioned to approve the minutes of the July 9 meeting, seconded by Council Member Parham and the motion passed unanimously (Butler, Colquitt, Burton, Parham).

There were no speakers from the floor.

Council Member Butler introduced the following Resolution for consideration:

RESOLUTION
to Lease, Purchase, and/or Finance Equipment

WHEREAS, the laws of the State of Georgia (the "State") authorize the City of Elberton (the "Governmental Entity"), a duly organized municipal corporation of the State, to purchase, acquire and lease personal property for the benefit of the Governmental Entity and its inhabitants and to enter into any necessary contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Governmental Entity wants to lease, purchase and/or finance equipment ("Equipment") from **Caterpillar Financial Services Corporation** and/or an authorized Caterpillar dealer ("Caterpillar") by entering into that certain Governmental Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement (the "Agreement") with Caterpillar; and

WHEREAS, the form of the Agreement has been presented to the governing body of the Governmental Entity at this meeting.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that:

(i) the Agreement, including all schedules and exhibits attached to the Agreement, is approved in substantially the form presented at the meeting, with any Approved Changes (as defined below),

(ii) the Governmental Entity enter into the Agreement with Caterpillar, and

(iii) the Agreement is adopted as a binding obligation of the Governmental Entity; and that changes may later be made to the Agreement if the changes are approved by the Governmental Entity's counsel or members of the governing body of the Governmental Entity signing the Agreement (the "Approved Changes") and that the signing of the Agreement and any related documents is conclusive evidence of the approval of the changes; and that the persons listed below, who are the incumbent officers of the Governmental Entity (the "Authorized Persons"):

Lanier Dunn	City Manager
Cindy Churney	City Clerk

be, and each is, authorized, directed and empowered, on behalf of the Governmental Entity, to (i) sign and deliver to Caterpillar, and its successors and assigns, the Agreement and any related documents, and (ii) take or cause to be taken all actions he/she deems necessary or advisable to acquire the Equipment, including the signing and delivery of the Agreement and related documents; and that the Clerk of the Governmental Entity is authorized to attest to these resolutions and affix the seal of the Governmental Entity to the Agreement, these resolutions, and any related documents; and that nothing in these resolutions, the Agreement or any other document imposes a pecuniary liability or charge upon the general credit of the Governmental Entity or against its taxing power, except to the extent that the payments payable under the Agreement are special limited obligations of the Governmental Entity as provided in the Agreement; and that a breach of these resolutions, the Agreement or any related document will not impose any pecuniary liability upon the Governmental Entity or any charge upon its general credit or against its taxing power, except to the extent that the payments payable under the Agreement are special limited obligations of the Governmental Entity as provided in the Agreement; and that the authority granted by these resolutions will apply equally and with the same effect to the successors in office of the Authorized Persons; and that the undersigned's certification of the Authorized Persons' signatures shall be binding on the Governmental Entity.

Resolved this the 3rd day of August, 2020

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

Council Member Butler introduced the following Resolution for consideration:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has established a grant program to assist local governments with expenses related to the pandemic of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, this grant program is being administered by the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget ("OPB") who has created GeorgiaCARES to manage the grant program; and

WHEREAS, these are federally sourced funds from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) established within Section 601 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City of Elberton has an initial allocation of \$226,613.14 from GeorgiaCARES to be used for eligible expenses only.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Elberton that the Mayor or City Manager is authorized to execute a Grant Agreement to accept the GeorgiaCARES funding and to accept payments from the Coronavirus Relief Fund, including all the Terms and Conditions contained in the Grant Agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager or Chief Financial Officer is authorized and directed as official representatives of the city to act in connection with the Grant Agreement and to provide such additional information as may be required to comply with the Terms and Conditions of the Grant Agreement.

RESOLVED this the 3rd day of August, 2020.

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

Council Member Butler introduced the following Resolution for consideration:

**CITY OF ELBERTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, there currently exists a vacancy on the Elberton Downtown Development Authority (DDA) board of directors due the expired terms; 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 name of Ms. Bailee Burton to be considered for appointment as director of the DDA; and

WHEREAS, the appointee meets 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 nominee qualifies as a (a) person who has 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 Ms. Bailee Burton as a director of the Elberton DDA, term to end June 30, 2024.

RESOLVED this 3rd day of August, 2020.

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

There were no consent agenda items to consider.

City Manager Dunn presented the following reports:

- Financial Report ending June 30, 2020
- Monthly report on the activities of various departments as follows:

CITY CLERK:

The department submitted the Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year 2021 to the Tax and Expenditure Center at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government as required by TED House Bill 122.

The department submitted the Historic Preservation Activities Report and Evaluation for years 2016-2019 as required every four years by the Historic Preservation Division (HPD).

