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## CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

### CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, March 23, 2026 at 6:00 PM

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*Mayor Jazzmin Cobble*

*Mayor Pro Tem Tara Graves - District 1    Council Member Terry Fye - District 2*

*Council Member Alecia Washington - District 3    Council Member George Turner - District 4*

*Council Member Karmesha W. Smith - District 5*

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Tara Graves, Mayor Pro-Tem

The meeting began at 6:31pm.

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

All members were present with Councilmember Smith later attending the meeting via zoom.

**III. INVOCATION:** Pastor Stacey Lewis, Faith Temple First Pentecostal Church

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

**V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

There was a request for the following:

1. Add – Recap of Tree Giveaway to Reports & Presentation as item *b*.
2. Remove – item *a* from Old Business
3. Add – Acceptance of the 2022 Financial Audit as item *a* in Old Business

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the agenda with the stated amendments. Second by Councilmember George Turner.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

**VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Approval of Meeting Minutes - Special Called Meeting, February 4, 2026

**Motion** – made by Councilmember George Turner to approve the Special Called Meeting Minutes from February 4, 2026. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

**b.** Approval of Meeting Minutes - Work Session, February 9, 2026

**Motion** – made by Councilmember George Turner to approve the Work Session Minutes from February 9, 2026. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

**c.** Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Meeting, February 23, 2026

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Alecia Washington to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes from February 23, 2026. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

## **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 three (3) minute time limit for each speaker submitting or reading a public comment. Individuals will be held to those established time limits.*

Faye Coffield – concerns on hogs affecting City of Stonecrest and asking council to consider a program to assist.

Chuck Cogliando – concerns on feral pigs.

Dave Marcus – concerns on feral hogs. Glad to hear about audits and council working together. Comments on ORR requesting audit letter. Would like to see list of city projects.

C.A. Nation – concerns on property being condemned. Requesting meeting with council members. Asking council to look at Covington Highway and Chupp Road due to the crime.

Renee Cail – continues to oppose Metro Green being in Stonecrest. Comments on data centers and the negative impact in neighborhoods, as well as high electricity.

Marty Garrison – concerns about Circle K on Covington Highway. He would like an ordinance to correct the problem.

Additional comment forms were received via email by the following:

Sonya Canon	Hazel Hughes	Hyacinth Morris
Elena Cassie	Elois Key	Conrad Rogers
Essie Crawford	Adina Kight	Reginia Sims
Lakeysha Daniels	Sandra Lewis-Glass	Angela Stafford
Valerie Francis	Carolyn McCullom	E. Walker
Marquise Frazier	Bill Morgon	Cleopatra Warren

Councilmember George Turner gave a response to some of the public comments.

## 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 upon your request.*

*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.*

**a. Public Hearing - RZ 25-004 2374 Cove Lake Road - Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director Community Development**

The presentation was given by Director Qawiy stating this is a request for a rezoning and map amendment of the parcel from MR-1 (Medium Density Residential -1) to MR-2 (Medium Density Residential – 2) for a proposed townhome development. There was a review of the background, public participation, future land use map, zoning map, aerial map, location map, submitted conceptual rezoning plan, amended propose building evaluation, site photos, and staff recommendations with conditions as listed. Planning Commission recommended approval with conditions with 1 amended condition from DeKalb County application that the property should be rezoned to MR-2 for the max of 63 fee simple townhomes with a minimum of 22ft all to be rear entry via alley no more than 25ft wide with curb cut and gutters. This was the only amended condition of the 14 previously listed conditions of the DeKalb County application. Planning Commission made staff recommendations on one of the 17 listed conditions on the Stonecrest application, stating that the applicant shall install a fence with transitional buffers to separate the single-family homes from the townhomes, and the fencing shall be approved by staff before installation.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember George Turner to open public hearing for RZ 25-004 2374 Cove Lake Road. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

**In Favor:**

Michelle Battle of Battle Law, PC  
Jolita Green

**In Opposition:**

Michael Morgan  
Trudy Morgan  
Marty Garrison  
Alison Cook

**In Opposition/Received by Email:**

Francis Apau	Sandra Brown	Detrich Bush
Dolus Armour	Brittany Bush	Elena Cassie

Kelvin Banks	Jeremy Davis	Cheveta Paschal
Rudy Banks	Marquis Frazier	Christopher Pascal
Alison Cook	Wilma Ifill	William and Sandra Stewart
Elsie Crawford	Donald Johnson	Ashley Walker
Beverly Davis	Leroy Johnson	

