



CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, November 25, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Mayor Jazzmin Cobble

Council Member Tara Graves - District 1 Council Member Terry Fye - District 2

Council Member Alecia Washington - District 3 Mayor Pro Tem George Turner - District 4

Council Member Tammy Grimes - District 5

Citizen Access: [Stonecrest YouTube Live Channel](#)

I. CALL TO ORDER: George Turner, Mayor Pro-Tem

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members were present.

III. INVOCATION

Pastor Roddrick Perrimond, New Love Tabernacle Christian Church

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Alecia Washington, District 3 Councilmember

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Request to defer the approval of the budget agenda item to the next City Council meeting, scheduled for December 16, 2024.

Request to add URA appointments under Appointments of Boards and Commission Members.

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner explained that the December Work Session and Council meeting will both be held on December 16th due to the holidays.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the meeting agenda with the stated adjustments. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval of Meeting Minutes - Council Retreat, June 20, 2024

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the meeting minutes from the June 20, 2024, City Council Retreat. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Approval of Meeting Minutes - Special Called Meeting, October 2, 2024

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the meeting minutes from the October 2, 2024, Special Called Meeting. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

Motion passed unanimously.

- c. Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Meeting, October 30, 2024

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the meeting minutes from the October 30, 2024, City Council Meeting. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

Motion passed unanimously.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Citizens wishing to make a public comment may do so in person. Citizens may also submit public comments via email to cityclerk@stonecrestga.gov by 2 pm on the day of the meeting to be read by the City Clerk.

All members of the public wishing to address the City Council shall submit their name and the topic of their comments to the city clerk prior to the start of any meeting held by the City Council. There is a three (3) minute time limit for each speaker submitting or reading a public comment. Individuals will be held to established time limits.

In Person

Faye Coffield – Asks council to deny Metro Green permit, has concerns about spending \$250,000 on accounting when the city has a Finance department.

Pyper Bunch – Speaking against Metro Green; would like business license to be denied.

Jennifer Bryant – Stop Metro Green.

Brenda Whitaker – Speaking against Metro Green.

Comments sent via email and read by the City Clerk

Jennifer Wilson – Speaking against Metro Green and asking city to deny business license.

Ed Williams – Speaking against Metro Green and asking city to deny business license.

Renee Cail – Asking city to deny Metro Green a business license.

Vivian Hudson - Would like the lighting at the Stonecrest Library and City Hall parking lots to be fixed. Concerned that there are currently no ordinances regarding pad splitting. Opposing Ordinance-TMOD 24-001-Truck Parking- does not want box trucks or 18-wheelers to be allowed to park in residential areas.

The following additional names were received and read by Councilmember Tammy Grimes of citizens that emailed their comment and did not copy the City Clerk:

Yolanda Whyte
Lucinda Jackson
Yomi Naibi
FreAsia Young
Shanda Brown
Simone Johnson
Erica Wagner
Erika Guy

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Citizens wishing to participate and comment during the public hearing portion of the meeting may comment in person. You may also submit your request including your full name, address, position on the agenda item you are commenting on (for or against) via email to cityclerk@stonecrestga.gov by 2 pm the day of the Public Hearing to be read into the record at the meeting. A zoom link for the meeting will be sent to you.

When it is your turn to speak, please state your name, address and relationship to the case..

There is a ten (10) minute time limit for each item per side during all public hearings. Only the applicant may reserve time for rebuttal.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

X. APPOINTMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner introduced this item and mentioned that the City of Stonecrest is looking to make an appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals but is not ready tonight.

Councilmember Tammy Grimes stated as a result of a former member resigning, her recommendation for the district 5 appointment to the Development Authority is Mr. Al Ringer and he has accepted.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to except Al Ringer as a member of the Stonecrest Development Authority. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

Motion passed unanimously.

XI. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

XII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **For Decision** - Resolution for 2024 GMA Health Wellness Grant - *Leona Durden, Human Resources Director*

Presentation by Director Durden asking council to accept the GMA Health and Wellness Grant in the amount of \$5,000 to help the City of Stonecrest support well-being initiatives for 2024-2025. This same grant was granted in 2023-2024, helping fund several lunch and learns along with a wellness week for staff. The grant was also used to outfit the city's Health and Wellness Center. The hope is to have a ribbon cutting during the first week of

January 2025. The Wellness Room will support the staff's mental health and well-being and the Fitness Room will support the staff's engagement in physical activity. The Wellness equipment does not belong to the Mayor or City Manager but it is available for all employees.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Resolution for 2024 GMA Health Wellness Grant. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. For Decision - Ordinance for TMOD 24-001 Truck Parking - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Presentation by Director Qawiy stating that the City of Stonecrest is seeking approval to modify article 6 section 6.1.3 Parking Regulations Off Street Parking Spaces to add parking regulations for commercial trucks and/or trailers. There was a review of facts & issues, parking regulations, off-street parking spaces and defined terms. Staff sent between 850-900 emails to business owners and received less than 100 responses in return. Councilmember Terry Fye suggested amending part D to go under section 6.1.3 as a new #7 or #8.

