



## CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

### CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:00 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 7:29pm.

**II. ROLL CALL:** Sonya Isom, City Clerk

All members were present.

**III. INVOCATION:** Rob Turner, District 2 Councilmember

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

**V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the December 11, 2023, City Council meeting agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Rob Turner.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a. Approval of Meeting Minutes - Special Called Meeting, November 13, 2023**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve the meeting minutes from the November 13, 2023, Special Called Meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**b. Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Meeting, November 27, 2023**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the meeting minutes from the November 27, 2023, City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

**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](mailto: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.*

Faye Coffield – Mentioned that the front door was locked when she arrived. The BP at Klondike and Browns Mill is still a problem and is wondering why there is no requirement for armed post certified security patrol presence like there is for the black owned club near Stonecrest Mall. Suggesting that the city join DeKalb County with the lighting and monitoring system that they are using. Restated that last week Ted Golden mentioned concerns about situations that take place in the public schools system. After giving the Board of Education \$1.2 Million dollars of ARPA funds, suggesting that the city ask the Board of Education to bring in the King Center with their Conflict Resolution Program which is being used in schools. Suggesting looking at up market housing in the area due to the city only receiving low-end housing. She is still waiting for a reply from the city on how much Federal Grant money was received outside of the ARPA funds. Suggesting that the city hold Town Hall Meetings for the public to attend.

Sarah Simpson – Stated Parkway Drive, across from QuikTrip on Lithonia Industrial Boulevard has litter issues and she is trying to connect with the Council members to address the issue.

## **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](mailto: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 Turner congratulated Councilmember Elect Terry Fye on becoming the new representative for District Two.

## **XI. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS**

## **XII. OLD BUSINESS**

## **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. For Discussion** - Food Truck Fees - *Tre'Jon Singletary, Senior Planner*

Senior Planner, Tre'Jon Singletary gave a presentation initiating fees for food trucks within the City of Stonecrest. There was a review of facts, issues and fee justification. This is an announcement only which is required to implement a change in fee, and is the last adjustment needed. The 1<sup>st</sup> Read will be in January 2024 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Read will be in February 2024. Mr. Singletary confirmed the permit cost of \$150.00.

### **b. For Decision** - FY23 Budget Amendments - *Gia Scruggs, City Manager*

City Manager, Gia Scruggs gave a presentation on budget amendments, including an increase in legal fees, due to increased legal services and professional services for Engineering, due to right of way maintenance. The recommended amendment for Professional Services for Engineering is in the amount of \$325,000 and will come from the Parks, Group Insurance line item. The recommended amendment for Legal Services is proposing to use a combination of the City Manager salary line item, Relocation Expense, Group Insurance, Retirement, FICA and Medicare line items totaling \$300,000 to assure that there will be no deficit between these 2 departments.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve the FY23 Budget Amendments. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### **c. For Discussion** - Charter Commission Update - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner gave an update surrounding the Charter Commission. Members for the commission have been appointed by way of the City Council and Mayor and the city is awaiting the two members to be appointed by the General Assembly to represent Stonecrest, including a member from the Senate and the State House. The proposed redistricting map for Stonecrest will change and until that is in place, council chose not to press for the remaining appointments as there will be a different delegation making those appointments. The next step is to set a start date and completion date, which will take place after redistricting.

### **d. For Discussion** - Committee Summary Reports - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem*

Mayor Pro Tem George Turner gave a presentation on Committee Summary Reports. This is normally done at the last meeting of the year by the committee chairs. The meeting minutes will be shared as a summary and will state what happened in each committee for FY23. The format of the Committees will change in FY24. A combination of Committees, a development of AD HOC Committees and two Standing Committees should be available in January 2024.

Mayor Pro Tem announced a date is needed for the first meeting in January to address specific business and it was agreed the meeting will take place on January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 pm. This meeting will include the induction of newly elected city officials and the election of Mayor Pro Tem. This will be a Special Called Meeting.

#### **XIV. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Happy Holidays from Denmark Ashby.

#### **XV. CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

Thank you to the staff who have worked throughout the year to get us through all meetings, activities, and the business of the city. We certainly hope that 2024 greets us with even more energy and drive to make this the World Class City that we know it can be.

#### **XVI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**District 1 – Councilmember Tara Graves** – 2023 has been incredible and all Councilmembers along with the Mayor would like to express gratitude to all the committee members for their hard work and dedication. To celebrate, there will be a committee appreciation dinner this Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm at City Hall. There will be a toy giveaway on December 23<sup>rd</sup> in District 1 at Privy, Stonecrest Mall. Thank you to Council Member Rob Turner for your service to our community and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

**District 3 – Councilmember Alecia Washington** – Would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, be safe, enjoy your family and always remember that Jesus is the reason for the season.

**District 5 – Councilmember Tammy Grimes** – Wanted to publicly thank Mrs. Hunter, a constituent in District 5, who helps pick up trash. I really appreciate you. On Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, District 5 will have a talk with Tammy from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm in City Hall. To Councilmember Rob Turner, you know how I feel about you. Parents, this is the last week of school for the semester, please make sure your children are at school on time and ready to concentrate on final exams. We need volunteers and support in our public schools. Happy Holidays, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa and Merry Christmas. I know for certain that in 2024 we will all be “Stonecrest Proud”.

**Mayor Cobble** – Thanks to everyone who came out to Light up Stonecrest, it was a fantastic event. Thanks to staff for working hard all year. Nothing like being able to pivot. Thanks to everyone for working all year long on behalf of city, the staff has been exceptional. We are proud to be a Stonecrest community. Have a great holiday. Have a great New Year. Be safe. We love you and of course stay “Stonecrest Proud.”

**District 4 – Mayor Pro Tem George Turner** – Announced the loss of Barry Collier, a resident of District 4, who was struck and killed on Thanksgiving Day while out riding his bicycle. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers. A hit and run is very serious when you can stop and render aid to save a life. Thank you for FY23 and getting ready for 2024. Hope everyone has a safe Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**District 2 – Councilmember Rob Turner** – Stated this is his last council meeting and he would like to first thank his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for blessing him to serve the City of Stonecrest for the last six years. He is very grateful for his goodness, mercy and grace. Very special thanks to his wife Vickie, his children Clint, Chris and Lenny and to the most phenomenal Council and Mayor. He is honored and blessed to have co-labored beside these servant leaders. Tara, Tammy, Alecia, George and Mayor Jazzy you have created memories

in me of eternal value and friendship that I will value the rest of my life. Stonecrest is in great hands and God has for this great city. To the staff and District two for allowing him to serve, it has been a great pleasure. Congratulations to Mr. Fye as he begins his journey on this council, I pray God will bless the labor of his hands. Mr. Turner stated he wanted to leave this scripture with everyone, Numbers 6:24-26. The Lord bless and keep you Stonecrest. The Lord make his face shine upon you Stonecrest and be gracious to you Stonecrest. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you Stonecrest and give you peace Stonecrest. Have a great and safe Christmas. As we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and that 2024 will be the best years of your life. Stonecrest Strong and Stonecrest Proud. Thank you.

## **XVII. 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 personnel matters. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular scheduled council meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to approve the minutes from the Executive Session. Seconded by Councilmember Tara Graves.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Rob Turner to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

### *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.*