



CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Mayor Jazzmin Cobble

Council Member Tara Graves - District 1 Council Member Rob Turner - 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 began at 6:10 pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members present with Councilmember Tammy Grimes present via Zoom.

III. INVOCATION

Led by Councilmember Rob Turner.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Jazzmin Cobble requested item c be removed from the Consent Agenda so that council could review and provide comments at a later date.

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner requested Consent Agenda items a and b be removed and placed as c and d under Old Business. An appointment to the Parks and Recreation Committee will be added to the agenda as well as a proclamation to be read by Mayor Cobble. It was also requested that Item g under New Business be removed from the agenda.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve the March 27, 2023 City Council meeting agenda with the stated changes. Councilmember Tara Graves seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes - January 23, 2023

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the January 23, 2023 City Council meeting minutes. Councilmember Rob Turner seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of Meeting Minutes - February 27, 2023

Motion - made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the February 27, 2023 City Council meeting minutes. Councilmember Tammy Grimes seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

VII. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Jazzmin Cobble presented a proclamation to Stonecrest citizen Donna Rowe-Turner for outstanding achievement and being named by DeKalb County as Educational Professional 1 of the Year.

VIII. 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 two (2) minute time limit for each speaker submitting or reading a public comment. Individuals will be held to established time limits.

Donna Priest- Brown – Mrs. Brown submitted a written public comment that was read by the City Clerk. She expressed concerns with the Mayor listing the citizens of Stonecrest at the bottom of her presentation, instead of at the top, during the State of the City address.

Eboni Holmes - Displeased with the treatment she received from the Parks and Recreation Director regarding her Black Moses event.

Dave Marcus - Unhappy with Code Enforcements handling of the property at 3550 Ragsdale Road. He stated his concerns are unlicensed motor vehicles parking on unpaved surfaces, open storage of trash and debris, exterior and interior maintenance, and storage of large piles of rocks, filter, and equipment.

Terry Fye - Applauds council for the subscription to GMA's City of Ethics program and taking steps to restore integrity and transparency in the city.

Faye Coffield - Concerned that the Zoning Board of Appeals allowed a gas station that was in violation, questioned developers coming to Stonecrest and building what they want, stressed

uncertainty about what is being built at the corner of Klondike and Mall Parkway, questioned the need for security, she would like to see more streetlights installed with the help of the ARPA money, has concerns about Sea Quest currently operating without a permit and stated she will hold Council's feet to the fire regarding the promises of a Sports Complex.

Malaika Wells - Asked that council deny the IGA agreement with the Development Authority and the City, concerned with Council deciding on the Development Authority prior to appointing members to the Charter Review Commission, questioned if the city would be seeking to recoup costs from past contractors hired to do street repaving, questioned the cycle of allowing developers to operate in the city, questioned the Animal Exhibition TMOD, and major plat approval.

Antoine Davenport - Asked for support in merging the city, New Black Wall Street and the community to receive more support for businesses. He mentioned that he relocated from Maryland to be a part of New Black Wall Street.

Patricia Avery – Mrs. Avery is requesting support of New Black Wall Street.

Matthew Hampton - Asked that Mayor and Council consider the business owners and entrepreneurs in the community and at New Black Wall Street as they work on the Development Authority and particularly the tax abatement that was given to the Allen Family Investments. Mr. Hampton, along with several entrepreneurs of New Black Wall Street asked the mayor and council for support and involvement.

Cassandra Pate - Asked that council vote no on the rezoning for Sea Quest. She stated it is a liability.

IX. APPOINTMENTS

Councilmember Alecia Washington recommended the appointment of Kirby Frazier to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to accept the appointment of Kirby Frazier to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. Councilmember Alecia Washington seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

X. 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.

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **For Decision** - 2022 Street Paving - ER Snell Contract Change Order Request - *Hari Karikaran*

This item was originally item c and was removed from the agenda.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **For Decision** - TMOD 22-012 Animal Exhibition - *Ray White*

Ray White, Planning and Zoning Director, asked for this item to be deferred. Gia Scruggs, Acting City Manager, stated this item would be heard at the April Council meeting or at a meeting prior to that scheduled meeting.