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Ordinance for TMOD 24-001 Truck Parking with the stated amendments. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

c. For Decision - Ordinance for TMOD 24-002 Hours of Operation Based in Uses, 2nd Read - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

Presentation by Director Qawiy stating that the City of Stonecrest is seeking approval to modify Chapter 4 Alcoholic Beverages, Chapter 15 Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations, Hours of Operation Based on Uses for alcohol sales to specify hours of operation for businesses operating in the city, to update definitions and uses and hours of operation for bars, lounges, clubs, restaurants (A), restaurants (B) and other uses in the city. There was a review of facts & issues, definitions, licensing, fees, and location restrictions. Mayor Cobble recommended that the late-night establishment process goes through a Special Administrative Permit (SAP) instead of a Special Land Use Permit (SLUP). Attorney Denmark recommended the same or offering clarity for businesses and taking a cautious approach. City Manager Scruggs confirmed the city does not want to cause a hardship on businesses. Councilmember Terry Fye suggested amending Section 15.7.6 back to 9am – 6pm and Section 15.7.7 not to exceed 10 people and amending D instead of C for hours to remain 10am - 5pm for Streets and Parks.

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Ordinance for TMOD 24-002 Hours of Operation Based in Uses, 2nd Read with stated conditions, amending SLUP to SAP and providing an effective date of June 30, 2025. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion – amended motion made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Ordinance for TMOD 24-002 Hours of Operation Based in Uses, 2nd Read, effective immediately. Second

by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- d. **For Decision** - Ordinance for TMOD 24-003 Alcohol Hours, 2nd Read - *Shawanna Qawiy, Planning & Zoning Director*

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Ordinance for TMOD 24-003 Alcohol Hours, 2nd Read. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

- e. **For Decision** - Recommendation for the Adoption of the FY 2025 Budget - *Gia Scruggs, City Manager*

This item was deferred to the next City Council meeting.

- f. **For Decision** - Appointment of Board & Commission Members - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem*

Presentation by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner stating the appointments for Construction Board of Appeals members Mr. Kerry Williams, Clara Black Delay and Michael Burdette will expire 12/31/2024, The recommendation is to allow each member to succeed themselves.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to accept the recommendation to allow Kerry Williams, Clara Black Delay and Michael Burdette to succeed themselves as members of the Construction Board of Appeals, with terms beginning January 1, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2028. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner stated the recommendations for appointment to the Planning Commission are, Erica Williams - District 1, Joyce Walker - District 2, Eric Hubbard - District 3, Pearl Hollis - District 4 and Lemuel Hawkins - District 5. The terms will begin January 1, 2025 and expire December 31, 2026.

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to accept the recommendation to allow Erica Williams, Joyce Walker, Eric Hubbard, Pearl Hollis and Lemuel Hawkins to succeed themselves as members of the Planning Commission with terms beginning January 1, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2026. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner stated the recommendations for appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals are Kelly Ross - District 1, Sonja Hicks - District 3, Michael Armstrong - District 4 and Shedrick Harris - District 5. The terms will begin January 1, 2025 and expire December 31, 2026.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to accept the recommendation to allow Kelly Ross, Sonja Hicks, Michael Armstrong and Shedrick Harris to succeed themselves as members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, with terms beginning January 1, 2025 and expiring December 31, 2026. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner stated the recommendations for appointments to the Urban Redevelopment Agency are Councilmember Alecia Washington and Councilmember George Turner. The terms will begin January 1, 2025 and expire December 31, 2027.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes accept the reappointment of Alecia Washington and George Turner as members of the Urban Redevelopment Agency with terms beginning January 1, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2027. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

There was a recommendation by Mayor Cobble to reappoint the current Chair, Jazzmin Cobble. This will be voted on by the URA.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. For Decision** - 2024 Street Resurfacing Contract Amendment #2 - *Hari Karikaran, City Engineer*

Presentation by City Engineer Karikaran stating that the council approved the street resurfacing contract in July 2024. The contractor is currently working on the last portion of the project. Staff recommend including a portion of Hayden Quarry, which is in bad shape. Staff is also asking council to approve contract #2 in the amount of \$111,781.69.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the 2024 Street Resurfacing Contract Amendment #2. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

XIV. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Attorney Denmark gave comments on Metro Green, stating the city denied the business license and certificate occupancy. Metro Green has the option to appeal, which would go through the Construction Board of Appeals, It is important for the public to know these go through the administrative level and not city council.

XV. CITY MANAGER UPDATE

The Parks Department has put together a celebration in recognition of 7 years of existence for the City of Stonecrest. On behalf of staff, thanks to the council for entrusting us. December 7th is: Light Up Stonecrest. Please come out between 5pm – 8pm at Browns Mill Rec Center.

XVI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Cobble – No Comments

District 1 – Tara Graves – Inviting everyone out to the last district townhall meeting on December 7th from 1:30- 3:00. Save the date of December 21st at 1pm, for the Toy Giveaway, which will take place at Privi. Wishing everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

District 2 – Terry Fye – Would like to thank Mayor Cobble, Councilmember Grimes and Councilmember Washington for stopping by the District 2 townhall. Sending heartfelt condolences to the family of the late Bruce Thompson.

District 3 – Alecia Washington – Wishing everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving. Please watch out for children who are out of school this week.

District 4 – Mayor Pro Tem George Turner – This election is very important. Please get out and vote.

District 5 – Tammy Grimes – There is a run-off in DeKalb County, please go and vote as it is your right and privilege. Be on the lookout for kids in need, She will be partnering with an organization and doing toy drives.

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(When an executive session is required, one will be called for the following issues: 1) Personnel, 2) Litigation, 3) Real Estate, 4) Cyber Security

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to adjourn the city council meeting. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The City of Stonecrest does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs, services, activities and employment practices. If you need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (such as a sign language interpreter, an assistive listening device or print material in digital format) or reasonable modification to programs, services or activities contact the ADA Coordinator, Sonya Isom, as soon as possible, preferably 2 days before the activity or event.