HUMAN RESOURCES:

The annual GMEBS retirement pension fund census reporting has been submitted on-line for 2019 earnings. This report is mandatory and due annually to the Georgia Municipal Association.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

The Fire Department responded to 43 alarm calls for the month of July, 2020. These calls consisted of 2 Vehicle Accidents, 25 Medical Emergencies, 6 False Alarms, 1 Vehicle Fire, 1 Power Pole Fire, 1 Gas Leak, 1 Structure Fire, 1 Grass Fire, 1 Trash Fire, 1 Aircraft Standby, and 3 Service Calls. The department conducted 0 fire inspections, and issued 2 burn permits. The Fire Department also conducted 399 hours of in-house training and 36 hours out of station training.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

The building inspection department issued 11 permits for the Month of July, 2020. Permits issued: 2 Building Permits, 5 Electrical Permits, 2 HVAC/Mechanical permits, 1 reroof permit and 1 driveway permit. During this same period there were 2 building Inspections, 5 electrical inspections, and 19 site visits.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

The Elberton Police Department released their monthly activity for the month of June 2020. The department recorded:

834	Calls for Service
85	Vehicle Traffic Stops
83	Incident Reports were filed
57	City Court cases made
17	Traffic accidents were investigated
46	People were arrested for various charges
5	Person was arrested for Driving under the Influence
34	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 June 2020 are as follows:

	June 2020	May 2020	% Change +/-
Kidnapping:	2	0	Up by two incidents
Rape Offenses:	1	1	No Change
Robbery:	0	1	Down 100%
Assault:	20	14	Up 43%
Burglary:	3	3	No Change
Larceny/Theft:	9	4	Up 125%
Motor vehicle theft:	0	0	No Change
Counterfeiting/Forgery:	1	0	Up by one incident
Fraud Offenses:	2	3	Down 33%
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism:	6	8	Down 25%
Drug Offenses:	2	4	Down 50%
Weapons Violations:	0	0	No Change
Animal Cruelty	0	0	No Change
Sex Offenses	0	1	Down 100%
Prostitution Offenses	0	1	Down 100%

WATER & SEWER:

The crews repaired water leaks on Carey Street, Elbert Street, Caldwell Court and Williams Lane. The crews replaced angle valves at 176 College Avenue, 1121 Mill Street, 214 McKinley Street and 97 Carey Street. The crews replaced a 2-inch valve on Porter Drive. The crews raised valve boxes along Athens Tech Drive to level of new asphalt.

The crews changed the oil and greased the blowers at the Falling Creek Treatment Plant and the Fortson's Creek Treatment Plant. The crews drained and washed basins #1 and #2 at the Filter Plant. The crews replaced #2 high service pump motor.

Contractors continue to work at the Filter Plant on chemical feed improvement upgrades. Start up on the new carbon feed system was July 22, 2020. The new carbon feed system is working great and the project should be complete within a month.

ELECTRIC:

During the month of July the Electric department started the Water Filter Plant line rehabilitation job. This job will provide a more reliable power feed to the City's water system. The department finished out the month building a new line on Ruckersville Rd. for a new residential service.

PUBLIC WORKS:

The Street Division striped the parking lines on the public square, James Street, N. Oliver St., N. McIntosh Street, Heard Street and Church Street.

NATURAL GAS:

The Natural Gas Department installed 9 residential services and 3 poultry houses on Northeast Phase II Build. Seven additional residential services will be installed over the next couple of weeks on this new pipeline.

MAIN STREET:

Main Street along with Elbert Chamber and the Elbert 4H Extension office have been working together the past couple of months to bring back the Elberton Farmers Market. The first Elberton Farmer's Market was held on Saturday, July 11th from 7:00 a.m. - Noon. The market is located in the front parking lot of the Elberton First United Methodist Church (132 East Church Street). All vendors were sold out by 10:00 a.m.

All Main Street activities have been canceled until further notice. Because the planning period for the Annual Fall Festival has begun, the event is being reviewed for possible cancelation. This event brings so many visitors to the City of Elberton that it would be difficult to maintain social distancing.

ELBERT THEATRE:

There were 21 events at the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center including Encore Productions' *The Carol Burnett Show Sketches* rehearsals, EMH's meetings, ECCHS's graduation check-in, and ETF's *The Odd Couple* auditions from June 25 - July 23. A total of 192 patrons visited the Elbert Theatre & Elberton Arts Center during this period.

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%	30.3%
January	27.2%	35.5%	21.9%
February	29.0%	26.6%	33.1%
March	37.9%	35.0%	19.2%
April	32.3%	40.5%	4.7%
May	43.1%	52.7%	10.5%
June	36.4%	50.4%	19.8%
AVERAGE	35.4%	39.1%	30.6%

As of July 29, 2020 before the end of the month, July's occupancy had increased back to 31.2% for the month.

Restaurant service at the new The Quarry Plates and Pours restaurant continue to do very well at lunch. Because it has been impossible to find experienced personnel for bartending or in food preparation, plans to open for dinner have been put on hold indefinitely. Instead, the existing staff will focus on opening for breakfast service during the week in addition to weekday lunches. Sunday lunch is also being considered as an addition.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney:

- Dilapidated housing report.

There were no matters to be presented by Council.

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