



## CITY OF STONECREST, GEORGIA

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### CITY COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

3120 Stonecrest Blvd., Stonecrest, GA 30038

Monday, August 25, 2025 at 6:00 PM

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*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*

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

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

The meeting began at 6:13pm.

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

**III. INVOCATION:** Roy Matthews, City of Stonecrest Arborist

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

**V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tara Graves to approve the agenda as listed. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a.** Approval of Meeting Minutes - City Council Meeting, July 28, 2025

Councilmember Tara Graves requested clarification on line #3 on page 3 – The minimum heated floor area of each dwelling shall be 1,400 sq ft. Staff confirmed that was an accurate statement.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to approve the meeting minutes from the July 28, 2025, City Council Meeting. Second by Councilmember Alecia Washington.

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

Dave Marcus- Has concerns and would like an update on the progress of the Botanical Gardens. He would like to see more responsive transparency from the city and expressed concerns about zoning ordinances and proposals, and the fact that the contract was signed by everyone except for Councilmember Graves.

Faye Coffield- Concerns about paving on Fairington Road as well as lights at Evans Mill and Woodrow Road.

Sophia Jackson (email)- Opposed to developers gaining access to land adjacent to her community, believing that it will increase traffic and crime in the area, bringing down property value.

## **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**

## **XI. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS**

### **a. Proclamation - City of Peace**

Proclamation presented by Mayor Jazzmin Cobble and Councilwoman Grimes to representatives of HWPLA, proclaiming the City of Stonecrest as a City of Peace. This is the City of Stonecrest' 2<sup>nd</sup> summer partnering in the Summer of Peace celebration and promotion.

### **b. Proclamation - Dr. Felicia Mayfield, Olympian**

This proclamation was presented by Councilmember Tammy Grimes, acknowledging Dr. Mayfield as a Senior Olympian and a City of Stonecrest resident.

**c. Proclamation - Lou Walker Senior Center 20th Anniversary**

This presentation was led by Councilmember Terry Fye, acknowledging the 20th anniversary of the Lou Walker Senior Center. Councilman Fye also extended an invitation to attend their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary on September 13<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm at the Lou Walker Senior Center.

**XII. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. For Decision - Resolution for FY25 Budget Adjustment - *Lakeisha Gaines, Finance Director, City Manager Gia Scruggs and Leona Durden, Director of Human Resources***

This presentation was given by City Manager Scruggs and Director Gaines, stating this information has been presented previously to council and recommendations of budget adjustments are being presented tonight. There was a summary of the requests, including General Fund, Positions Requested, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Fund, ARPA Fund and the URA Fund. The recommendation is approval of amendments to the FY25 Budget.

Preamble read by the City Clerk.

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the resolution for FY25 Budget Adjustment. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**b. For Decision - Ordinance for Personnel Action - *Gia Scruggs, City Manager***

The presentation was given by City Manager Scruggs stating that this item goes along with the previous item as this is a requirement for the requested positions and reclassification of positions.

1<sup>st</sup> read of the preamble by the City Clerk.

**c. For Discussion - Ordinance for Amendment to the City of Stonecrest Charter, 1st Read - *Terry Fye, District 2 Councilmember***

This presentation was given by Councilmember Terry Fye reviewing the Home Rule Amendment, Internal Auditor section. All requirements have been satisfied in regard to public advertisements of the Home Rule Amendment. Today the charter states the Internal Auditor must be a city employee, and the amendment would state employee or contractor, and also amend the reporting requirements to be no less than bi-annually.

1<sup>st</sup> read of the preamble by the City Clerk.

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. For Discussion - Finance Report Timeline for Work Sessions - *George Turner, Mayor Pro Tem***

Presentation by Mayor Pro Tem Turner mentioning previous discussions of finance reports and addressing the process. It was noted the City Manager report is not a financial report, accounting report, general ledger report or budget report. It was stated that 15 days after close of the month is not enough time for the Finance Department to close books, make public and the ledger to be presented.

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

Comments will be discussed in Executive Session.

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

Mentioned the City of Stonecrest has been declared a City of Peace and also reestablished as a City of Civility. Staff has been provided with training in civility and ways to use emotional intelligence to handle public matters. Thanked and recognized the city's first group of longevity employees:: John Wright, Tameika Porter, Sheldon Fleming, Tanya Diaz, Tierra Lawrence, Sonya Isom, Terrance Stewart, Tasha White and Jermaine Thompson. Introduction of Mr. Lance Randall, Economic Development Director and Juwana Robinson, newly hired accountant.

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

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

**District 2 – Councilmember Terry Fye** – No comments

**District 3 – Councilmember Alecia Washington** – Congratulations to the employees who received longevity awards for their service at the City of Stonecrest. Enjoy a safe Labor Day Holiday.

**District 4 – Mayor Pro Tem George Turner** – Paying homage to the life of DeKalb County Officer Rose, who gave the ultimate as we will not take lightly that officers go out and put their lives on the line to protect us. All we can say is thank you. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers as well as the officers who are on the streets now.

**District 5 – Councilmember Tammy Grimes** – Reminder that school has started and students in DeKalb County will be taking the MAP Test. Educators are requesting that student's attendance and participation is at 95% during testing time. Stay tuned for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Childhood Cancer Event that will take place at Browns Mills Aquatic Center on September 6, 2025, from 10am-1pm. It was mentioned that there will be live Mermaids. Thanks to staff, Carla, Lakeitha and Tameika for assisting with this event.

**Mayor Jazzmin Cobble** – The city's 1.257 millage generates \$2 million dollars of the \$17 Million Dollar budget. With the Capital Improvement Funds, which are not a tax, but are funds from SPLOST, State Grants or County Grants, we have been able to design the concept for the Botanical Garden. Services can only be provided when the funds have been collected in revenue. Thanks to everyone that joined the Mayors Walk with the Mayor Shameka Reynolds of City of Lithonia. The next walk will take place on October 11, 2025, to acknowledge Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Screen on the Green & Entrepreneur Expo will be on September 20, 2025 @ 4pm at the Southeast Athletic Complex. Stonecrest Fest will happen on October 4,

2025, partnering with Charlotte's Web. Also, on October 4, 2025 – The Georgia Football Classic will be held in Atlanta, and the City of Stonecrest is the host city for band members and cheerleaders. The City Manager is also part of the longevity staff. Please take your time and acknowledge her, her time and service here with the City of Stonecrest.

## **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 Tara Graves.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Tammy Grimes to exit executive session and return to the regular scheduled meeting. Second by Councilmember Terry Fye.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to approve the executive session minutes. Second by Councilmember Tammy Grimes.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

## **XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** – made by Councilmember Terry Fye to adjourn the meeting. Second by Councilmember Tara Graves.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting ended at 9:44pm

### *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.*