



CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING WITH FINANCE, TRANSPORTATION AND SPLOST COMMITTEES –MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Wednesday, June 14, 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 6:08pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Sonya Isom, City Clerk

Mayor and all council members were present with the exception of Councilmember Tara Graves. Members of the Transportation Committee, Finance Committee and SPLOST Committee were also present.

III. AGENDA ITEMS

- a. For Decision** - ARPA Small Business and Residential Support Disbursement of Funds
Approval - *City Manager Gia Scruggs*

Presentation by City Manager Gia Scruggs regarding the approval of the ARPA disbursement of funds. Berry Dunn will notify all applicants on June 20, 2023 regarding the status of their disbursement. As of today, the total number of applications is 153 residential and 64 small businesses. A total of \$287,000.00 will be given to recipients.

Councilmember Grimes asked if there was a deadline for additional documents that might be needed. The response was yes, and the city is also working with applicants. Berry Dunn will give a full report to Council as well as make additional recommendations. Councilmember Grimes also requested a total number of all applicants and City Manager Scruggs stated it would be in the full written report that will be submitted to Council.

Motion – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the ARPA small business

and residential support disbursement of funds. Seconded by Councilmember Rob Turner.
Motion approved 4-0, with District 1 absent.

b. For Discussion - Transportation Planning Update - *City Engineer Hari Karikaran*

Presentation by City Engineer Hari Karikaran to provide an update on various transportation projects that have been active for the past year, as well as city funded design projects. There was a review of joint transportation projects with GDOT as well as other transportation projects including the Panola Road Study, Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan and Freight Cluster Plan. City Engineer Karikaran stated there will be more updates in July. The review also included discussion of city limit signs, exit signs on I-20 and bridge scape projects. The GDOT project includes GDOT right of way improvements which are in discussion with District 7.

Councilmember Rob Turner inquired about the Miller Road Bridge over I-20 and City Engineer Karikaran confirmed the design is complete and there should be visible activity during the month of June. There will be a full replacement and there will also be plenty of notice to the public.

It was stated there was a kickoff meeting in May 2023 and that there will be three stakeholder meetings as well as public hearings. Mayor Cobble stated DOT has plans on their website for the redesign of the bridges. The I-20 exchange information is also on their website. There is no timeline as of yet. The park entrance signs will also have some of the features and streetscapes will also have lighting and landscape.

There was a question inquiring about monument signs and how two sets will work together. City Engineer Karikaran stated the city wants to have its own monument signs. He is also looking at changing signs to be more reflective at night. Mayor Cobble stated the city is interested in branding itself and adopting a design. Councilmember Rob Turner spoke of the intersection at Miller Road and Thompson Mill. There are two options, one being a signal with left turning lanes and the other being a mini roundabout. There are usually two to three public information meetings, and he would like to do more and engage the public at different levels.

Councilmember Washington asked about widening bus stop areas for safety. City Engineer Karikaran has told the consultants he wants at least 100 feet between every bus stop. Erica Williams, Chair of the Transportation Committee mentioned the speed on Lithonia Industrial needing to be addressed and that there are no sidewalks. City Engineer Karikaran stated the sidewalk issue will be included in the sidewalk/bicycle plan and he can also bring the issue to the next meeting with GDOT.

c. For Discussion - SPLOST II Planning - *City Engineer Hari Karikaran*

Presentation by City Engineer Hari Karikaran. The original SPLOST was in 2017. The Georgia State General Assembly amended allowable projects and that was signed into law May 2023, allowing the city to do a lot with SPLOST funds. SPLOST I revenue collections will end early next year and if the referendum doesn't pass in November, the money will dry out at that point. The Administration is seeking discussion with council as to how the City would like to spend the funds. City Engineer Karikaran's recommendation consists of street paving/resurfacing/transportation improvement, parks improvement and property acquisition. He is also looking to complete a 2023 street evaluation this year.

There was discussion on the differences between SPLOST I and SPLOST II, in terms of state

restrictions for SPLOST I. Council has to pass a resolution that will need to go to DeKalb County and also be included on the ballot for the November 7, 2023 election. Council also has to vote on the referendum language and a public hearing is not required.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

There was no need for an Executive Session.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Grimes gave comments addressing District 5, Stonecrest businesses and citywide. This is an open invitation to come to any public meeting that is open to the public and show interest. Or send a representative.

Motion – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to adjourn the June 14, 2023 Special Called Meeting with Finance, Transportation and SPLOST committees. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.

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.