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to defer TMOD 22-012 Animal Exhibition to the April Council meeting or to a Special Called meeting if it can be heard sooner. Councilmember Tara Graves seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. **For Decision** - SDP 22-00015 The Enclave at Arabia Mountain - *Ray White*

Ray White, Planning and Zoning Director, gave a presentation and stated the Enclave at Arabia Mountain is currently zoned A100, single family, in Arabia Mountain overlay. Staff's recommendation is approval with conditions. The conditions are as follows:

1. Approval is contingent upon the site layout plan named "The Enclave at Arabia Mountain" dated 03/17/2023.
2. Allowed number of Lots: 14 lots plus detention pond (previous layout had 18 lots).
3. All proposed peripheral lots shall be a minimum of 10,000 square feet. (In this case, all lots are considered peripheral lots).
4. Layout meets the TMOD 2019-02-001: Arabia Mountain Overlay District exterior boundary buffer of 30 feet.
5. The layout meets the TMOD 2019-02-001: Arabia Mountain Overlay District Greenspace requirement of 30% (31.69%)

Motion – made by Mayor Pro Tem George Turner to approve SDP 22-00015 The Enclave at Arabia Mountain with conditions. Councilmember Rob Turner seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

- c. **For Decision** - Retention Schedules for the Municipal Court of the City of Stonecrest - *Chief Judge Curtis Miller and Mallory Minor*

Mallory Minor, Court Administrator, gave a presentation. The preamble for this resolution was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve the retention schedules for the Municipal Court of the City of Stonecrest. Councilmember Tara Graves seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

d. For Decision - Arbor Day and Earth Day Events - *Benjamin Dillard*

Benjamin Dillard, Parks and Recreation Director, gave a presentation.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve and accept the proclamation acknowledging the Bald Cypress as the official tree for the City of Stonecrest and declaring April 22, 2023 as Arbor Day in the City of Stonecrest. Councilmember Tara Graves Seconded.

Motion passed 4-0. Councilmember Tammy Grimes was not available during the vote.

Motion - made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve and accept the proclamation declaring April 22, 2023 as Earth Day in the City of Stonecrest and the Sunflower as the official flower for the City of Stonecrest. Councilmember Tara Graves seconded.

Motion passed 4-0. Councilmember Tammy Grimes was not available during the vote.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

a. For Decision - Moratorium for Public Storage Extension - *Mayor Pro Tem George Turner*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner gave an overview. The city has already enacted a moratorium on public storage facilities in the City of Stonecrest for 60 days. The 60 days will expire soon, and the city is seeking an extension.

The resolution preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the resolution to extend the moratorium for Public Storage for 60 days. Seconded by Councilmember Rob Turner.

Motion passed 4-0. Councilmember Tammy Grimes was not available during the vote.

b. For Decision - Moratorium for Truck Gravel Parking Lots Extension - *Mayor Pro Tem George Turner*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner gave an overview. Some work has been done, in terms of collecting data, and there is a lot more that needs to be done.

The City Attorney stated clarified that when the city is extending a moratorium, it is being extended from the date it would expire, not the current date.

The resolution preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to adopt the 60-day extension on moratoriums for truck gravel parking lots. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

Motion passed unanimously.

- c. **For Decision** - Intergovernmental Agreement with Stonecrest Development Authority - *Mayor Jazzmin Cobble*

This item was removed from the agenda.

- d. **For Decision** - GMA City of Ethics Resolution - *Mayor Jazzmin Cobble*

Mayor Jazzmin Cobble gave a presentation.

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve the GMA City of Ethics Resolution. Councilmember Tara Graves seconded.

Motion passed 4-0. Councilmember Tammy Grimes was not available during the vote.

- e. **For Discussion** - Updated City Event Calendar - *Benjamin Dillard & LaTonya Ashley*

Benjamin Dillard, Parks and Recreation Director, lead a review of the City's event calendar and changes. This item was moved to the April 10th Work Session.

- f. **For Decision** - Major Plat Approval - *Ray White*

Ray White, Planning and Zoning Director, gave an overview.

Miles Cardenas, representative for Foxtails Properties, gave remarks. He stated they would be combining parcels into one parcel, and that the site was overgrown. The property has been abandoned since 2006.

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to defer the major plat plan at this location until the next council meeting. Councilmember Tammy Grimes seconded.

Motion approved unanimously.

- g. **For Decision** - Community Development Software Vendor - *Gia Scruggs*

This item was removed from the agenda.