Dora Clark	Nova Johnson	Jeanette Parks	Ernesta Snyder
Lakeisha Daniels	Octavia Johnson	Jonathan Parks	Christine Stinson
Amber Dukes	Sylvester Johnson	Rodica Rebencive	Rufus Stinson
Arnice Dukes	Elois Key	Annette Roberson	Daryl Todd
Valerie Francis	Adina Kight	Conrad Rogers	Nicole Valcarcel
Marty Garrison	Yvonne Mason	Doris Savage	Cleopatra Warren
Mya Garrison	Michael Morgan	Romedie Seymore	Ashley Walker
Hazel Huges	Trudy Morgan	Regina Sims	Tracy Williams
Brittney Johnson	William Morgan	Aaron Smoot	
Deborah Johnson	Onome Oyakhire	Dennis Snipes	

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to extend the public hearing for an additional 2 minutes for each side. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.  
**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

There were additional comments from Michelle Battle, including an ask for an increase for an 8-foot fence and new signage for both subdivisions.

Based on the 15 conditions, staff recommend approval. It was stated that citizens want quality growth. Mayor Cobble noted that council and staff have some restrictions on what they can and cannot request.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to close public hearing for RZ 25-004 2374 Cove Lake Road. Second by Councilmember George Turner.  
**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

- b. For Decision** - Ordinance for RZ 25-004 2374 Cove Lake Road - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director Community Development*

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to amend 1 condition with each townhome 22 feet wide instead of 25 feet.  
**Motion withdrawn.**

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the ordinance for RZ 25-004 2374 Cove Lake Road with the stated conditions.  
 Second by Councilmember George Turner.  
**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

**X. APPOINTMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## XI. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

Comments by Councilmember George Turner, stating the family of Mrs. Pearl Hollis, a former member of Stonecrest's Planning Commission, were presented with a proclamation in honor of her life and service, proclaiming March 20, 2026, as Pearl Hollis Day in the City of Stonecrest.

**a. Proclamation** - Family of Dr. Thomas Coleman, *Mayor Jazzmin Cobble*

A proclamation was presented by Mayor Jazzmin Cobble to the family of Dr. Thomas Coleman, a longtime resident of Stonecrest, who served the community for many years, helping set up the Housing Authority. There were comments from Dr. Coleman's daughter, stating Dr. Coleman was very proud of Mayor Cobble and the City of Stonecrest.

**b. Presentation** - Recap of the Tree Giveaway – *Mayor Jazzmin Cobble*

Mayor Jazzmin Cobble gave a recap on the tree giveaway. State Representative Regina Lewis-Ward who championed this event to increase tree canopies in areas of Stonecrest and Stockbridge, also gave comments and thanked all who participated. Roy Matthews, City Arborist, was recognized and presented with an award for spear heading the project.

## XII. OLD BUSINESS

**a. For Decision** - Resolution for the Matrix Fee Schedule - *Shawanna Qawiy, Division Director Community Development*

This item was removed from the agenda.

**For Decision** – Acceptance of the 2022 Financial Audit – *Keisha Franklin, Finance Director*

This presentation was given by Director Franklin stating the council was presented with a draft of the 2022 Audit on March 9, 2026, and this is a request to accept the 2022 Financial Audit.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to accept the 2022 Financial Audit. Second by Councilmember George Turner.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**b. For Decision** - Ordinance for SLUP 25-007 1695 Spring Hill Cove - *Shawanna Qawiy, Divisions Director Community Development*

There were comments from Director Qawiy stating the applicant has requested a 60-day deferral to continue gathering information requested by staff.

**Motion** – made by Mayor Pro Tem Tara Graves to approve the deferral of the Ordinance for SLUP 25-007 1695 Spring Hill Cove, for 60 days and decision only. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- c. **For Decision** - Request to Approve Safety Policy - *Reginald Powell, Facilities Operations Manager & Leona Durden, Director of Human Resources*

This presentation was given by Director Durden and Reginald Powell, stating that amendments made to the safety policy are to ensure the safety of the city and city staff. There was a review of the policy, amendments and recommendations, stating there is a recommendation to change the signature line to mayor only. There were also changes made to page 3, 4, 5, 6 & 8. This document is a hybrid between policy and procedure. Safety meetings will be in place and a person on the safety committee will be designated for record keeping. There will be added amendments to Emergency Management, SOP and IT Policies.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember George Turner to approve the Safety Policy. Second made by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- d. **For Decision** - Fleet Policy Amendment - *Reginald Powell, Facilities Operations Manager*

Presentation by Reginald Powell giving updates on questions from council during a previous meeting and stating there was a request to add mandatory seat belt usage, section 12.0, to the fleet policy for staff while in their personal vehicles. GMA made a recommendation to include the verbiage in our fleet policy being that the State of Georgia has a seat belt policy in place.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Fleet Policy Amendment. Second by Councilmember George Turner.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

- e. **For Decision** - Ordinance to Amend Section 2-180 - Execution of Checks or Financial Instruments, 2nd Read - *Tara Graves, Mayor Pro Tem and Alicia Thompson, City Attorney*

This is a request to add the Deputy Finance Director as a signer on city bank accounts. Attorney Thompson stated the role was added to expand the list, which currently consists of five signers.