- h. **For Decision** - Enterprise Resource Planning System Vendor Recommendation - *Gia Scruggs*

Acting City Manager Scruggs gave an overview and explanation of the change in services requested. She stated the city is currently using QS1, which was not intended to be long term software and that the Courts has also stressed the need for updated software. The agenda cover states Excelor but should state Tyler Technologies.

Councilmember Rob Turner asked if the total amount includes updates or if the Finance Department would need to come back to Council for updates.

Mayor Cobble stated this is a big step, and a long time coming. She stated it was budgeted for 2022, for ERP System, and is not a huge financial impact. Acting City Manager Scruggs stated this will help staff be more efficient and effective, and also opens up the

transparency piece that everyone wants. Vendors will be able to see where their payment is. Councilmember Graves asked for clarification on QS1 costs, if training is included in cost for Tyler and if the annual fee can increase. Acting City Manager Scruggs stated there is the potential that the annual fee could increase.

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to move forward with the Enterprise Resource Planning System Vendor Recommendation. Councilmember Tammy Grimes seconded.

Motion passed 4-1. Councilmember Graves voted Nay.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to enter Executive Session for litigation. Councilmember Tara Graves seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to exit Executive Session and return to the regular scheduled council meeting. Councilmember Tara Graves seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the Executive Session minutes. Councilmember Tara Graves seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

XV. CITY MANAGER UPDATE

Gia Scruggs, Acting City Manager, stated that the application process for the residential and small business support programs are listed on the City of Stonecrest's website, social media, as well as other places in the city. Anyone that needs assistance, please reach out. The city will be posting questions about the applications on the website today. Ms. Scruggs stated that the city has currently received a total of 81 applications, 62 residential 19 small businesses, and that there will be a couple more outreaches to specifically address our senior population.

XVI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

District 1 Tara Graves - Councilmembers are hosting a roundtable discussion on March 9th, 7pm at City Hall and all are please come out and join us. We are also having an Easter Egg drop on April 8th.

District 2 Rob Turner - Please pray for the people of Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. The devastation is unbelievable and they need your help, your prayers and whatever you can do.

District 3 Alecia Washington - The City of Stonecrest's Brown's Mill Rec Center is starting their own Soccer Drone team. They are soliciting kids from 6th to 12th grade. If you have a

child that would be interested, please call 470-217-0614 or you can email at awashington@stonecrestga.gov. Thank you.

District 4 George Turner - There is a Finance Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday at 6pm. All are welcome and be aware there are opportunities for you to volunteer and serve on committees, boards, and authorities as a prime member or alternate. Everyone be careful out there. When you turn on the TV tomorrow you will possibly hear of more gun violence. It's going to happen until we change this culture. Let's do something about it before it hits home. I am very passionate about that.

District 5 Tammy Grimes – There are some really talented people in District 5. I need you to serve on boards, committees, and authorities. Working on behalf of residents in the Hills at Farrington, I ran into a jewel, Mr. Brownfield. I need more of the gems and those who have talents and skill and use them. Even if you don't serve on an authority, please be a resource and help make District 5 and all of Stonecrest better. I am still in need of email addresses for people in District 5. You can call me at 470-456-0066, you can text, or leave an email for me at tgrimes@stonecrestga.gov.

Mayor Cobble - Thank you to everyone who attended the State of the City address on Thursday. I hope it was informative and that you got a glimpse of what we have already done and the things that are in the pipeline to be done this year. Also, I thank Staff for pulling it together and for all the hard work. It really meant a lot to me to have everybody all hands-on deck. This week myself and Mayor Reynolds will join the Arabia Alliance for the Walking with Women Making History series on Wednesday at 11:30am. If you would like to join us the flyer is on the City's website and social media. On Thursday, 10am, Councilwoman Grimes and I are hosting a senior citizen health fair at Browns Mill Rec Center. The Easter egg drop is coming up on the 8th, and the Spring Break STEM Camp starts April 3rd, also at the Browns Mill Rec Center. Summer camp registration is open. There are 60 slots for each session. April 12th is one of our first citizen engagement opportunities with our Economic Development plan. It will be at Browns Mill Rec Center, April 12th at 6 pm. Come out and share your thoughts on what you think the Economic Development of the city should look like. We really want you to stay engaged and follow all of the things that we're doing to bring a quality of life and deliver services to you the best we can.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to adjourn the City Council meeting at 9:24pm. Councilmember Tara Graves seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

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.