The preamble was read by the City Clerk.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Ordinance to Amend Section 2-180 – Execution of Checks or Financial Instruments, 2<sup>nd</sup> Read. Second by Councilmember George Turner.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

- f. **For Decision** - IGA for Execution, City of Lithonia Law Enforcement Services - *Tanisha Boynton, Procurement Manager*

Presentation by Tanisha Boynton stating she is present to answer any questions on this item. Amendments as listed in the packet were read by Attorney Thompson. There were comments and concerns shared by Mayor Cobble, Chief DeJarnette, City of Lithonia and Mayor Barron with DeKalb County.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the amended version of the IGA for Execution, City of Lithonia Law Enforcement Services. Second by Councilmember George Turner.

**Motion withdrawn.**

There was an update to the definition of Executive Protection Services for Mayor and City Council. There was a definition added for non-basic services and a request not to extend the term for more than a year for council review and possible renewal. The title for the Stonecrest special vehicle must be transferred back to the City of Stonecrest from the City of Lithonia upon execution.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Alecia Washington to deny the amended version of the IGA for Execution, City of Lithonia Law Enforcement Services. Second by Mayor Pro Tem Tara Graves.

**Motion failed 2-3 with Mayor Cobble breaking the tie voting Nay and Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember George Turner to approve the amended version of the IGA for Execution, City of Lithonia Law Enforcement Services. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed 3-2 with Mayor Cobble breaking the tie voting Yay and Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

### **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. For Decision** - Resolution Ratifying Security Services - *Tanisha Boynton, Procurement Manager*

The presentation was led by Tanisha Boynton and Attorney Thompson, stating the resolution is for ratifying terms, keeping the city from any risks and filling in the gap when the contract expires. It will ensure that the time period the contract with Lithonia expired, December 31, 2025 – present day, will be ratified for providing services and keeping the city protected.

The preamble was read by the City Attorney.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the Resolution Ratifying Security Services with the stated amendments. Second by Councilmember George Turner.

**Motion passed 3-1 with Mayor Pro Tem T. Graves voting Nay and Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

- b. For Discussion** - City Manager Update - *Tara Graves, Mayor Pro Tem & Terry Fye, District 2 Councilmember*

Presentation by Councilmember Fye giving an update on the search for a City Manager. There have already been over 40 applicants to apply with 17 tier 1 applicants. The application process closed on March 20, 2026. The city has reached day 74 with the position being vacant, quickly approaching the 90-day limit.

An email that was shared with council, in regard to updates, was read. He is requesting that council extend the vacancy for 19 days past the current deadline, allowing the city to interview each applicant properly. It was stated there will be a need for a Special Called Meeting.

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

No comments.

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

No comments.

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

**District 1 – Tara Graves** – No comments.

**District 2 – Terry Fye** – Please join us Thursday March 26, 2026, 6pm at Lithonia High School for DeKalb County SAT updates.

**District 3 – Alecia Washington** – Reminder that on Saturday, March 28, 2026, Districts 1 & 3 will have a combined townhall. A hazardous waste bin will also be on site at City Hall during that time. Let's celebrate all women for Women History Month.

**District 4 – George Turner** – District 4 Townhall will take place on Thursday, March 26, 2026, 7pm at the Browns Mill Recreation Center. We are glad to welcome all districts' citizens who are interested in a discussion about the hogs in the city.

**District 5 – Karmesha Washington Smith** – Not present at this time.

**Mayor Cobble** - The State of School District Address will take place on March 25, 2026, from 11am – 1pm at Cedar Grove High School. If you can, please attend to show support for your school district. If you can make it, remember the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the SAP presentations at Lithonia on Thursday, March 26, 2026.

#### **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*

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to enter executive session for personnel, litigation, real estate and cyber security. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.  
**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to exit executive session and return to the regular scheduled meeting. Second by Councilmember George Turner.  
**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the meeting minutes from executive session. Second by Councilmember George Turner.  
**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

## **XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to adjourn the meeting. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

**Motion passed 4-0 with Councilmember K. Smith being absent.**

The meeting ended at 10:54pm.

### *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.*